

RECONNAISSANCE REPORT ON THE GOLD NUGGET PROPERTY -  
COPPER MOUNTAIN DISTRICT, FREMONT COUNTY MAY 5, 1981Location and Ownership

The Gold Nugget property is found within T.40N., R.94W., on the Birdseye Pass 7½-minute quadrangle. Much of the property is owned by John Herbst, Jr., P.O. Box 117, Shoshoni, Wyoming.

Geology and Development

Briefly, the Gold Nugget region lies in a steeply dipping sequence of Archean amphibolite schists with interbedded oxide facies iron formations and minor chert beds. These units are intruded by granites. The entire succession is suggestive of a lower mafic group of a deeply eroded greenstone terrain.

The only known gold mines within the Copper Mountain greenstone occur within, and in the near vicinity of, the Gold Nugget Camp. To the east of the Gold Nugget Camp, Beeler (1909) reported (see Osterwald, et al., 1966) quartz veins in secs. 20, 21, T.40N., R.93W. carrying only \$0.80 per ton or less of gold and \$0.80 per ton or less of silver with minor amounts of copper (1909 prices).

The Gold Nugget Camp (secs. 11, 12, 13, 14, T.40N., R.94W.), located two to three miles west of the mineralization described by Beeler, is believed to have been developed some time in the early 1930's. Development work in the camp included several small prospect pits, open cuts, shafts, and adits, none of which contained extensive workings. Although a gold-quartz stamp mill was constructed on the property, the Gold Nugget

does not appear to have developed beyond the prospecting stage. The stamp mill showed limited signs of activity, if any, in that no waste rock or tailings were found within the perimeter of the mill during field reconnaissance. The mines that were examined had very small dumps that indicated limited mining activity in the camp.

The ore occurred as auriferous quartz veins in amphibolite schist near its contact with granite. The quartz veins generally are small, and range from stringers to one foot thick. Mineralization was reported to occur as "free milling" gold associated with limonite stains and box-works, and as gold disseminated in sulfides (Bregy, 1935). Primary sulfides are pyrite and chalcopyrite. The quartz veins are black to dark gray, and fill fractures and fissures in the host schists. Alteration associated with the veins includes epidotization and silicification localized adjacent to the vein.

The tenor of the deposits was reported to range from a trace to as high as 2.4 ounces in gold per ton. Old mine reports suggest that the Godl Nugget claims contained a reserve of 30,000 tons of gold ore averaging 0.41 ounces per ton, but the vein was limited in extent by faulting along the schist-granite contact (Bregy, 1935).

#### References cited

- Bregy, L.H., 1935, Unpublished letter on the Gold Nugget property: T. Lindsley collection, Univ. of Wyoming Archives, 7 p.
- Osterwald, F.W., et al., 1966, Mineral resources of Wyoming: Geol. Surv. of Wyoming, Bull. 50, 287 p.

## Samples

A number of selected samples were collected in the Gold Nugget Camp area (see enclosed topo map) and these are as follows:

<u>Lab No.</u>	<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Gold (oz/ton)</u>
6103	CM-1	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 11, T.40N., R.94W.	Weakly pyritized quartz vein with minor traces of scheelite(?)	0.02
6104	CM-2	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 15, T40N., R94W. (Collected from mine dump, north of 6,581' elevation marker)	Weakly pyritized quartz vein- minor scheelite(?)	<0.01
6105	CM-3	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 14, T40N., R94W. (Gold Nugget Mine).	Mineralized amphibolite (pyrite)	<0.01
6106	CM-4	E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 15, T40N., R90W.	Banded iron formation	<0.01
----	CM-5	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 14, T40N., R94W. (Gold Nugget Mine).	Mineralized amphibolite- quartz vein. The amphibolite is in contact with quartz vein mat- erial. At the con- tact, the sample shows a band about one inch wide of epidote (propyli- tic alteration. Some pyrite is dis- seminated in the am- phibolite.	—
----	CM-6	----	Fresh amphibolite.	—
----	CM-7	----	Fresh felsic gneiss.	—



View of the Gold Nugget mill.

Signed,

W. Dan Hausel  
Staff Minerals Geologist



# WYOMING ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES, INC.

Box 638 • 605 South Adams

(307) 742-7995

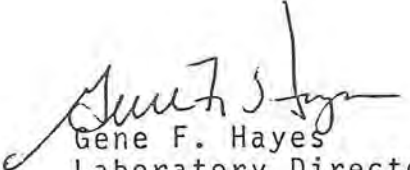
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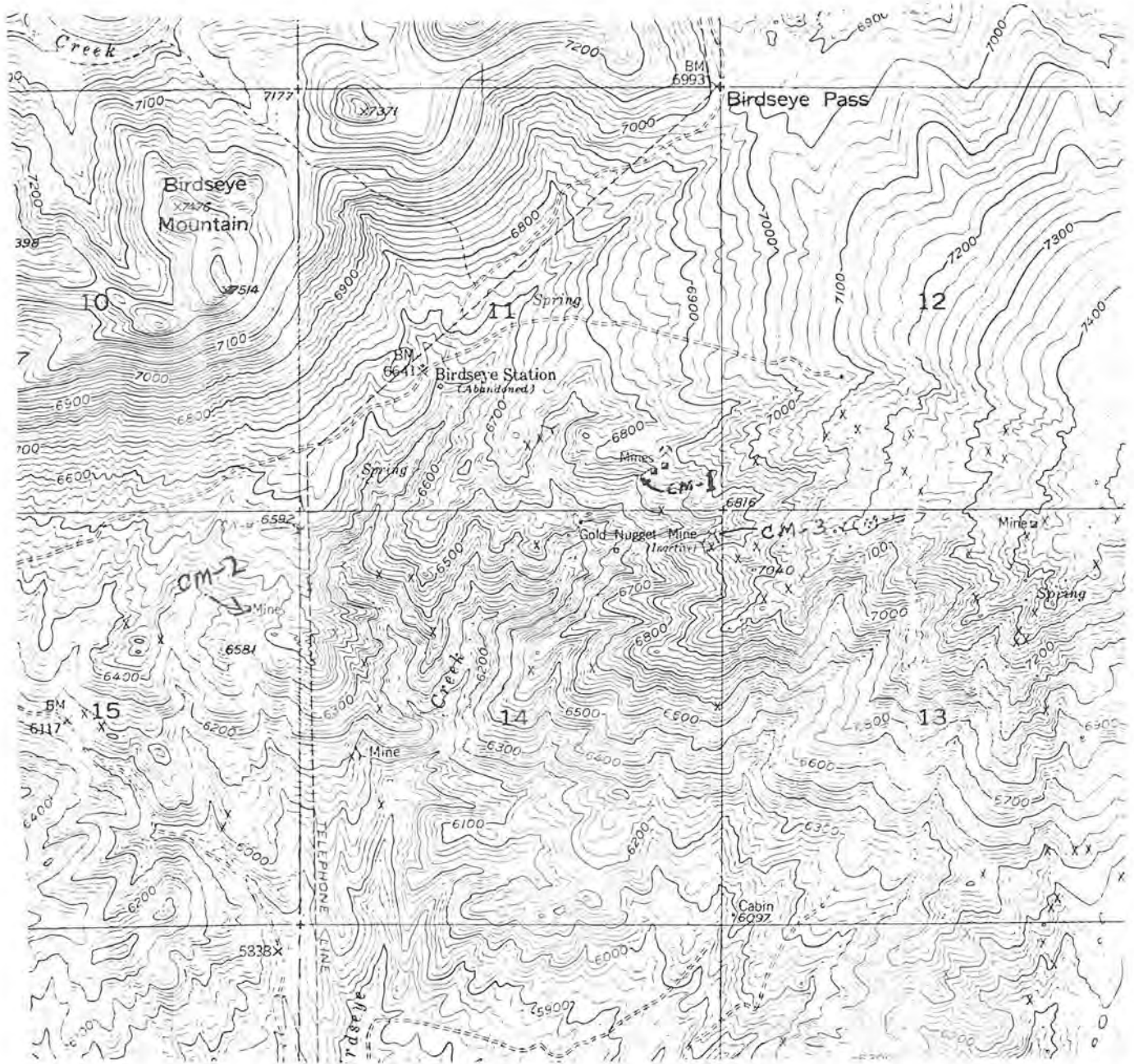
Dan Hausel  
Wyoming Geological Survey  
Box 3008, University Station  
Laramie, WY 82071

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## REPORT OF ANALYSIS

<u>Customer ID</u>	<u>Lab No.</u>	<u>Gold (oz/ton)</u>
CM-1	6103	0.02
CM-2	6104	<0.01
CM-3A	6105	<0.01
CM-4	6106	<0.01
U.S.S.C Taconite	6107	<0.01

  
Gene F. Hayes  
Laboratory Director



Location map of the Gold Nugget Area (base map U.S. Geological Survey Birdseye Pass 7½-minute quad.).