DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
Control Slip

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

DMA Docket No. 3144

DO NOT DETACH THIS SLIP

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Exploration Assistance

Any action taken to change the type of request for assistance must be promptly reported to the Reports and Records Branch. Use DMA Form 2 for submitting these reports.

1 cy to USBM & USGS 1 cy to Field (Region) VII

Routing Slip

To:	Code 600 Rm. 4637	Date	8-14-53
To:	Anderson	Date	8/17/53
To:	Code 600 Rm 4637	Date	9-8-53
To:	Opw Comm	Date	10-21-53
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CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

600

OCT 21 1953

Mr. Sam J. Phillips

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. [illegible]-144 - Mica
Sam J. Phillips and Clingman Ellis
Spruce Pine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other data available to us in Washington concerning your application have been reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Mineral Exploration Administration must, in its judgment, show definite promise of yielding materials of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense Program.

Careful study of all our information, although noting a small amount of mica on your property, indicates to us that the probability of disclosing minable ore reserves by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Mineral Program and for offering your property for exploration.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson

ACTING Administrator

LGHouk:gad 10/6/53
Copy to: Admin. [illegible] File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

October 16, 1953

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and closing review.
Docket No. DMEA-3144 - Mica
Property: George Mine, Mitchell County, N. C.
Located 1,000 feet due north of Bandana Post Office.
Applicants: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis
Amount requested: $9,750.00
No contract: Application denied.
Examination Report of Field Team, dated September 29, 1953
Authors: K. H. Teague and L. E. Shirley

Denial letter: Copy of denial letter is attached.

Docket Summary:

8/14/53	Received application, Form MF-103.
8/14/53	Receipt of application acknowledged.
8/18/53	Received memo from D. M. Larrabee, USGS, recommending denial.
9/2/53	Received memo from W. F. Dietrich, USBM, recommending referral to field team.
10/2/53	Received Report of Examination by Field Team, Region VII. Authors: K. H. Teague and L. E. Shirley. The Field Team is in agreement on denial of application.
10/9/53	Received memo from D. A. Brobst, USGS, concurring in Field Team's denial of application.

Resume:

This exploration concerns a deposit that was worked for feldspar about 1933. It is reported that a shaft 86 feet deep was sunk and that about 100 pounds of pattern mica was sold as a by-product of feldspar mining. Also, a shallow shaft was sunk. All the openings have been filled and at present there are no exposures.

Scattered dump material is composed of massive quartz, microcline, muscovite and biotite. The mica available in the dump for inspection is in general of poor quality and small sizes. More than 50 percent shows "A" structure and all contains light mineral stain in the form of small bronze and black spots.

The following is a summary quotation from field team's report: "There are no exposures available for inspection. Scattered dump material does not look promising and mica in the dump is in general of poor quality. The examiners recommend that the application be denied.

Comments and recommendation:

The report by the Field Team indicates that the deposit is not outstanding and is an example of a difficult exploration to appraise, since there is so little exposed to examination. Even with the historical report, a determination is difficult to make. The Nonmetallic Minerals Division feels that the proposal is insufficiently sound for a contract. The application for exploration assistance should be denied.

Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 10/16/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Mr. Houk

IN REPLY REFER TO:

G-[illegible]-[illegible]

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 7, 1953

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3144 (Mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: Donald A. Brobst, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis, Spruce Pine, North Carolina.
Name of property: George Mine.
Location of property: 1,000' due north of Bandana Post Office, Mitchell County, North Carolina.
Date of field team report: September 24, 1953.
Authorship of field team report: R. A. Laurence, USGS, R. H. Teague, USGS, L. E. Shirley, USBM.
Field team's recommendation: Denial of the application.
Comments:

Examiners found no evidence that this property would be a good producer of strategic ruby mica.

ACTION SUGGESTED:

Follow field team's recommendation.

Donald A. Brobst

Brobst:jeh
10/7/53
cc: Director's reading 4212
Branch reading 4212
DMEA 3
Brobst G-230

C
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P
Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
ROOM 13, POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

September 30, 1953

Memorandum

To: Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From : Field Team, DMEA - Region 7

Subject: Field Examination Reports

Transmitted herewith are 4 copies each of the following reports:

DMEA-3144, George Mine (mica) North Carolina

DMEA-3139, Banner Mine (mica) North Carolina

The Field Team is in agreement on the denial of these two examinations.

Wm. A. Beck, Acting Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region 7

Benjamin Gildersleeve, Geologist
U.S. Geological Survey

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
10-9-53
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

ON

DMEA-3144, GEORGE MINE (mica)
Mitchell County, N. C.

By

Robert A. Laurence, Regional Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Kefton H. Teague, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Lawrence E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

September 29, 1953

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
10-9-53
(date)

RECEIVED

Field Examination Report
on
DMEA-3144, GEORGE MINE, (mica)

Applicant: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis, Spruce Pine, North Carolina

There are no exposures available for inspection. Scattered dump material does not look promising and mica in the dump is in general of poor quality. The examiners recommend that the application be denied.

The property was examined on September 24, 1953. Messrs. Clingman Ellis, S. L. Phillips, Walter Grindstaff and E. M. Robinson accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required one hour.

The George Mine is 1000 feet due north of Bandana Post Office, Mitchell County, North Carolina. It is on the first ridge southwest of the Sinkhole Mine. Access to the deposit is good at all times.

This deposit was worked by Walter Grindstaff about 1933 for feldspar. He reports that a shaft 86 feet deep was sunk and that about 100 pounds of pattern mica sold as a by-product of feldspar mining. Also one other shallow shaft is reported. All openings have been filled and at present there are no exposures.

Scattered dump material is composed of massive quartz, microcline, muscovite and biotite. The relation of the various minerals cannot be determined. The mica available in the dump for inspection is in general of poor quality. More than 50 percent of it shows "A" structure and all contains light mineral stain in the form of small brown and black spots. There are no large pieces, although that which is available is hard and ruby colored.

The examiners are of the opinion that very little strategic mica can be obtained from this deposit; therefore, we recommend that the application be denied.

Sept. 29, 1953

K. H. Teague, USGS
R. E. Laurence, USGS

L. E. Shirley, USBM

KH

600

SEP 8 - 1953

Mr. Sam L. Phillips

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. [illegible] - Mica
Sam L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis
George Pine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Reference is made to your application for exploration assistance on the subject property.

We have reviewed your application and note there is no map included, and on the Mining Lease and Owner's Consent to Lien the land description is inadequate. Upon receipt of an appropriate map, and a proper land description by metes and bounds, we will resume processing of your application.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Lawrence C. Houk, Chief
Industrial Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 9/8/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

September 2, 1953

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3144, Mica, George Mine, The George Minerals
Mitchell County, North Carolina

No data are available in this office on subject mine. It is suggested the field team visit this mine when a member of the field team is in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration program is justified.

Signed
W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

G-RD-CLM

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
AUG 19 1953

Memorandum

August 18, 1953

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3144 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: Sam L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis, Spruce Pine, North Carolina.
Name of property: George Mine.
Location of property: 250 yds. from Sink Hole Mine.
Summary of applicant's proposal:

5' x 7' x 125' shaft	$6,250
5' x 7' 100' drift	3,500
	9,750

Sources of information on applicant's property:
None.

Comments:

1. Applicant proposes to sink a shaft between 2 others, one 30' from proposed site. It appears likely that drifting was done from all these old shafts, and that the proposed shaft therefor, will encounter old workings. This not only indicates probable serious troubles, but reduces the quantity of mica possible to be mined as a result of this exploration, other than on the lowest level.

2. Being in the immediate area of the Sink Hole, and this area is dotted with old workings, there is better than an average chance of several water problems during and after sinking.

3. The applicants claim that the former operator "left plenty of mica." If true, this shaft is not for exploration purposes, but development for mining.

4. If the statement is in error, as it might well be, there is no evidence for the mica shoot continuing to the depth of 125 feet.

5. It would appear better if a new pegmatite were explored.

RECOMMENDATION:
Denial.

(Please send copy to Field Team.)

Larrabee:jeh
8/18/53
cc: Director's read. 4212
Branch read. 4212
DMEA 3
Field Team
Larrabee G-230

D. M. Larrabee

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
OCT 21 1953

October 20, 1953

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Acting Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3144, Mica

Applicant: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis.

Name and Location of Property: George Mine, Mitchel County
North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: September 29, 1953

Field Team's Recommendation:

1. Denial of application on basis of the poor quality of the mica and lack of exposures.

Comments:

1. No exposures were available.
2. Mica found in the dump was poor in quality.

Recommendation:

Only course of action is to deny subject application.

Donald R. Irving

Donald R. Irving

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Library
OCT 21 1953

October 20, 1953

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Acting Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3144, Mica

Applicant: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis.

Name and Location of Property: George Mine, Mitchel County
North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: September 29, 1953

Field Team's Recommendation:

1. Denial of application on basis of the poor quality of the mica and lack of exposures.

Comments:

1. No exposures were available.
2. Mica found in the dump was poor in quality.

Recommendation:

Only course of action is to deny subject application.

Signed

Donald R. Irving

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

MDR

Anderson
Houk
Irving, acting for Dietrich
Larrabee
Hodges
Selfridge

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION 600
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OCT 21 1953

Mr. Ben E. Phillips

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. [illegible] - Plan
Ben F. Phillips and Clingman Ellis
Spruce Pine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other data available to us in Washington concerning your application have been reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Strategic Exploration Administration must, in its judgment, show definite promise of yielding materials of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense Program.

Careful study of all our information, although noting a small amount of mica on your property, indicates to us that the probability of discovering minerals by your proposed program is not sufficiently great to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson (for)

ACTING Administrator

LGHouk:gad 10/6/53
Copy to: Adm. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

R.C.G.
10-21-53

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION 600
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Anderson
Jack
Irving acting for
Dietrich
Lavrakas

October 16, 1953

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and closing review.
Docket No. DMEA-3144 - Mica
Property: George Mine, Mitchell County, N. C.
Located 1,000 feet due north of Bandana Post Office.
Applicants: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis
Amount requested: $9,750.00
No contract: Application denied.
Examination Report of Field Team, dated September 29, 1953
Authors: K. H. Teague and L. E. Shirley

Denial letter: Copy of denial letter is attached.

Docket Summary:

8/14/53	Received application, Form MF-103.
8/14/53	Receipt of application acknowledged.
8/18/53	Received memo from D. M. Larrabee, USGS, recommending denial.
9/2/53	Received memo from W. F. Dietrich, USBM, recommending referral to field team.
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10/9/53	Received memo from D. A. Brobst, USGS, concurring in Field Team's denial of application.

Resume:

This exploration concerns a deposit that was worked for feldspar about 1933. It is reported that a shaft 86 feet deep was sunk and that about 100 pounds of pattern mica was sold as a by-product of feldspar mining. Also, a shallow shaft was sunk. All the openings have been filled and at present there are no exposures.

R.C.G.
10-21-53

Scattered dump material is composed of massive quartz, microcline, muscovite and biotite. The mica available in the dump for inspection is in general of poor quality and small sizes. More than 50 percent shows "A" structure and all contains light mineral stain in the form of small bronze and black spots.

The following is a summary quotation from field team's report: "There are no exposures available for inspection. Scattered dump material does not look promising and mica in the dump is in general of poor quality. The examiners recommend that the application be denied.

Comments and recommendation:

The report by the Field Team indicates that the deposit is not outstanding and is an example of a difficult exploration to appraise, since there is so little exposed to examination. Even with the historical report, a determination is difficult to make. The Nonmetallic Minerals Division feels that the proposal is insufficiently sound for a contract. The application for exploration assistance should be denied.

Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 10/16/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Mr. Houk

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

October 16, 1953

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and closing review.
Docket No. DMEA-3144 - Mica
Property: George Mine, Mitchell County, N. C.
Located 1,000 feet due north of Bandana Post Office.
Applicants: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis
Amount requested: $9,750.00
No contract: Application denied.
Examination Report of Field Team, dated September 29, 1953
Authors: K. H. Teague and L. E. Shirley

Denial letter: Copy of denial letter is attached.

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Comments and recommendation:

The report by the Field Team indicates that the deposit is not outstanding and is an example of a difficult exploration to appraise, since there is so little exposed to examination. Even with the historical report, a determination is difficult to make. The Nonmetallic Minerals Division feels that the proposal is insufficiently sound for a contract. The application for exploration assistance should be denied.

Walter C. Anderson

Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

IN REPLY REFER TO:
G-MD-CNM

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

October 7, 1953

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3144 (Mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: Donald A. Brobst, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis, Spruce Pine, North Carolina.
Name of property: George Mine.
Location of property: 1,000' due north of Bandana Post Office, Mitchell County, North Carolina.
Date of field team report: September 24, 1953.
Authorship of field team report: R. A. Laurence, USGS, K. H. Teague, USGS, L. E. Shirley, USBM.
Field team's recommendation: Denial of the application.
Comments:

Examiners found no evidence that this property would be a good producer of strategic ruby mica.

ACTION SUGGESTED:

Follow field team's recommendation.

Donald A. Brobst

Donald A. Brobst

Mr. Anderson

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
ROOM 13, POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

September 30, 1953

Memorandum

To: Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region 7

Subject: Field Examination Reports

Transmitted herewith are 4 copies each of the following reports:

DMEA-3144, George Mine (mica) North Carolina

DMEA-3139, Banner Mine (mica) North Carolina

The Field Team is in agreement on the denial of the these two examinations.

Wm. A. Beck

Wm. A. Beck, Acting Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region 7

Benjamin Gildersleeve

Benjamin Gildersleeve, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Z

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE

10-9-53
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
OCT 2 1953

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

ON

DMEA-3144, GEORGE MINE (mica)
Mitchell County, N. C.

By

Robert A. Laurence, Regional Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Kefton H. Teague, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Lawrence E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

September 29, 1953

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE

10-9-53
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
OCT 2 1953

Field Examination Report
on
DMEA-3144, GEORGE MINE, (mica)

Applicant: S. L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis, Spruce Pine, North Carolina

There are no exposures available for insepction. Scattered dump material does not look promising and mica in the dump is in general of poor quality. The examiners recommend that the application be denied.

The property was examined on September 24, 1953. Messrs. Clingman Ellis, S. L. Phillips, Walter Grindstaff and E. M. Robinson accompanied the examiners on the insepction which required one hour.

The George Mine is 1000 feet due north of Bandana Post Office, Mitchell County, North Carolina. It is on the first ridge southwest of the Sinkhole Mine. Access to the deposit is good at all times.

This deposit was worked by Walter Grindstaff about 1933 for feldspar. He reports that a shaft 86 feet deep was sunk and that about 100 pounds of pattern mica sold as a by-product of feldspar mining. Also one other shallow shaft is reported. All openings have been filled and at present there are no exposures.

Scattered dump material is composed of massive quartz, microcline, muscovite and biotite. The relation of the various minerals cannot be determined. The mica available in the dump for inspection is in general of poor quality. More than 50 percent of it shows "A" structure and all contains light mineral stain in the form of small brown and black spots. There are no large pieces, although that which is available is hard and ruby colored.

The examiners are of the opinion that very little strategic mica can be obtained from this deposit; therefore, we recommend that the application be denied.

Sept. 29, 1953

K. H. Teague, USGS
R. E. Laurence, USGS

L. E. Shirley, USBM

zm

Mr. Anderson DMEA 3144

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Department of the Interior
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
OCT - 1 1953

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

August 26, 1953

Mr. S. L. Phillips
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

We are pleased to advise that the sample of mica from the George Mine you presented for our evaluation is of the ruby variety and if properly prepared, will be acceptable on the government's mica purchasing program.

Yours very truly,

W. S. Flynt, Superintendent
Spruce Pine Mica Depot

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Anderson
Houk
Wheatley

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

600

SEP 8 - 1953

Mr. Sam L. Phillips

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMA-3144 - Mica
Sam L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis
George Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Reference is made to your application for exploration assistance on the subject property.

We have reviewed your application and note there is no map included, and on the Mining Lease and Owner's Consent to Lien the land description is inadequate. Upon receipt of an appropriate map, and a proper land description by metes and bounds, we will resume processing of your application.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED
Lawrence C. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 9/3/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

HHP
9-8-53

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

September 2, 1953

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3144, Mica, George Mine, The George Miners
Mitchell County, North Carolina

No data are available in this office on subject mine. It is suggested the field team visit this mine when a member of the field team is in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration program is justified.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

Phone'd
Clingman

AB

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
AUG 19 1953

Memorandum August 18, 1953

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3144 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: Sam L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis, Spruce Pine, North Carolina.
Name of property: George Mine.
Location of property: 250 yds. from Sink Hole Mine.
Summary of applicant's proposal:

5' x 7' x 125' shaft	$6,250
5' x 7' 100' drift	3,500
	$9,750

Sources of information on applicant's property:
None.

Comments:

1. Applicant proposes to sink a shaft between 2 others, one 30' from proposed site. It appears likely that drifting was done from all these old shafts, and that the proposed shaft therefor, will encounter old workings. This not only indicates probable serious troubles, but reduces the quantity of mica possible to be mined as a result of this exploration, other than on the lowest level.

2. Being in the immediate area of the Sink Hole, and this area is dotted with old workings, there is better than an average chance of severe water problems during and after sinking.

3. The applicants claim that the former operator "left plenty of mica." If true, this shaft is not for exploration purposes, but development for mining.

4. If the statement is in error, as it might well be, there is no evidence for the mica shoot continuing to the depth of 125 feet.

5. It would appear better if a new pegmatite were explored.

RECOMMENDATION:
Denial.

(Please send copy to Field Team.)

D. M. Larrabee

D. M. Larrabee

Sam L. Phillips & Clingman Ellis
c/o Sam L. Phillips
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

August 14, 1953
Subject: DMEA-3144
Re: Exploration Assistance
George Mine

My dear Mr. Phillips:

The receipt of your application dated August 12, 1953, for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-3144 and referred to the Nonmetallics Division.

Kindly refer to DMEA-3144 in any future correspondence relating to your application.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT E. ADAMS

Robert E. Adams
Chief, Operations Control
and Statistics Division

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

Form Approved:
Budget Bureau No. 42-R1035.2.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
AUG 14 1953

APPLICATION FOR AID IN AN EXPLORATION PROJECT, PURSUANT TO DMEA ORDER 1, UNDER THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED

Not to be filled in by applicant

Docket No. DMEA-3144
Metal or Mineral
Date Received 8/14/53
Estimated Cost
Participation (Government %)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Name of applicant.*—(*a*) State here your full legal name, in the form in which you will wish to contract, and your mailing address: Sam L. Phillips, and Clingman Ellis of Spruce Pine, N. C.

(*b*) If other than an individual, add to your name above whether a corporation, partnership, etc., and the name of the State in which incorporated or otherwise organized.

(*c*) If a corporation, add to above statement, titles, names and addresses of officers.

(*d*) If a partnership, add to the above statement the names and addresses of all partners.

2. *General.*—Read DMEA Order 1, "Government Aid in Defense Exploration Projects," before completing this application. Submit this application and all accompanying papers in quadruplicate (four copies), with your name and address on each sheet of the application and on all accompanying papers. Where sufficient space is not provided on the form for all required information, state it on an accompanying paper, with a reference in each case to the instruction to which it refers by number. Comply with all applicable instructions; or, if not applicable, so state. File the application with Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest field executive officer thereof.

3. *Applicant's property rights.*—(*a*) State the legal description of the land upon which you wish to explore, including all land which you possess or control that may be benefited by the exploration, and excluding any land or interest in land which is not to be included in the exploration project contract This is lease property (Lease is attached in 3 (d) below.

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. George Mine

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise Lessee

(*d*) If you are not the owner, submit with this application a copy of the lease, contract, or other document under which you control the property.

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it Not owner

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice.

4. *Physical description.*—(*a*) Describe in detail any mining or exploration operations which have been or now are being conducted upon the land, including existing mine workings and production facilities. State your interest, if any, in such operations. Also describe accessibility of mine workings for examination purposes.

(*b*) State past and current production, and ore reserves, if any, giving quantities and grades.

(*c*) Describe the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.), and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Send with your application (but not necessarily as a part of it) any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points.

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power.

5. *The exploration project.*—(*a*) State the mineral or minerals for which you wish to explore .....

.....

(*b*) Describe fully the proposed work, including a map or sketch of the property showing a plan (and cross sections if needed) of any present mine workings, and the location of the proposed exploration work as related to such features as contacts, veins, ore-bearing beds, etc.

(*c*) The work will start within ..... days and be completed within ..... months from the date of an exploration project contract.

(*d*) State the operating experience and background of the applicant with relation to the ability to carry out such exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations.

6. *Estimate of costs.*—Furnish a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work (you will have to use a separate sheet), under the following headings. Add the totals under all headings to give the estimated total cost of the project:

(*a*) *Independent contracts.*—(Note.—If the applicant does not intend to let any of the work to contractors, write "none" after this item. To the extent that the work is to be contracted, do not repeat the cost of the contract-work in subsequent items.) State the cost of any proposed independent contracts for the performance of all or any part of the work, expressed in terms of units of work (such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, per cubic yard of material moved, etc.).

(*b*) *Labor, supervision, consultants.*—Include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes and rates of wages, salaries or fees for necessary labor, supervision and engineering and geological consultants.

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel.

(*d*) *Operating equipment.*—Furnish an itemized list of any operating equipment to be rented, purchased, or which is owned and will be furnished by the Operator, with the estimated rental, purchase price, or suggested use-allowance based on present value, as the case may be.

(*e*) *Rehabilitation and repairs.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary initial rehabilitation or repairs of existing buildings, installations, fixtures, and movable operating equipment, now owned by the Operator and which will be devoted to the exploration project.

(*f*) *New buildings, improvements, installations.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary buildings, fixed improvements, or installations to be purchased, installed or constructed for the benefit of the exploration project.

(*g*) *Miscellaneous.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of repairs to and maintenance of operating equipment (not including initial rehabilitation or repairs of the Operator's equipment), analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employers' liability insurance, and payroll taxes.

(*h*) *Contingencies.*—Give an estimate of any necessary allowances for contingencies not included in the costs stated above.

NOTE.—No items of general overhead, corporate management, interest, taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes), or any other indirect costs, or work performed or costs incurred before the date of the contract, should be included in the estimate of costs.

7. (*a*) Are you prepared to furnish your share of the cost of the proposed project in accordance with the regulations on Government participation (Sec. 7, DMEA No. 1)?

(*b*) How do you propose to furnish your share of the costs? .....

☐ Money ☐ Use of equipment owned by you ☐ Other

Explain in detail on acompanying paper.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, whether as an individual, corporate officer, partner, or otherwise, both in his own behalf and acting for the applicant, certifies that the information set forth in this form and accompanying papers is correct and complete, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Dated August 12, 1953

.....
(Applicant)

By Sam L. Phillips

.....

.....

Title 18, U. S. Code (Crimes), Section 1001, makes it a criminal offense to make a willfully false statement or representation to any department or agency of the United States as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—66551-1

SP 103

1. (a) Ben L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis both of Spruce Pine, N. C.

   (b) Partnership

2. No Answer.

3. (a) This is lease property (Lease is attached in 3 (d) below.)

   (b) George Mine.

   (c) Lease.

   (d) Lease is attached as Exhibit A.

   (e) Not owner.

   (f) Land is held by Landlord. No land patents involved.

4. (a) Physical works set forth on map attached as Exhibit B.

   (b) This mine has in the past produced substantial quantities of high grade Ruby Muscovite Mica. This mine has a 12 foot vein with plenty of flint.

   (c) The last operator or operators was Walter Grindstaff and son. They stopped work because the sale of mica was dull at that time. They were getting good pattern mica and left plenty of mica.

   (d) The proposed property is readily accessible that leads within 100 yds. of mine. The mine is located about 250 yards of old Sink Hole Mine, and is thought to be some lead of the mica vein.

   (e) There is ample experience manpower available. Electricty is within 200 yards of the mine. No difficulty is contemplated in obtaining equipment and supplies.

5. (a) It is anticipated that the pegmatite contains additional quantities of ruby mica of stockpile grade.

   (b) It is proposed to ~~ex~~ sink a 6 x 7 shaft 125 feet deep. Then it is proposed to drift 100 feet.

   (c) The work will be started as soon as the contract is approved by the Government and the work ~~shall~~ should be concluded within 6 months.

   (d) Attached as Exhibit C.

6. Estimate of Costs.

(a) Independent Contracts-None.

(b through h)

(1) Shafting	5 x 7 - 125 feet @ $50.00		$6250.00
(2) Drifting	- 100 feet @$35.00		3500.00
		Total	$9750.00

7. (a) Applicant will pay in money the 10% required by regulation.

MINING LEASE

State of North Carolina Mitchell County:

This indenture made this 3rd day of Aughast . 1953

between E. M. Robinson & Wife Elizabeth Robinson

of Mitchell County and State of North Carolina, as party of the first part,

and known as lessor s and Sam L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis

of Mitchell County and State of North Carolina, party of the second part

and known as lessee.

Witnesseth, That the parties of the first part in consideratio of One Dollar in hand received and hereby acknowledged by the lessors , and in consideration of the agreements hereinafter contained, on the part of the party of the second part to be performed, hereby bargains, leases and grants to the party of the second part, and his heirs and assigns, for the period of five years from the date of this agreement, the following described real property, for mining purposes, in the County and State first above written, to wit:

Beginning on a poplar on the North Bank of Gouge's Branch, thence down and with said Branch to D. M. Thomas line to a Hombeam corner thence a North course with said Thomas line to an old corner on top of the ridge, D. P. Chandler corner, S. E. course with top of said ridge with Chandler's line to the Graveyard property, thence with said line to the Curch propetty, thence with said line to the public road to a stake, Thence South with said road to John Jarrett Store lot, thenee down said line to the Beginning containing 12 acres more or less.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lands to him, for mining purposes, the said lessee and his heirs and assigns for the aforesaid period of five years in compliance with the conditions of this instrument, for the purpose and with the right to dig, quarry, search, explore for, obtain, and remove any kind of minerals, metals or fossils, and particularly mica, and to conduct the same to any extent the said party of the second part, the lessee, may desire. And it is hereby agreed between the parties to this agreement that the party of the second part is to have the use of any unoccupied buildings on said lands for mining purposes, and that he shall have the right to erect such buildings as he needs to carry on such mining operations during the period of this lease, and that the party of the second part shall keep the same in as good condition as when received, unavoidable accidents excepted. And it is also agreed by the party of the second part that no unnecessary damage is to be done to the lands herein leased during the period of this lease and the continuance of said lease, but the said party of the second part shall have right to take from said lands leased to the party of the second part any wood or timber the party of the second part may need to carry on said mining operations or which may be needed to carry on the addition to existing buildings or to erect new buildings or sheds on said land. (Timber of high or special market value is excepted and shall not be used by the lessee.) And it is hereby agreed that the party of the second part the lessee, is to have right-of-way of ingress and egress to said mines or land upon which exploration is being conducted.

AND IT IS FURTHER AGREED That the party of the second part, the lessee hereby agrees

to pay to the said parties of the first part, of his or their heirs or assigns, a rental royalty of 1/8 royalty on mica

Seventy-five cnets (75¢) ton on feldspar

on the minerals taken ans sold from said mines which shall be for the use of the said lands for the aforesaid period of five years. The said amounts shall be payable on the computation of selling bills on the tenth day of each month covering sales made during the previous month. Any minerals other than those set forth above which may be taken and sold shall be paid for and at the usual royalty rate of the minerals taken.

AND IT IS FURTHER AGREED That the lessee, the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, shall have the option to renew this lease and to extend the period of its running for an additional five years from the date of its present termina tion. The option shall be exercised by giving formal written notice to the parties of the first part or by the continuation of any mining operations then being conducted. The lessors reserve the right to use the land, or convey the same not conflictingg with this lease, but under any conveyance the terms of this lease must be recognized by the grantee, purchaser, or assigns thereof. And it is agreed that the lessee may assign this mining lease or any part thereof and that he may sublease.

AND IT IS FURTHER AGREED That the lessee, the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, is hereby given an option to purchase all the right, title and interest, legal and equitable to and in the real estate described and set forth in this lease for a total purchase price of One, said purchase price to be paid in full within three years from the date of this instrument and it is agreed that all rental royalties paid to the party of the first part shall apply toward and be a part of the total purchase price above set forth, and that at such time that the total purchase price is paid in the form of royalties or a lump sum payment or a combination of both, the party of the first part will execute a special warranty deed to the party of the second part and that a tender the remaining purchase price at any time withing the next three years shall entitle party of the second part to specific performance of this optiong contract.

BUT IT IS EXPRESSLY AGREED That unless mineral or fossil material of practical value for mining purposes shall be found within a period of two years from the date of this instrument, the lease may be terminated by the lessee at any time thereafter on thirty days notice to the lessor. The lessee agrees that during the period of this lease or the continuance of this lease that work in said mines or exploration for new mines within the area leased shall not cease longer than ninety days at any one time. unavoidable accidents excepted.

Lessees agree to fill up all openings.

WITNESS our hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Witness:

/s/ E. M. Robinson (Seal)

/s/ Elizabeth Robinson (Seal)

(Seal)

MF-203

OWNER'S CONSENT TO LIEN

WHEREAS, the undersigned, as owner, co-owner, lessor, or seller has an interest in certain property in the State of North Carolina, County of Mitchell, described as follows:1/

Beginning on a poplar on the North Bank of Gouge's Branch, thence down and with said Branch to D. M. Thomas line to a Hombeam corner, thence a North course with said Thomas line to an old corner on top of the ridge, D. P. Chandler corner, S. E. course with top of said ridge with Chandler's line to the Graveyard property, thence with said line to the Church property, thence with said line to the public road to a stake. Thence South with said road to John Jarrett Store lot, thence down said line to the Beginning containing 12 acres more or less.

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract", between the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government", and

2/ Sam L. Phillips and Clingman Ellis, trading and doing business as The George Miners.

hereinafter called the "Operator"; and

WHEREAS, under certain provisions of said contract which are set forth on the reverse side hereof, the Government is entitled to a percentage royalty on production and to certain other rights and equities which do or may conflict with or be adverse to the interest of the undersigned in said property;

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, in consideration of said contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into same, undertakes and agrees as follows:

1. The Government's equity in and right to dismantle, sever, take possession of, and remove and dispose of facilities, buildings, fixtures, equipment, or other items as provided in the contract, or any amendment thereof, shall prevail over and be prior and superior to any conflicting or adverse rights of the undersigned, and the Government is authorized to enter upon the land for such purposes.

2. To secure the payment to the Government of the percentage royalty on production3/ provided for under the terms of said exploration project contract, or any amendment thereof which does not increase the maximum amount of the Government's claim here stated or alter the provisions for repayment, there is hereby granted to the Government a lien upon the land herein described and upon any production of minerals therefrom, until the royalty claim is fully paid in the amount of the Government's contribution, not in excess of 4/$ _____, or ten years have elapsed from the date of the contract.

3. The undersigned shall commit no act nor assert any claim that may contravene or conflict with the lien, claim, or rights of the Government under the provisions of said contract. This agreement shall be binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the undersigned.

Dated this 3rd day of August, 1953.

/s/ E. M. Robinson [Seal]

/s/ Elizabeth Robinson [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

1/ Either (a) insert the legal description of the land, or (b) strike out the words "as follows" and insert "in a lease [or contract, deed, or other document] dated _____, and recorded in book _____ page _____ official records of said county." If (b) is used, the book and page of recordation cannot be dispensed with. If the space provided is insufficient, use an Annex, and refer to the Annex in the space.

2/ Insert the name of the Operator as it will appear in the exploration project contract.

3/ Mining or production from the land is not required, and in the absence of production there is no obligation to repay the Government.

4/ Insert the maximum amount of the Government's contribution.

RELEVANT CONTRACT PROVISIONS

Repayment by Operator. (a) If, at any time, the Government considers that a discovery or a development from which production may be made has resulted from the exploration work, the Government, at any time not later than six months after the Operator has rendered the required final report and final account, may so certify in writing to the Operator. The certification shall describe broadly or indicate the nature of the discovery or development. In the event of such certification, any minerals mined or produced from the land described in Article 2 within 10 years from the date of this contract, including any mined or produced before the certification, shall be subject to a percentage royalty which the Operator or his successor in interest shall pay to the Government, upon the net smelter returns, the net concentrator returns, or other net amounts realized from the sale or other disposition of any such production, in whatever form disposed of, including ore, concentrates, or metal, until the total amount contributed by the Government, without interest, is fully repaid, or said 10 years have elapsed, whichever occurs first, as follows:

(1) One and one-half (1½) per cent of any such net amounts not in excess of eight dollars ($8.00) per ton.

(2) One and one-half (1½) per cent of any such net amounts, plus one-half (½) per cent such net amounts for each additional full fifty cents ($0.50) by which such net amounts exceed eight dollars ($8.00) per ton, but not in excess of five (5) per cent of such net amounts.

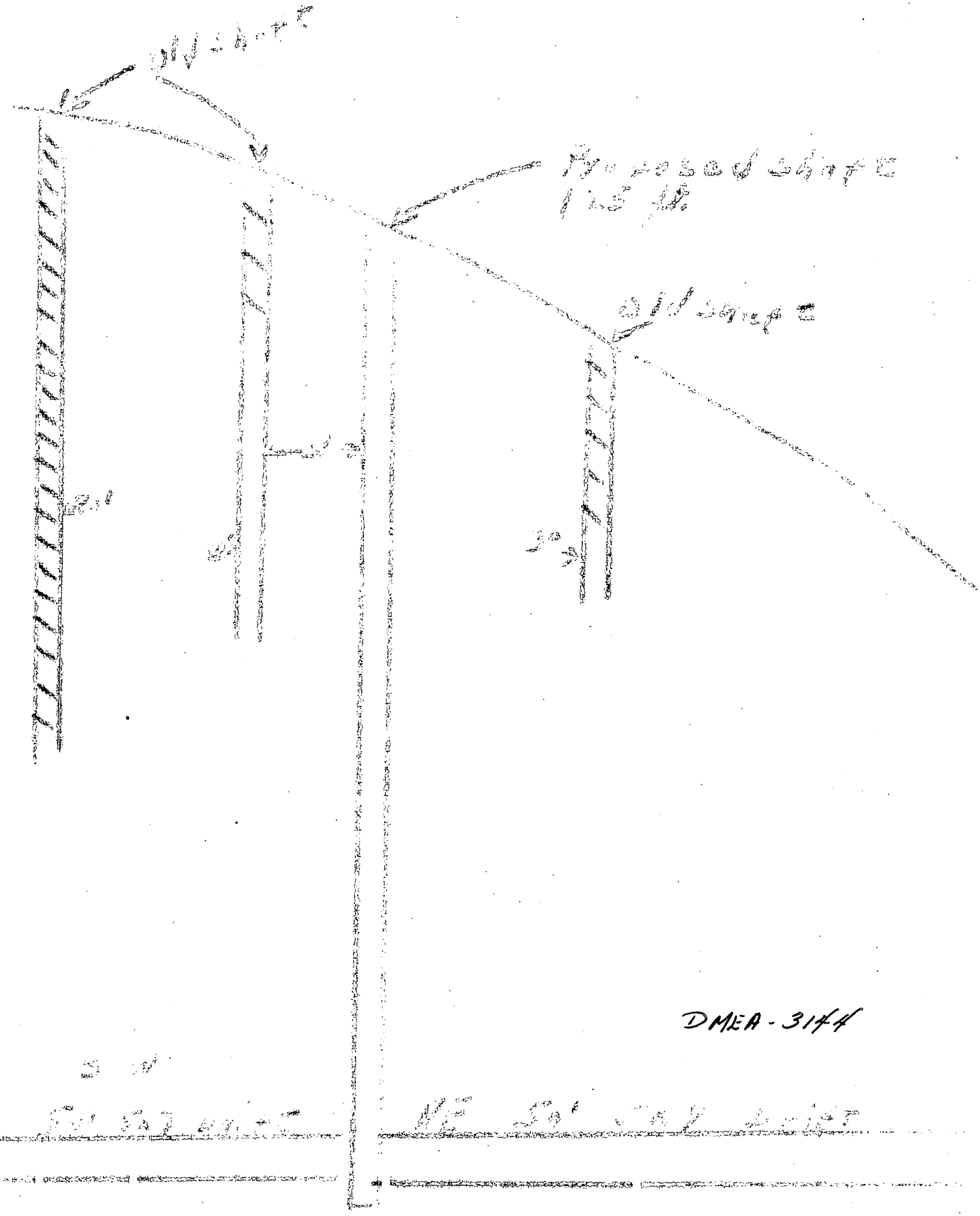
(For instance: the percentage royalty on a net amount of five dollars ($5.00) per ton, would be one and one-half (1½) per cent; on a net amount of ten dollars ($10.00) per ton, three and one-half (3½) per cent.)

(b) As here used, "net smelter returns", "net concentrator returns", and "other net amounts realized from the sale or other disposition", mean gross revenue from sales; or if not sold, the market value, the market value of the material after it is mined in the form in which and the place where it is held. In the case of integrated operations in which the material is not disposed of as such, these terms mean what is or would be gross income from mining operations for percentage depletion purposes in income tax determination.

(c) To secure the payment of its percentage royalty, the Government shall have and is hereby granted a lien upon the land described in Article 2 and upon any production of minerals therefrom, until the royalty claim is extinguished by lapse of time or is fully paid.

(d) This article is not to be construed as imposing any obligation on the Operator or the Operator's successor in interest to engage in any mining or production operations.

Title to and disposition of property. All facilities, buildings, fixtures, equipment, or other items costing more than $50.00 each, paid for or purchased with funds contributed jointly by the Operator and the Government, although title may be taken in the name of the Operator, shall belong to the Operator and the Government jointly, in proportion to their respective contributions, and upon the completion of the work or the termination of the contract shall be disposed of promptly by the Operator for the joint account of the Government and the Operator, either by return to the vendor, by sale to others, or purchase by the Operator at a price at least as high as could otherwise be obtained, as may appear to be for the best interest of the Government, unless the Government, in writing, waives its interest in any such item. If necessary to accomplish such disposition, the Operator shall dismantle, sever from the land, and remove any such item, the cost thereof to be for the joint account of the parties in proportion to their respective interests. If the Operator, within 90 days after the receipt of written notice from the Government, fails, neglects, or refuses to dispose of such property, the Government may itself enter upon the land, take possession of, and remove and dispose of any such property as above provided.


Old shaft
Proposed shaft
Old shaft
DMEA - 3144

CLINGHAM W. ELLIS

Clingham W. Ellis was born March 17, 1914, at Toecane, Route 1, North Carolina. Toecane is approximately twenty miles from Spruce Pine the center of the mica industry in North Carolina.

He attended grammar school at Bakersville, North Carolina, until 1929, the time of his father's death. At that time he had completed the eighth grade, and has not had the opportunity to further his formal education. He farmed his deceased father's farm from 1929 to 1933, and during the depression he worked at the C.C.C. Camp No. 14 at Smokey Mountain Park.

From 1934 to 1939 he was employed by the State Highway Commission, first as a laborer and later as a foreman, on its bridge building crew.

He mining experience from 1940 to 1948 was interrupted during the years 1942 to 1943 while he was employed as a watchman for the Devolt Safe and Lock Company, Canton, Ohio.

His mining experiences are:

1940 - 1941 Partnership of himself and Aud Grindstaff on the J. E. Ellis Property in Mitchell County, N. C.
1944 Partnership of himself and Earl Shuford, Roberson Mine, near the Sink Hole Mine, Mitchell County, N. C.
1945 Partnership of himself and Ernest Johnson, Bear Creek Mine, on the property of the Bailey heirs, Flat Rock, Mitchell County, N. C.

After the fall of the price of mica in 1945 he commenced his present business of saw mill operation and lumber sales, which are listed as follows:

1947 - 1948 Owned and operated saw mill at Snow Creek, N. C., where he employed from six to seven persons.
1949 - Became a partner with Frank Phillips in the saw mill business, and later associated with Frank Phillips, Samuel W. Thompson to form the Mitchell Lumber Company, a corporation. This lumber Company is now one of the largest in the Tri-County, Avery-Mitchell-Yancey, area.

* * * * * *

References:

Fletcher O. Phillips,
Spruce Pine, N. C.
O. V. Coulter, Partner,
Phillips and Coulter, Spruce Pine, N. C.
Charles Slagle, Postman,
Toecane, Route 1, N. C.