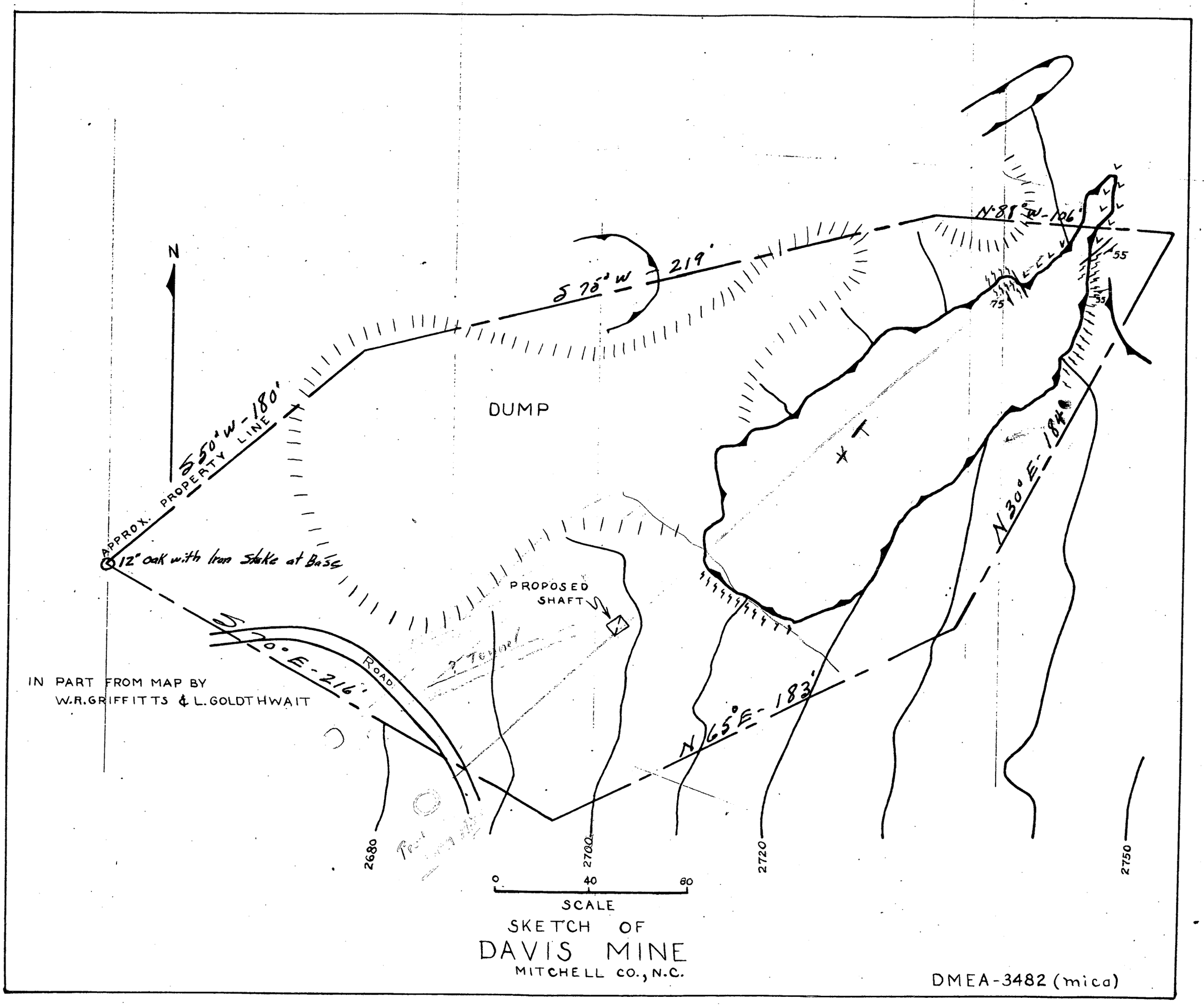


IN PART FROM MAP BY
W.R. GRIFFITTS & L. GOLDTHWAIT

SKETCH OF
DAVIS MINE
MITCHELL CO., N.C.

DMEA-3482 (mica)

600

FEB 7 1955

Webb, Cook and Guy
C/o Mr. T. H. Webb
Linville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3482 - Mica
Webb, Cook and Guy
Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other reports available to us in Washington relating to the subject property have been reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Minerals 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 indicates to us that the probability of disclosing significant reserves of mica 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 Minerals Program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

LGHouk:gad 2/2/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

FEB 7 1955

660

Mr. Robert A. Lawrence
Executive Officer, RFCA
Field Team, Region V
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. DMRA-3482 - Mica
Webb, Cook and Guy
Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Reference is made to our letter of January 24, 1955, and your memorandum reply of January 26, 1955.

After careful consideration of all the information available to this office, the subject application has been denied for the following reasons:

1. Primarily a feldspar mine.
2. No production of mica during World War II suggests potentiality as a mica producer is limited.
3. Pegmatite between south boundary and proposed shaft has been explored by adit.
4. Loans, dated May 14, 1954, is for only two years.
5. Lessor will not sign Owner's Consent to Lien.
6. The assets of the Guarantor selected to execute a guaranty of payment of royalty are insufficient for the purpose.
7. Past experiences with projects of this type have been disappointing.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Director, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard

Director, Geological Survey

LGHouk:ad 2/3/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

Memorandum February 2, 1955

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and summary report.

By: Walter C. Anderson

1. Docket No. DMEA-3482 - Mica
Property: Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Applicants: Webb, Cook and Guy
Newland, North Carolina

Application: Form MF-103, received September 13, 1954.
Work proposed: By applicant - Bulldoze open cut across the pegmatite to a depth of 50 feet. Amount requested $4,290.00.

By DMEA Field Team - Bulldoze shaft site, construct new buildings, sink 75 feet of shaft and drive 100 feet of drift for total estimated cost of $7,040.00.

No contract - Recommendation denial.

Comments: The proposal to spend $7,040.00 to gain access to mica shoot previously mined principally for feldspar does not appear justified.

Basis for denial -
1. Primarily a feldspar mine.
2. No production of mica during World War II suggests potentiality as a mica producer is limited.
3. Pegmatite 4 feet thick where exposed. Speculated to have reached 60 feet at south end.
4. Pegmatite between south boundary and proposed shaft has been explored by adit.
5. Virgin ground under exploration consists of less than 1/4 acre.
6. Proposed work will not reach under old works.
7. Lease dated May 14, 1954, is for only two years from date of lease.
8. Lessor will not sign Owner's Consent to Lien.

9. The assets of the Guarantor selected to execute a Guaranty of Payment of Royalty are insufficient for the purpose.
10. Past experience with projects of this type have been disappointing.

Recommendations: The attached vertical section shows old pit and adit and the location of the proposed shaft. The Field Team's reply to our letter of January 24, 1955, failed to provide additional information or strengthen their case for a project. In view of the foregoing data, the Nonmetallic Minerals Division feels that the proposed project does not merit exploration assistance and, therefore, recommends that the denial letter be sent.

WCAnderson:gad 2/2/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk

J. RAY BRASWELL
Attorney at Law

Newland, North Carolina

January 27, 1955

Mr. Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division
U. S. Department of the Interior
Defense Minerals Exploration Admin.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Houk:

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3482 - Mica
Webb, Cook and Guy
Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

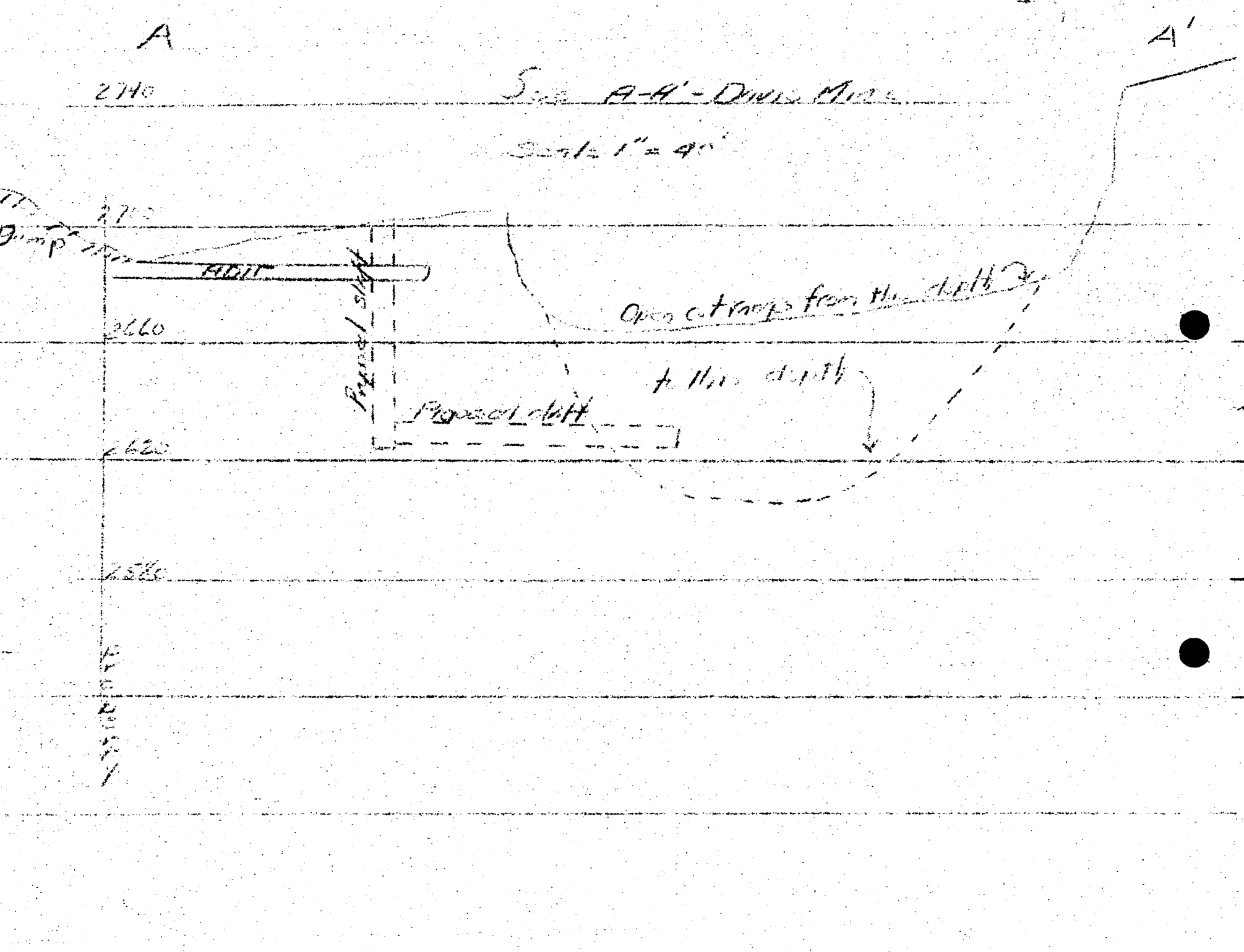
We shall appreciate it if you will inform us of the present status of the above entitled application. We have received no acknowledgment of our letter of January 7, 1955, directed to you. The lessor is pushing us to begin operations.

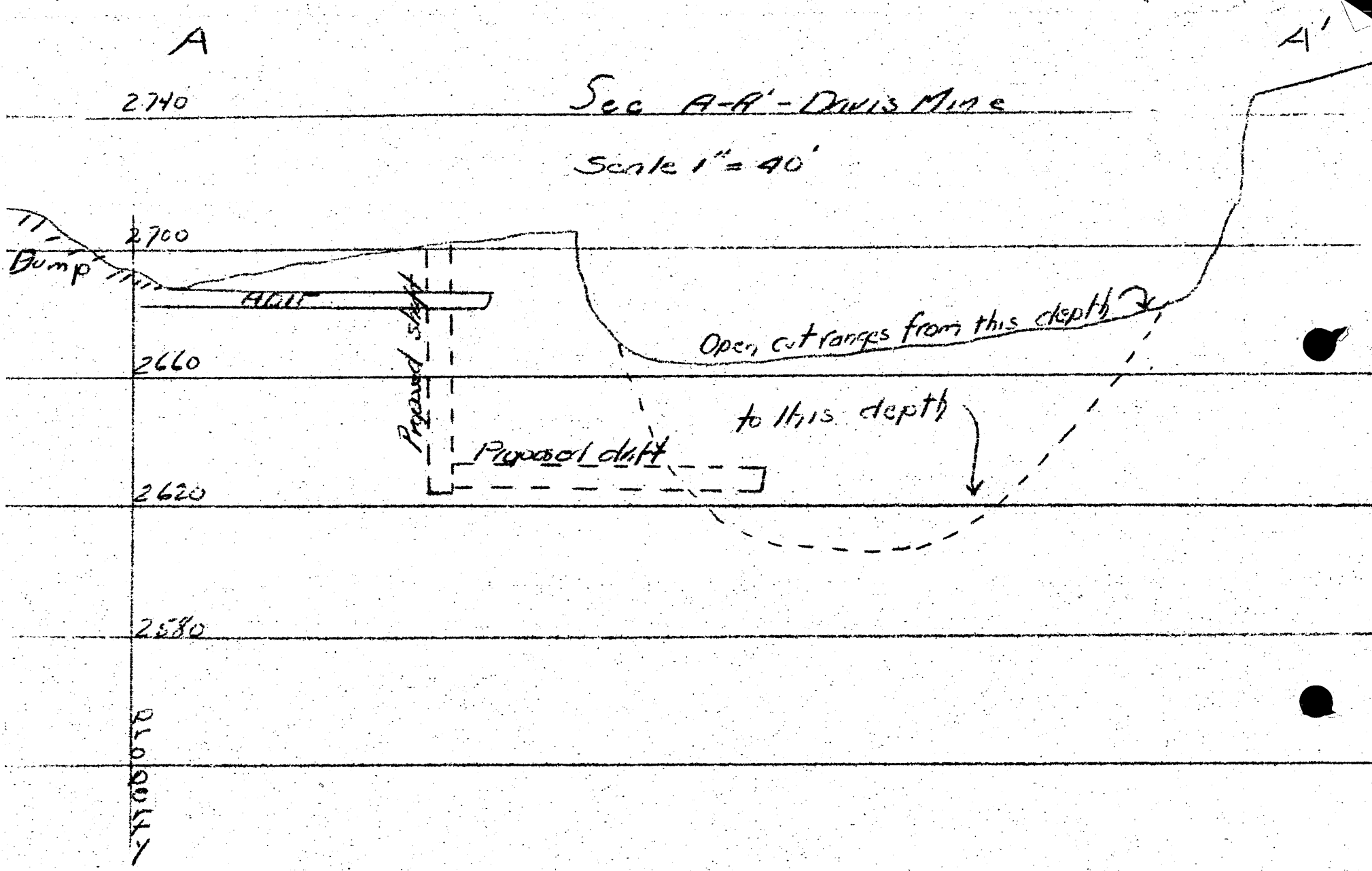
Yours very truly,

/s/
J. Ray Braswell

C O P Y

Denial
2-11-55


A
A'
2740
See A-A' - Dwg Mine
Scale 1" = 40'
2700
ADIT
Proposed shaft
2660
Proposed shaft
2620
2580


A
A'
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Sec A-A'-Davis Mine
Scale 1" = 40'
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Bump
Adit
Proposed shaft
2660
Open cut ranges from this depth
to this depth
Proposed drift
2620
2580
2500 ELEV

DMEA-3482

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 1 POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 27 1955

January 26, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region V - Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3482 (mica) Webb, Cook & Guy, Davis Mine, Mitchell County, North Carolina

Reference is made to your letter of January 24 on the subject mine.

The proposed exploration at this place is designed to explore that block of ground between the large open cut and the southwest boundary of the property, a distanceof 130 feet. Even though the shaft, as located on the map, may not collar in pegmatite, it is located in a pegmatite zone. At the time the deposit was examined, mica was being produced from a shallow pit which is only 20 feet southwest of the southwest property boundary. The shaft site is on a line between the current operation and the large open cut.

Mr. Cook, one of the applicants, reported that the caved adit was driven in pegmatite throughout its length. The portal of this adit is at approximately the 2680-foot level and it was driven northeastward to the area of the proposed shaft site.

Available reports suggest that mica-rich portion of the pegmatite rakes to the south; therefore, with the shaft located as shown on the map, there is a good possibility that the shaft will intersect the mica-rich zone.

We believe that the target size is adequate, thus reaffirm our original recommendation.

Wm. A. Beck
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION V

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

KHT/zm

Mr. Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region V
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3482 - Mica
Webb, Cook and Guy
Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Reference is made to the Field Team Examination Report of October 20, 1954, concerning the subject property.

The Field Team recommends a contract to explore the block of ground southwest of the open-cut by sinking a 75-foot shaft and driving a drift in a northeasterly direction for a distance of 100 feet from the bottom of the shaft. The proposed shaft is only 40 feet from the open-cut, and the drift will extend either into or under the open-cut, the maximum depth of which is reported to be 100 feet. We are inclined to deny the application, since most of such projects in the past have been disappointing and because the target size does not justify the expenditure. The target would be more attractive if sinking and drifting on the pegmatite could be justified to search for a new shoot.

Action on the subject application will not be taken until we hear from you again. Possibly the Field Team has information not contained in the report that will enable us to make a better evaluation of the project.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard

Member, Geological Survey

LGHouk:gad 1/24/55

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

600

JAN - 5 1955

Webb, Cook and Guy
C/o Mr. T. H. Webb
Linville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3482 - Mica
Webb, Cook and Guy
Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

On November 8, 1954, the Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, wrote you advising that the legal description of the subject land, as given in your mining lease from Penland-Bailey Company is inadequate for use in a contract. To date the information requested has not been forwarded to this office.

In the interest of expediting your application for exploration assistance at the subject property it would be appreciated if you will provide us promptly with the requested information.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 1/4/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 23 1954

November 22, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3482 (mica)

Applicant: Cook and Webb

Name and Location of Property: Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: October 29, 1954

Date Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mtls. Br.: November 15, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Approval of an exploration project.

Comments:

1. Abandoned workings consist principally of an open cut 230 feet long, 60 feet wide and of an undetermined depth, now filled with water.

2. Proposed exploration by sinking a shaft southwest of the present workings as recommended by the field examiners appears to be the proper approach.

3. Estimated costs totaling $7,038 are in line with other DMEA projects in this area.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team's recommendation to approve an exploration project at this mine in the amount of $7,038.

[Signed
W. F. Dietrich

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 10 1954

November 8, 1954

Webb, Cook & Guy
c/o T. H. Webb
Linville, North Carolina

Re: DMEA-3482 (mica) Davis Mine
Mitchell County, N. C.

Dear Mr. Webb:

Our Washington office advises us that the legal description of the subject land, as given in your mining lease from Penland-Bailey Company, is inadequate for use in a contract because all reference points are oak trees which are not identified. Therefore, will you please provide an identifiable reference point to which the description may be tied. If it is not convenient to do this, then a permanent marker set in the 12-inch oak tree would probably be satisfactory, and a description of the marker should be provided.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

RAL/sm
cc:
Beck
Lynch
Opr. Com.-2
Files

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 9 - 1954

November 8, 1954

Re: DMEA-3432
Guy, Webb & Cook
(Davis Mine)
Mitchell Co., N. C.
$7,038 - Mica

Memorandum

To: L. G. Hook, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of field examination report

The Field Team has recommended 75 feet of shaft sinking and 100 feet drifting and/or crosscutting be approved. This is an alternative to the project proposed by the applicant, which was unacceptable to the field examiners.

The Field Team's proposal will test a zone of feldspar and mica which is believed to plunge steeply southward. The exploration ground is between producing mines which trend southwestward.

Griffitts description of the Davis mine indicates that further exploration south of the Davis open cut is geologically warranted.

I recommend the project outlined by the Field Team be approved.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-11/8/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 1 - 1954

October 29, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region VII

Subject: Field Examination Report on DMEA-3h82(mica) Webb,Cook & Guy. Davis Mine, Mitchell County, N. C.

Enclosed are four copies of the subject report and six extra copies of the map.

We agree with the recommendations for a project as outlined.

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

Wm. A. Back, for V. J. Lynch
U. S. Bureau of Mines

RAL/am

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
11-5-54
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

... OF THE INTERIOR
... Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 1 - 1954

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

ON

DMEA-3482, DAVIS MINE (mica)
Mitchell County, N. C.

BY

K. H. Teague, and D. H. Ames, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

and

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

October 20, 1954

Released by
11-5-54

Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
1954

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
ON
DMEA-3482, DAVIS MINE (mica)

Applicant: T. H. Webb and Dick Cook, Linville, N. C., and Robert Guy of Newland, N. C. c/o Robert Guy, Newland, N. C.

Very little information can be obtained from an examination of this deposit. No work has been done in 19 years, and old openings are slumped and filled. The near by Long Cut Mine is producing at present large quantities of strategic mica, and reports suggest that mica bearing pegmatite remains at the Davis Mine. Exploration assistance is recommended.

The mine was examined on October 20, 1954. Messrs. T. H. Webb and Dick Cook accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

The Davis Mine is 0.2 mile north of the North Toe River and 2.5 miles N. 55° W. of Spruce Pine, Mitchell County, North Carolina. Access is good at all times.

The applicants appear capable to conduct the proposed exploration.

No surface facilities exist on the property, although a single phase electric line is near by.

Workings consist of an open cut 230 feet long, 60 feet wide, and of unknown depth (reported near 100 ft. at the south end). It is now filled with muck and water to within 30 feet of the rim. In addition to the large open cut a caved adit is reported to extend under the dump along the west side of the cut. Mr. Dick Cook's father was killed by a cave-in in the adit.

The following is taken from an unpublished U. S. Geological Manuscript prepared by Wallace R. Griffitts in August 1944:

"The country rock in the area is coarse-grained composed of oligoclase, microcline, quartz and muscovite. It has a distinct banding due to parallel streaks of mica separated by quartz and feldspar. In the north end of the Davis cut the banding of weathered granite strikes N. 32° E. and dips 55° to the east. There are three masses of weathered gneiss, apparently inclusions or pendants in the granite. One, which forms and the south wall of the cut, is severely contorted. The attitude of the foliation of each of these masses differs from that of the other two, suggesting that they are separate rather than parts of a larger mass of gneiss. Before weathering the rock apparently was mica gneiss or schist composed of at least 60 percent mica, with quartz and feldspar the other most abundant minerals. Pockets of weathered feldspar 3 or 4 inches across are scattered through the gneiss. At the contact of the gneiss with the granite is a 3 to 5 inch layer of mica schist. Except for the pockets of feldspar and the border zone of mica schist there is no evidence of contact action."

"The pegmatite at the Davis Mine is now exposed only in the north end of the cut where it is about 4 feet thick. The maximum thickness farther south may have approached 60 feet, the width of the cut. The strike at the surface probably was near N. 40° E. and the dike was probably either vertical or steeply inclined to the east. The workings are reported to deepen toward the south, showing that the zone of feldspar and mica plunged southward."

"Microcline, oligoclase, quartz, muscovite, and one crystal of beryl were found on the dump. Large chunks of massive quartz suggest that the pegmatite had a quartz core. All information concerning the mica must be gained from indefinite reports and from material found on the dump. The reported deepening of the workings toward the south indicates that the zone of feldspar and mica plunged in that direction. Green "A" mica imbedded in quartz and flakes of greenish-brown mica were found on the dump, suggesting that "A" mica occurred at the margins of a quartz core whereas flat mica occurred in feldspar."

Both the Long Cut and Gadger Mines, which are located a few hundred feet southwest and south of the Davis Mine, have been substantial producers of mica. At present the Long Cut Mine is a large producer. Although the Davis Mine has been worked mainly for feldspar, reports indicate that substantial quantities of mica were produced also. The examiners are of the opinion that this deposit has a good chance to become a producer of significant amounts of strategic mica. Exploration assistance is recommended.

The program of exploration as outlined in the application is not acceptable. It involves, to a large extent, moving old dump. The examiners believe that the most logical approach is to sink a 75-foot shaft at the point shown on the attached map, then, drive a level northeast on the pegmatite. This approach is agreeable with the applicants.

Estimated Cost:

Shaft site preparation (removal of estimated 150 cu. yds. of overburden).		
Bulldozer, 5 hrs. @ $10.00/hr.	$50.00	
Toolhouse	75.00	
Powder magazine	25.00	
Exploder "	13.00	
		$ 163.00
Sink 75-foot 5' x 7', 2 compartment timbered shaft (40 shifts).		
Labor:		
1 miner @ $1.50/hr.	480.00	
1 hoistman @ $1.25/hr.	400.00	
1 laborer @ $1.00/hr.	320.00	
Equipment (rental)		
Compressor and drill @ $220/Mo.	440.00	

Equipment (rental con't)

Hoist @ $50/ Mo.	$100.00
Pump @ $25/Mo.	50.00

Supplies:

Gasoline and oil	150.00
Explosives	200.00
Steel	125.00
Timber, 7,000 B.F. @ $65/M	455.00
Pipe	75.00
Small tools	100.00
Miscellaneous, etc.	260.00
Social Security, Insurance ---	200.00
	$3,375.00

45.00

Drive 100 feet of drift and/or crosscut (40 shifts)

Labor:

1 Miner @ $1.50/hr.	480.00
1 hoistman @ $1.25/hr.	400.00
2 Laborers @ $1.00/hr.	640.00

Equipment (rental)

Compressor, drill & jackleg @ $240/Mo.	480.00
Hoist @ $50/Mo.	100.00
Pump @ $25/Mo.	50.00

Supplies:

Gasoline and oil	200.00	
Explosives	300.00	
Steel	150.00	
Pipe	100.00	
Small tools	100.00	
Miscellaneous	200.00	
Insurance, Social Security, etc.	300.00	$3,500.00

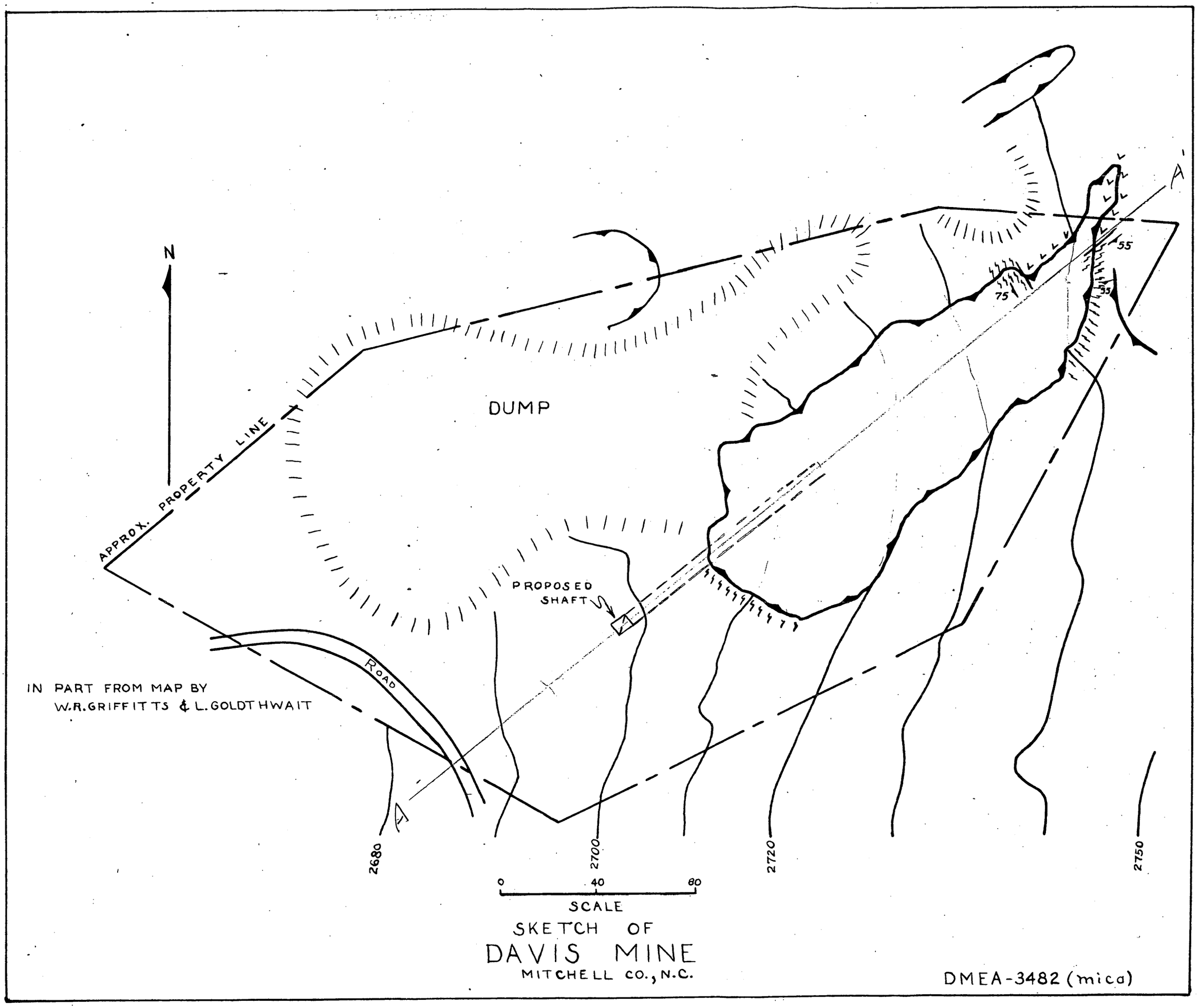
35.00

Estimated total cost..... $7,038.00

Date of Inspection - October 20, 1954

K. H. Teague and D. H. Amos, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

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



SKETCH OF
DAVIS MINE
MITCHELL CO., N.C.

DMEA-3482 (mica)

600

OCT 6 1954

Mr. T. H. Webb
Webb, Cook & Guy
Linville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3482 - Mica
Webb, Cook & Guy (T. H. Webb,
Dick Cook, and Robert Guy)
The Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Webb:

Your application for assistance in exploring the subject property has been reviewed by the Nonmetallic Minerals Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and has been referred to Mr. Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, Room 13, Post Office Building, Knoxville 2, Tennessee, for further consideration and possibly a field examination.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date if an examination is to be made. Any assistance that you may give the members of the field team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittenook

Administrator

LGHouk:gad 10/4/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5227
Mr. Houk

600

OCT 6 1954

Mr. Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region VII
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3462 - Miss Webb, Cook & Guy, (T. H. Webb, Dick Cook, and Robert Guy) The Davis Mine Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Please review the subject application and arrange for a field examination if you deem it necessary.

Copies of memoranda from the Geological Survey, dated September 16, 1954, and from the Bureau of Mines, dated September 28, 1954, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4
LGHouk:gad 10/4/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5227
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

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

Department of the Interior
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
SEP 29 1954

September 28, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Donald R. Irving, Acting for Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3482 (mica)

Applicant: Cook and Guy Webb

Name and Location of Property: Davis Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mtls. Br.: 9/15/54

Comments:

1. No data available in this office on subject mine.

2. Proposed exploration described in 5(b) does not mention underground work but costs include items for bulldozing and underground work. If an exploration project is approved for this mine, cost should be on a unit-cost basis.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this mine when in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration project is justified. If so, the field team and applicant should agree on a definite plan of exploration on a unit-cost basis.

Signed

Donald R. Irving

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

September 16, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3482 (Mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: T. M. Webb, Linville, N. C.
Name of property: Davis Mine
Location of property: 3.75 mi. from Spruce Pine, N. C.
Summary of applicant's proposal:
40 hours -- bulldozing
Total cost -- $4,290
Sources of information on applicant's property:
We have no available information on this property.
Comments:

Overall cost of project is high for type of work proposed.

Apparently this property was not explored or developed during the last war, this could indicate potentiality as a mica producer is limited.

RECOMMENDATION: Application should be referred to Field Team. The need for a field examination to be determined by the Field Team.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-9/16/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061