File 106-D 004976

R. W. Baker, Galena at McKay

Hill & Elsa

Aug 15 1962

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Prospectors Airways Co. Ltd.,
General Delivery, Mayo, Y. T.,
August 15, 1952.

Prospectors Airways Co. Ltd.,
1616-44 King St. West,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Sirs:

The trip to the source of the galena specimens which Louie Brown showed me has been made. The area is about 15 miles from Elsa and the location of the mineralization is close to the old trail leading to McKay Hill. During the 20's, McKay Hill experienced considerable development on some argentiferous galena veins. The silver-lead ratio is low, however, for the Yukon at least, and little has been done there since. In 1948 a chap shipped about 180 tons of highgrade lying on surface but he barely covered expenses with the return; the highgrade is a coarse variety of galena similar to that mined at the Hector and Calumet of United Keno Hill, but contains a relatively small amount of silver. The McKay Hill exposures are currently held by Hoyle Mining Company and these people are paying the $100 annually per claim in lieu of work, in order to keep them in standing.

I have enclosed a sketch showing the position of the Brown showing which is about midway between McKay Hill and Elsa. The property is on the southwest slope of the valley between McQuesten Lake and the East McQuesten River, and is about one thousand feet above the valley floor. Brown and his partner Alverson have done some trenching on the slope but have not reached bedrock; they seem to have located the horizon at which the float starts, however. The trenches and test pits show that the float is most plentiful along an azimuth of about 120°.

The host rock is a schistose, sericitized quartzite, containing numerous quartz threads and patches. The mineralized float contains introductions of fine galena, the sides of the pieces having slickensided surfaces which indicate that individual veins are not more than 3 to 4 inches in width.

About 3500 feet due west of the Brown-Alverson float, a chap by the name of Gilbert Rich has done some trenching at a higher elevation. Allowing for the dip of 45° which shows in one of his trenches, it may be on the same strike as the former ground. He appears to have bedrock in the trench showing the 45° dip to the northeast. Rich's exposure has about 8 to 10" of fine sphalerite with a little associated galena and chalcopyrite. There is clue here to the possible habit of the Brown-Alverson mineralization. The schistose and sericitized quartzite shows drag effects locally, and the quartz veinlets favour these. Rather than one vein system, there are scattered, discontinuous veinlets of this glassy quartz, which on the whole are barren of sulphide. When present the sphalerite is a medium-brown fine grained type.

Neither the Brown-Alverson float nor the Rich sphalerite showing is of sufficient strength to merit further investigation. The association of the sulphide with the glassy quartz is unique for the Mayo area. There are minor amounts of ferruginous carbonate in the Brown-Alverson float. The distance over which the Brown-Alverson material has been found along the postulated strike is about 150 feet.

The Rich excavations are localized over a distance of about 20 feet along the strike. I have submitted a character sample of the Brown-Alverson galena and one of the Rich sphalerite in order to have on record the silver-lead ratio for that part of the Keno Hill area, and also to test for gold in the quartz gangue.

A chap by the name of Paddy Dickson, resident in Mayo, showed me a piece of dark rock containing some specks of what appeared to be chalcopyrite. As the rock seemed to be an ultrabasic type, and thus having possibilities for nickel or copper, I went out with him to see his trenching. His claims are located across the McQuesten River valley from Elsa. With reference to the Mayo Sheet, map 890A, the position of his trenching is due west of Hanson Lake and at the south end of the gabbro dike adjoining the figure "2" on the map. The dike in this section seems to more of a mica lamprophyre than a diorite or gabbro. In the trenching there are a few specks of pyrite adjoining fractures which are filled in part with glassy quartz. The pyrite is a white, fine variety which tarnishes readily to a bronzy appearance. Testing with dimethylglyoxime on the sulphide failed to produce a nickel reaction. The showing does not have any economic significance but I felt that it had to be checked due to the basic appearance of the original hand specimen and the sulphide present in it.

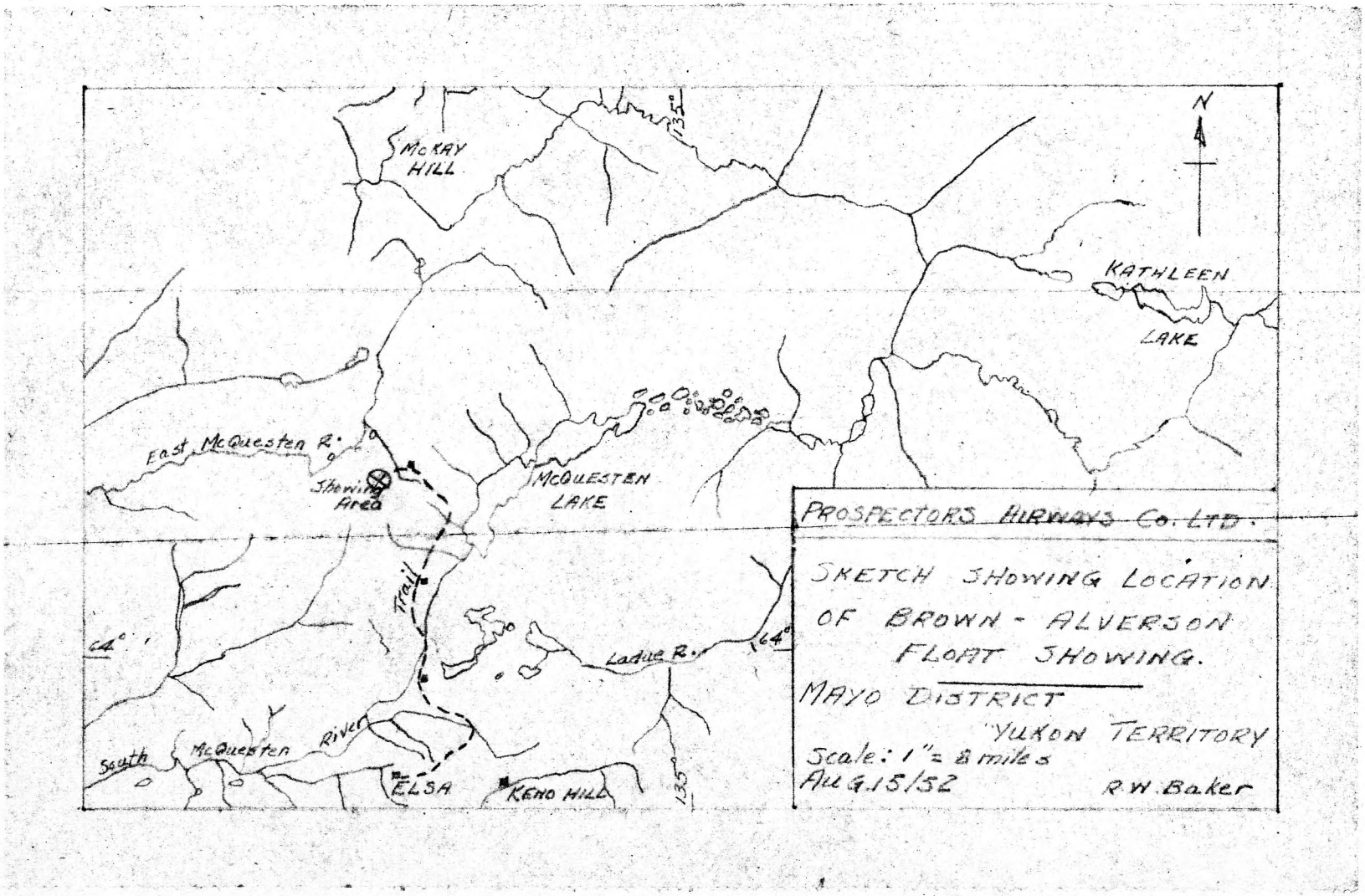
I met Dr. Bostock recently when he was on a tour of the area. He has a geological survey party working east of the east end of Mayo Lake. I accompanied him and the party on an underground tour

of the Hector Mine of United Keno. We were conducted through the 5th and 6th levels by Brodie Hicks and Bob Segsworth. There is a spectacular vein width of galena and sphalerite showing on the 6th level, in the order of 35 to 40 feet.

Mr. V. Wylie of Whitehorse gave some mineralized samples to Ted Chisholm which contain fine galena, fairly coarse chalcopyrite and considerable malachite and azurite stain. Ted has passed these on to me as they come from a showing in the Dawson area. With a view to examining the showing, I have contacted Mr. Howard Firth at Dawson who has information regarding the location of the mineralized rock.

Yours very truly,

(SIGNED) R. W. BAKER


McKAY HILL
135°
N
KATHLEEN LAKE
East McQuesten R.
Showing Area
McQUESTEN LAKE
PROSPECTORS AIRWAYS Co. LTD.
SKETCH SHOWING LOCATION OF BROWN - ALVERSON FLOAT SHOWING.
MAYO DISTRICT
YUKON TERRITORY
Scale: 1" = 8 miles
Aug 15/52
R.W. Baker
Trail
64°
Ladue R.
South McQuesten River
ELSA
KENO HILL
135°

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