

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland 5, Oregon

SUMPTER VALLEY PLACERS: The Brockton-Nevada Mining Syndicate's Operation (Au)

Sumpter District
Baker County

Operator-lessees: The Brockton-Nevada Mining Syndicate, Brockton, Mass., and H. D. Ramsey, Sumpter, Oregon, are lessees. Operation is by the Brockton-Nevada Company with management on a joint-venture basis by Ramsey and W. N. Withington, company field executive.

Owners: The present holdings include three tracts of land as follows:

Tract 1. L. R. Harris

Tract 2. J. E. Little (Northwest Development Co.,)

Tract 3. Sumpter Valley Railroad. Baker, Oregon

Location & Area: The various tracts are situated in T 9 S, R 37 E, sections 31 & 32 and T 10 S, R 37 E, Section 4.

Individual tracts include acreage as follows:

Tract 1. 75 to 80 acres

Tract 2. 80 acres more or less

Tract 3. 150 acres more or less in a strip 60 to 1000 feet in width and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length.

These tracts adjoin the Baker Sumpter highway and are but two miles distant from Sumpter. The railroad right-of-way hitherto unavailable for mining purposes served to break up, or isolate tracts of dredgeable land in the past.

History and Development:

Prior to World War II active operations were conducted on both the Harris and Little properties. Some of these

operations worked the land to and along the railroad right-of-way, which land is now held under lease by the present company (tract 3 above).

Thus the gold bearing potentialities of much of the present consolidation of holdings has been proven by actual operations on several sides, the records of which operations show recoveries of substantial proportions. An extensive prospect testing program done by the former operators augments the actual operation and is reported to have demonstrated the worth of the unmined ground. The former operations were conducted during the years just prior to the war.

Geology:

The property covers a portion of the valley fill alluvium and terrace gravels of Pliocene to recent age such as have been worked extensively in the Sumpter Valley for many years, notably by the Sumpter Valley Dredging Company. On the holdings under consideration here the gravel is known to vary from 8 to 21 feet in depth -- with an average or usual digging depth of 14 feet.

Equipment:

The company has taken over the old Harris boat and has acquired a new Bucyrus^S-Erie with a 55 foot boom and a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ yard bucket. Separate electric generators are installed on the boat and shovel.

Economics:

The former operation records and test results reportedly indicate the existence of a long, narrow channel carrying exceptionally high values. Otherwise information at hand indicates the remainder of the property to carry good substantial, but less spectacular values more in line with those encountered in conservative dredging

operations. Mineable ground will require a full three year operation on a 24 hour per day basis with the equipment capacity. A possibility exists of obtaining additional acreage adjacent to that already held.

Report by: N. S. Wagner
Date of Exam: Sept. 10, 1948
Date of Report: Sept. 14, 1948
Informants: H. D. Ramsey & W. N. Withington
Published References: Dogami 14-A -- Little, Harris & Wolflinger Dredge, page 96
" " -- Nutting (K. R.) Dredging Co.,-- " 97
Press reports at Baker office on Northwest Development Co.,

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& MINERAL IND.

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SUMPTER VALLEY PLACERS: The Brockton Nevada Mining Syndicate's Operation

Sumpter District
Baker County

This report is supplemental to a report under the same title; September 14, 1948

General: The operation described in the original report never did pass the digging-in stage. In fact, operations were suspended a few days after said report was written due both to financial difficulties and to the fact that the second-hand replacement shovel proved to be a mechanical dud. During the period they operated this shovel was used in the digging of several test holes before starting the final dig in for operational purposes. The company is now re-organized and has purchased the Bucyrus Erie 37 B dragline formerly used by the Placeretas Mining Company or the Colt Placers of Morman Basin. This shovel has been completely rebuilt and has been in operation for a month. Two reportedly very satisfactory clean-ups have been made despite the fact that digging has been across a reef. A total of 10 men are employed in a two - 10 hour shift basis. The company is essentially the same as originally but Mr. Ramsey is now in full charge of operations.

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Report by: N.S. Wagner
Date of: May 5, 1949
Informant: H. D. Ramsey

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Sumpter District
Baker County

Sumpter Valley Placers: The Brockton-Nevada Mining Syndicate's Operation

This report is supplement # 2 to a report under the above title by NSW, 9/14/48.

General: The operation described in the original report and in Supplemental Report number 1, continued until late summer (August) 1949, but was characterized by operational hitches of various sorts. Termination of operations was brought about largely because of suit by Harris for damages to the washing plant, Harris being owner of said plant and also owner of a portion of the land held under lease by the company. As the principal operators have left the county the time has lapsed for various of the lease stipulations, the company is presumably to be classified as defunct.

Report by: E. S. Wagner
Date of report: March 10, 1950

Little, Harris & Wolfinger Dredge See Sumpter Valley Placers, Brockton, Nevada Gold

NAME

OLD NAMES

PRINCIPAL ORE

MINOR MINERALS

9 S	37 E	31 & 32
10 S	37 E	4
T	R	S

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

..... COUNTY

..... AREA

..... ELEVATION

..... ROAD OR HIGHWAY

..... DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S)

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Address

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OPERATOR

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

Little, Harris + Wolfinger Oredge ^{see also}

Northwest Company Co. Pu

6/1/46

NAME

OLD NAMES

PRINCIPAL ORE

MINOR MINERALS

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Dogami 147 - page 16

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

T R S

..... *Baker* COUNTY

..... *Sumpter* AREA

..... ELEVATION

..... ROAD OR HIGHWAY

..... DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S)

Address

OPERATOR

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

NAME

OLD NAMES

PRINCIPAL ORE

MINOR MINERALS

T

R

S

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Press clips on file in Baker Office

Baker

COUNTY

Sumpter

AREA

ELEVATION

ROAD OR HIGHWAY

DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S)

Address

OPERATOR

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

NAME	OLD NAMES	PRINCIPAL ORE	MINOR MINERALS
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T	R	S
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PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Press clips on file in Baker Office

... Baker COUNTY

... Sumpter AREA

..... ELEVATION

..... ROAD OR HIGHWAY

..... DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S)

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Address

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OPERATOR

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.
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Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.
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EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

Northwest Development Co. See Sumpter Valley Placers, Brockton-Nevada Mining Syn. Gold

NAME	OLD NAMES	PRINCIPAL ORE	MINOR MINERALS
9 S	R 37	31 & 32	
10 S	R 37	4	
T	R	S	

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Baker COUNTY

Sumpter AREA

..... ELEVATION

..... ROAD OR HIGHWAY

..... DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S) Address

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OPERATOR

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.	Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

Nutting Dredging Co., see Sumpter Valley Placers, Brockton-Nevada Mining Syn. Gold

NAME

OLD NAMES

PRINCIPAL ORE

MINOR MINERALS

9 S
10 S

R 37
R 37

31 & 32
4

T

R

S

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Baker COUNTY

Sumpter AREA

..... ELEVATION

..... ROAD OR HIGHWAY

..... DISTANCE TO
SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S)
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Address
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OPERATOR

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

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Sumpter Valley Placers

Gold

NAME	OLD NAMES	PRINCIPAL ORE	MINOR MINERALS
9 S	R 37		
10 S	R 37		
T	R		S

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Dogami 14-A, page 96
 Press clips on file in Baker Office

... Baker COUNTY
 ... Sumpter AREA
 ELEVATION
 ROAD OR HIGHWAY
 DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S) L. R. Harris
 J. E. Little
 Sumpter Valley Railroad

Address

 Baker, Oregon

 Brockton, Mass.

OPERATOR The Brockton-Nevada Mining Syn.

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY