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11/10/94

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES FILE DATA

PRIMARY NAME: AMERICAN ORES

ALTERNATE NAMES:

ASBESTOS PEAK PROPERTY

GILA COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 268A

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 5 N RANGE 14 E SECTION 20 QUARTER W2
LATITUDE: N 33DEG 45MIN 40SEC LONGITUDE: W 110DEG 56MIN 44SEC
TOPO MAP NAME: MCFADDEN PEAK - 15 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: PAST PRODUCER

COMMODITY:

ASBESTOS SHORT FIBER
ASBESTOS LONG FIBER

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

USGS MCFADDEN PEAK QUAD
ADMMR AMERICAN ORES MINE FILE
WILSON E D ASB DEPTS OF AZ AZBM BULL 126 1928
P 66-72
STEWART L A CHRYS-ASB DEPTS OF AZ USBM IC 7706
1955 P 64-67
LIGHT, THOMAS D., "MIN. INVEST. SIERRA ANCHA
WILD. & SALOME STUDY AREA, GILA CO., AZ.

AMERICAN ORES

REFERENCES

GILA COUNTY
SIERRA ANCHA DIST.
T5N R14E Sec. 20

Gila County MILS Index #268A

AKA: Asbestos Peak

USBM IC 7706, p. 64-67

ABM Bull. 126, p. 66-72

USGS MF-1162-B

USGS MF-1162-H

Map in flat drawers upstairs - Drawer 7

McFadden Peak 15' Topo (included in file)



33°45' 111°00' R. 13 E. 250000 FEET 18 MI TO ARIZ 88 GLOBE 36 MI

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USFS
 Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
 Aerial photographs taken 1947. Field check 1949
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Arizona coordinate system,
 east zone
 Unchecked elevations are shown in brown

American Ores
 T5N R13E Sec. 20

(ROOSEVELT)
 1:125,000



APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 1949



THIS MAP COMPLIES
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, FEE
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRA

McCadden 15'

This mine was not accessible at the time of visit as the road was impassable to a tw wheel drive pickup.

The property is apparently under lease to some people, who have gone in to some of the old workings and encountered some good ore in large amounts. Their production to date has been small, ~~Estimated production~~ about 2 to 4 trucks ^{per mo} per mo. Two to four men have been working intermitently over the last 4 months, probably hindered by the weather, which makes this road all but impassable for any wheeled vehicle with any amount of snow.

The names mentioned by a local resident were Wm. O. Haley, of Payson, Hoffpauir, of Cottonwood, and from another resident several miles away, J. D. Miller. It should be pointed out that what some older local residents call a lot of good fiber does not necessarily indicate a profitable large reserve of long fiber.

MA Hoffpauir, Jr

IS LONG AND THE LIKE LONG COULD BE MIXED WITH OTHERS ONE IN LONG DISTANCE

PROPERTY OF

DATE OF

ONE

ESTIMATED

PROPERTY

CLASS

PROPERTY

TYPE

DESCRIPTION (NAME OF CLASS)

CLASS

CLASS

NUMBER OF

TYPE OF

ADDRESS

ADDRESS

OWNER - NAME

OWNER - NAME

NAME OF

ASBESTOS SURVEY

NAME OF PROPERTY _____

OWNER - Name _____ OPERATOR: Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

TYPE OF ORE: _____

Length of Fibre _____

Soft _____ Hard _____

PRODUCTION (tons of crude ore) _____

Past _____

Present _____

Monthly

Estimated Future Production _____

Monthly

ORE RESERVES: _____

Ore in Place _____

Probable Ore _____

IS YOUR ORE THE TYPE THAT COULD BE MILLED WITH OTHER ORE IN YOUR DISTRICT?

[Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

March, 1954

Arizona Department of Mineral Resources
Phoenix, Arizona

American Ores

Asbestos Peak Mine and Asbestos Manufacturing Co. Mill.

Interview with Rex Town, son of Ed Town, deceased.

Town stated the Asbestos Peak Mine and Town Mill optioned by the LeTourneau Co., had been returned to the Town estate. Town said he was working three men at the mine. He only started the mill when he had orders to fill. At the time of the visit he said he had a few small orders, mostly filter grade.

MEMO E. G. WILLIAMS 5/27/64

Ed Town reported that he was working on \$10,000 of orders for long fiber, one of which is for missiles which is classified. The others are for specialty uses, particularly for insulation and weaving. Ed has a warehouse full of long fiber which needs cleaning and this will care for the next years production at the present rate. He stated that he had reduced the amount of lime in his fiber. He will begin the Government contract about the 15th of December. This is mainly No. 1 and No. 2 and will draw a special price. Ed said he needs to do more exploration even though he has a good ore face at present. He has stayed clear of indebtedness and is determined to keep his operations where he can make a living. Nevertheless he is putting in another fiberizer which will further reduce the lime content of his finished fiber to under 2 per cent. This he hopes will increase the price he can get.

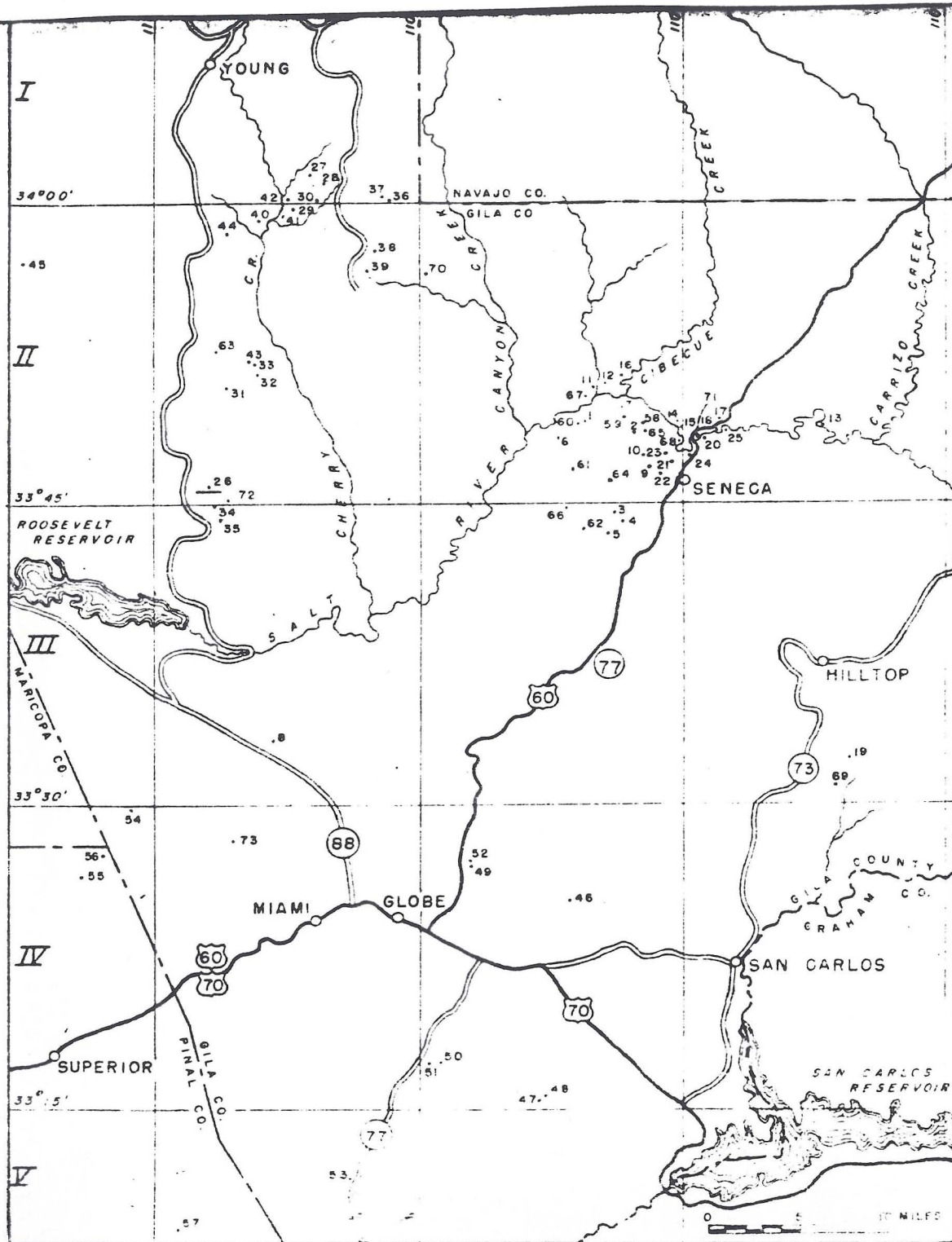
Memo - LAS - 11-29-62 - Interview with Ed Town and Ben Scott.

Town has 2 mines mining extra long fiber at Asbestos Peak. This is to be milled to fill a few small contracts, and a possible government contract for extra long fiber for missile use.

Ed is erecting a prefabricated house near the mill office. The shell of the house is built of a light metal frame on the outside of which is corrugated asbestos cement sheet for two feet next to the footing, then 5 feet sheet asbestos cement sheet. The windows and doors will be made of steel. The inside of the outer shell will be lined with coarse chicken wire and coated by 2 inches of plaster which contains 3-5 per cent of short asbestos fiber and finally by 1/4 inch of finer textured asbestos-bearing plaster. The latter would contain 6-10 per cent of fiber. He is using a new cementing material, the composition of which is not available for publication. The roof will be made of corrugated asbestos cement in wide sections. When the house is finished, tests will be conducted to see if the house is more fire and weather resistant. According to Town he will have Indian and other Government service representatives check the results. He revealed nothing as to costs.

MEMO - LAS - 1-30-63 - Interview with Ed Town, Globe.

October 4-1963



Deposits discuss

- 58 Salt River
- 59 River group
- 60 Cliffbestos
- 61 Wonder group
- Cibecue Min.
- 62 Little Favor
- 63 Rosa claims
- 64 Alamo claims
- 65 Oso claim
- 66 Ruiz claims
- 67 Fiber King
- 68 Dream Girl
- 69 Cassadore
- 70 Double Butte
- 71 Bluff claims
- 72 Loafer claim
- 73 Chuckwalla
- 74 Lucky Lager
- 75 El Marmol

Deposits discusse

- 1 Regal
- 2 Canadian
- Western Chem
- 3 Victory
- 4 El Dorado
- 5 Triple Star
- 6 Fourth of Ju
- 7 Punto Negro
- 8 G and H No.
- Phillips Asb
- 9 Grandview
- 10 Ladder
- 11 Apache (Crow
- 12 Apache Extens
- 13 Stansbury
- 14 Horse Shoe
- 15 White Tail No
- 16 Loey and Lena
- 17 Prochnow (Cit
- 18 Snake Hill
- 19 Bear Canyon
- 20 Sorsen

• American Ores Mine *At Asbestos Peak*

This group, comprising 32 contiguous unpatented claims, is owned by William G. Shanley, 450 S. Normandy, Los Angeles 5, Calif. The property is about 37 road miles from Globe in secs. 19 and 20, T. 5 N., R. 14 E., in the Tonto National Forest. The claims are at the end of a steep, 3-mile dirt road that goes eastward up Pocket Creek from the Globe-Young road 3/4 miles north of the junction of State Highway 88 (Apache Trail) and U. S. Highway 60.

History

The nucleus of the present group was originally located by Charles Watkins in 1915. Charles F. Sloan optioned the claims in 1917, organized the American Ores & Asbestos Co., and shipped several hundred tons of No. 1 Crude fiber to the United States Asbestos Co. of Lancaster, Pa. In 1918 this company, with the Raybestos Co., of Bridgeport, Conn., secured control of the mine and operated extensively in

1919 and 1920. Peak employment was 275 men, producing hand-cobbed crude Nos. 1 and 2 grades. As there was no market for the shorter asbestos, this material was either thrown into the stope fill or went over the dumps. By 1921 the then economic limit of the known ore had been reached. The surface equipment was dismantled the following year, and assessment work was allowed to lapse.

W. G. Shanley relocated the property in 1923 and organized the International Asbestos Co. A crushing pilot mill, consisting of a crusher, two sets of rolls and screens, was built in 1926 to test the yield of stope fill and dump material. During 2 test runs in 1927 this mill is said to have recovered about 140 tons of crude Nos. 1, 2, and 3 grades from 1,030 tons of rock milled. The larger mechanical units are still in place, but the whole edifice is in a bad state of disrepair.

There is no record of production from the mine from 1927 to 1947. From 1947 to the present time several short term leases have been granted. These lessees have worked on mine and mill tailing-dump material and have mined some ore from pillars and old stope faces. The caved portals of tunnels 16 and 20 have been reopened.

Geologic Setting

The claims are situated along a northwest-trending ridge on the south face of the Sierra Ancha Mountains at an altitude of approximately 6,300 feet. In this area the upper or siltstone member of the Mescal formation is present overlying the thick-bedded algal member, which here lacks the algal structure that characterizes most other parts of the asbestos region ^{19/}

On the south side of the ridge, in the vicinity of the mine workings, a 10-foot diabase sill has been intruded along the contact between the upper and algal members of the Mescal formation. The productive asbestos zones lie immediately below the lower contact of this sill in a limestone stratum, which is 20 to 30 feet thick and is underlain by a thick diabase sill. This thin limestone block outcrops on the steep hillside slope 50 to 100 feet below the crest of the ridge. It is cut off on the west by the union of the two sills. At about 2,000 feet east, alluvium obscures the outcrop, but the lower diabase sill appears to be cutting up across the limestone bedding and probably likewise joins the upper sill at this end. The remaining thickness of the Mescal formation is present beneath the underlying sill, about 500 feet lower in the section. Near the top of this limestone a serpentine-asbestos vein has been prospected by several small cuts and a 100-foot adit, but no commercial concentration of fiber has been found.

About one-half mile north across the ridge on the Pocket Creek side, a similar thin section of limestone lies between diabase sills. Exposures are poor, but three dumps indicate that this zone had been prospected by adits that now are caved. Very little asbestos can be seen in these dumps, but Shanley states ^{20/} that soft fiber of fair length was encountered.

Mine Workings

The mine workings consist of a series of 20 adits, ranging in length from 40 to 870 feet, exploring an outcrop length of 1,900 feet. Some of the adits are interconnected by drifts and a maze of stopes. Figure 24 is a reduction from a

^{19/} Shride, A. F., Federal Geol. Survey, oral communication.

^{20/} Written communication.

map furnished by Shanley. Although dated December 1920, this map has been proved by later surveys^{21/} to be essentially accurate, as very little underground work has been done since that time.

The adits have been driven into the limestone bed under the 10-foot diabase sill at the top of the algal member. The main serpentine-asbestos zone is 2-1/2 feet below the diabase contact and is notably persistent throughout virtually all the workings. A less persistent zone is 4-1/2 to 5 feet lower.

The most productive area was in the T3 and T5 workings, where the intrusion of 2 parallel, north-trending, 4-foot diabase dikes have slightly arched the formations. Between the 2 dikes, a diabase plug, 60 or more feet in diameter, cuts through the limestone. Major concentrations of asbestos in both zones were found in this area of greatest deformation. It is said that considerable quantities of 4- to 6-inch fiber were obtained in these stopes. Wilson states:^{22/} "This asbestos deposit is unique in having yielded fiber that occasionally was of exceptional length. Some of its specimens, which were as much as 14 inches long, are believed to represent the longest crossfiber chrysotile yet found in the world." Additional exploration northward by drifts and crosscuts failed to find extensions of this ore body.

The limestone stratum is cut off by discordant diabase west of T13. One small lens of fiber was found adjacent to this crosscutting diabase. One small stope was developed in T14, but these workings now are inaccessible.

Examination of the accessible workings indicates that in much of the mine area the asbestos occurs in veinlets that are too narrow or the asbestos is too harsh to form commercial ore. There is a promiscuous intermingling of fairly harsh and soft fiber within the veins. A band of soft fiber may change to harsh within a few feet; elsewhere, one veinlet may be soft and an adjacent one harsh.

One lessee reopened the caved portal of T16, extended the end of one of the stub drifts, and encountered a lens of soft, silky fiber up to 2 inches in length. T20, the easternmost adit, was likewise reopened. Most of the fiber seen in these workings is harsh. The underlying diabase has crosscut upward in the limestone unit to within about 3 feet of the fiber-bearing zone.

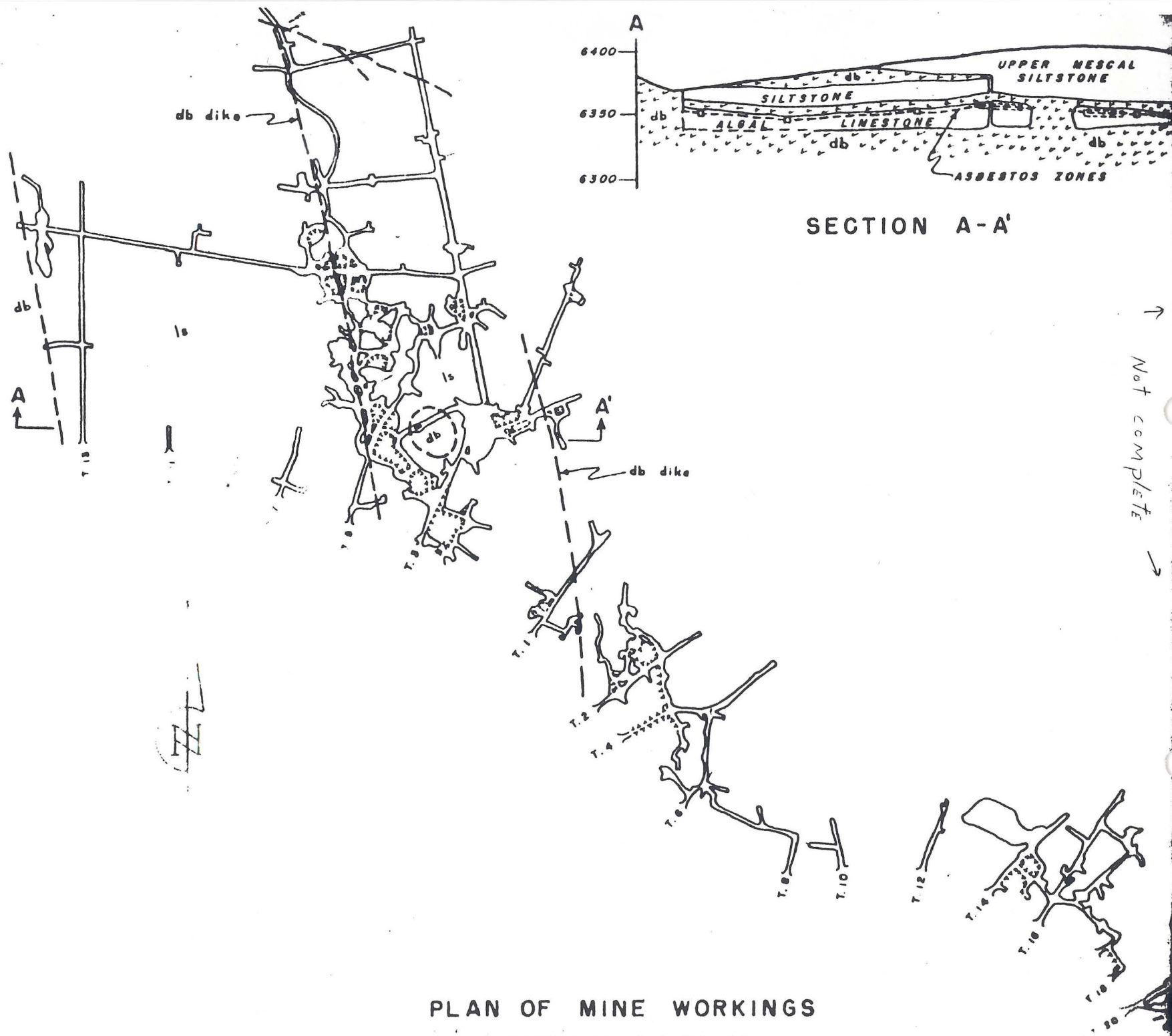
In February 1954, M. A. Hoffpauir, Jr., and William Haley were reopening the caved portal of T14. A small plant, designed to recover fiber from the tailings dump, has been erected below the base of the old mill. The material is fed manually to a vertical 2-foot Agnew centropak, elevated by suction to a cyclone, then passed over a 14-mesh shaking screen to remove dust. The fiber on the screen is aspirated to a second cyclone, where the final product is bagged. The plant is said to have a capacity of 1 ton of mill feed per hour.

● American Asbestos Cement Corp.

The property of the American Asbestos Cement Corp., held by asbestos locations, consists of 93 contiguous claims (fig. 25). This group, owned by Vance Thornburg and associates, is situated in secs. 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36, T. 8 N., R. 14 E., and

^{21/} T8 and westward by Shride 1943. T16 and 20 by Stewart 1954.

^{22/} Wilson, E. D., Asbestos Deposits of Arizona: Arizona Bureau of Mines, Bull. 126, 1928, p. 71.



PLAN OF MINE WORKINGS

COURTESY OF WM. S. SHANLEY

Figure 24. Plan and section, American Ores mine.

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ARIZONA

FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

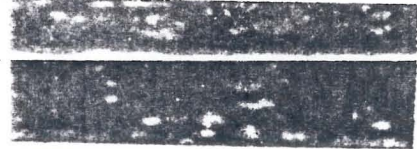
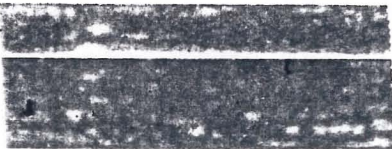
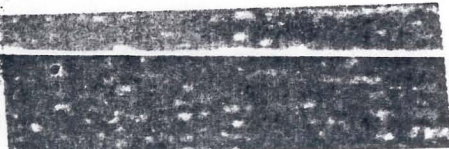
Mine Asbestos Peak Mine & Globe Mill , Date September 30, 1960
American Ores (Town) (LeTourneau Asbestos Co.)
District Sierra Ancha District, Gila Co. Engineer Lewis A. Smith

Subject: Interview with Ed Town, General Manager, Le Tourneau Asbestos Co.

Ed Town stated that he is planning to erect a new plant which will make asbestos-silica-cement products, of similar composition to those now being manufactured by Sonora Asbestos Products (now Johns Manville). These products can be moulded, cast or rolled into various forms of corrugated tile, wall board, and other shapes. The Le Tourneau group (New York) are now considering the finance necessary. If the plant is erected, local markets will be sought. Town has plans for various prefabricated house designs, to be erected entirely of these products. He said he felt that sufficient markets were now available for a small plant.

At Asbestos Peak, stripping of the asbestos bearing beds is well advanced and a considerable portion of the ore is now exposed. Stripping probably will continue until the remainder of the ore area is cleared. In view of the high cost of underground mining Town believes he will eventually save because of the reduced costs of mining the ore. Some portions of the overburden are up to 60 feet deep, the average being about 40 feet. The ore bed varies from 18 inches to 3 feet and contains seams of asbestos fiber ranging from 1/64 to 3 inches in length, the bulk of which is soft or semi-soft. Town believes that fiber grades 3 to 7 are best suited to his operation. The longer fiber will be stored or left in the ground where possible. The new mill is periodically in operation now.

5 men are now employed at the mine and the mill in Globe. Most of the stripping has thus far been accomplished with an RD 8 and rooter.



DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ARIZONA

FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine Asbestos Peak Mine & Globe Mill Date May 21, 1962
Town (Le Tourneau) Mill
District Globe District, Gila County Engineer Lewis A. Smith

Subject: Interview and Mill Visit with Ed Town

Town is still cleaning Phillips' fiber on a custom basis. At present, he does not plan to mine any ore since he has a large stock of it in his warehouse. He has two or three small filter fiber orders. He has added an additional revolving hexagonal screen of finer mesh to his cleaning section and a sacking device of his own construction. He is removing 17 percent of rock and other waste from the Phillips fiber which is very dirty. His fiber, as cleaned, runs 2 to 2.25 percent CaO.

Town is developing a puffed asbestos, for wall and panel board, which is considerably lighter than normal asbestos. He is now experimenting with binders (mostly resins). The board will average between 1/2 and 3/4 inch in thickness. If his binding tests prove satisfactory, costwise, he will have a good market for the board.

ASBESTOS PEAK (TSN R14E S19-20)

GILA COUNTY

at globe
A third mill, across the highway from the Metate Asbestos mill, is being erected by a group from New York and Ed Towne. The Towne mill will be moved to Globe and certain improvements, in addition to the installation of an acid leaching plant, will be made. Excavations for the mill footings and warehouse are now well advanced. The deal includes further stripping of the Asbestos Peak Mine. A reconditioned R. D. 8 cat has been purchased for the stripping which will be under way as soon as the road is again passible. Towne stated that he had uncovered a considerable reserve of fiber during past stripping operations. Previously he sold his crude to Guy Phillips. According to several present the new firm will buy asbestos from local producers at more than the present prices, and will acid treat it. The price spread between acid treated and non-acid treated fiber is considerable. Some stated that they would maintain their present contracts and sell surplus fiber to them, if the deal materializes.

LEWIS A. SMITH

3-17-60 - Globe ASMOA Meeting

What is the Asbestos Peak mine?
New or old? Stewart does not
list it. Is it the Rock House?
Or what? Suppose it is near
Asbestos Peak. Who owns it? etc.

L.A.S. to ...
... ..