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

July 5, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

RECEIVED
JUL - 5 1955

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA - 3792 (mica)

Applicant: J. H. Ledbetter

Name and Location of Property: Ledbetter Prospect
Macon County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: May 16, 1955

Date Rec'd by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: June 28, 1955

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend Denial

Comments:

1. Possibility for discovery of a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica is considered poor.

Recommendation:

I concur with the field team's recommendation for denial.

W. F. Dietrich

600

JUL - 7 1955

Mr. J. H. Ledbetter
Route 1
Franklin, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3792 - Mica
J. H. Ledbetter
Ledbetter Prospect
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ledbetter:

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 are returning herewith the original deed which you had attached to your application.

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

Enclosure

WCAnderson:gad 6/20/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Hook

June 29, 1955

Memorandum

To: The Files

From: Walter C. Anderson

Subject: Evaluation of application and field examination report.

Docket No. DMEA-3792 - Mica
J. H. Ledbetter
Ledbetter Prospect
Macon County, North Carolina

Denial of application is recommended.

Comments: This deposit was the subject of a previous application, DMEA-16[illegible]OX. Contract was offered for core drilling which was withdrawn because the subject applicant refused to sign it. Since that time he has done considerable stripping on the pegmatite, driven 132 feet of crosscut and sunk a 25-foot shaft. Work unsuccessful.

Method of exploring: Applicant proposes to sink a 60-foot shaft and drive 30 feet of drifts.

Recommendations: Previous exploration by the applicant failed to show a deposit of strategic mica. Since they believe this was adequate exploration work for this deposit, the field team recommends denial. The Nonmetallic Minerals Division, the Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines concur.

WCAnderson/ai
7/18/55

Walter C. Anderson, Mining Engineer

cc to: Admr. Reading File
Docket (original)
Mr. Houk
Mr. Anderson

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

RECEIVED
JUN - 6 1955

June 3, 1953

Re: DMEA-3792
J. N. Ledbetter
Ledbetter Prospect
Macon Co., N. C.
$4,240 - Mica

Memorandum

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

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report

Denial of this application seems to be in order. Commonly a shaft is not sunk to top a crosscut.

I concur with the recommendation of denial.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

NENelson:hlm
G-6/3/55

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

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
ROOM POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.
May 27, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region 5, Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: Field Examination Report, DMEA-3792 (mica)
J. H. Ledbetter, Franklin, N. C. Ledbetter Prospect
Macon County, N. C.

Transmitted are four copies of the subject report.

The examiners recommend denial and we are in complete agreement with this recommendation.

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION V

V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines

RAL/xm

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

REGION V

On

DMEA-3792, LEDBETTER PROSPECT
(mica)
Macon County, N. C.

By

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

May 16, 1955

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
On

DMEA-3792, LEDBETTER PROSPECT

Applicant: J. H. Ledbetter, Route #1, Franklin, North Carolina

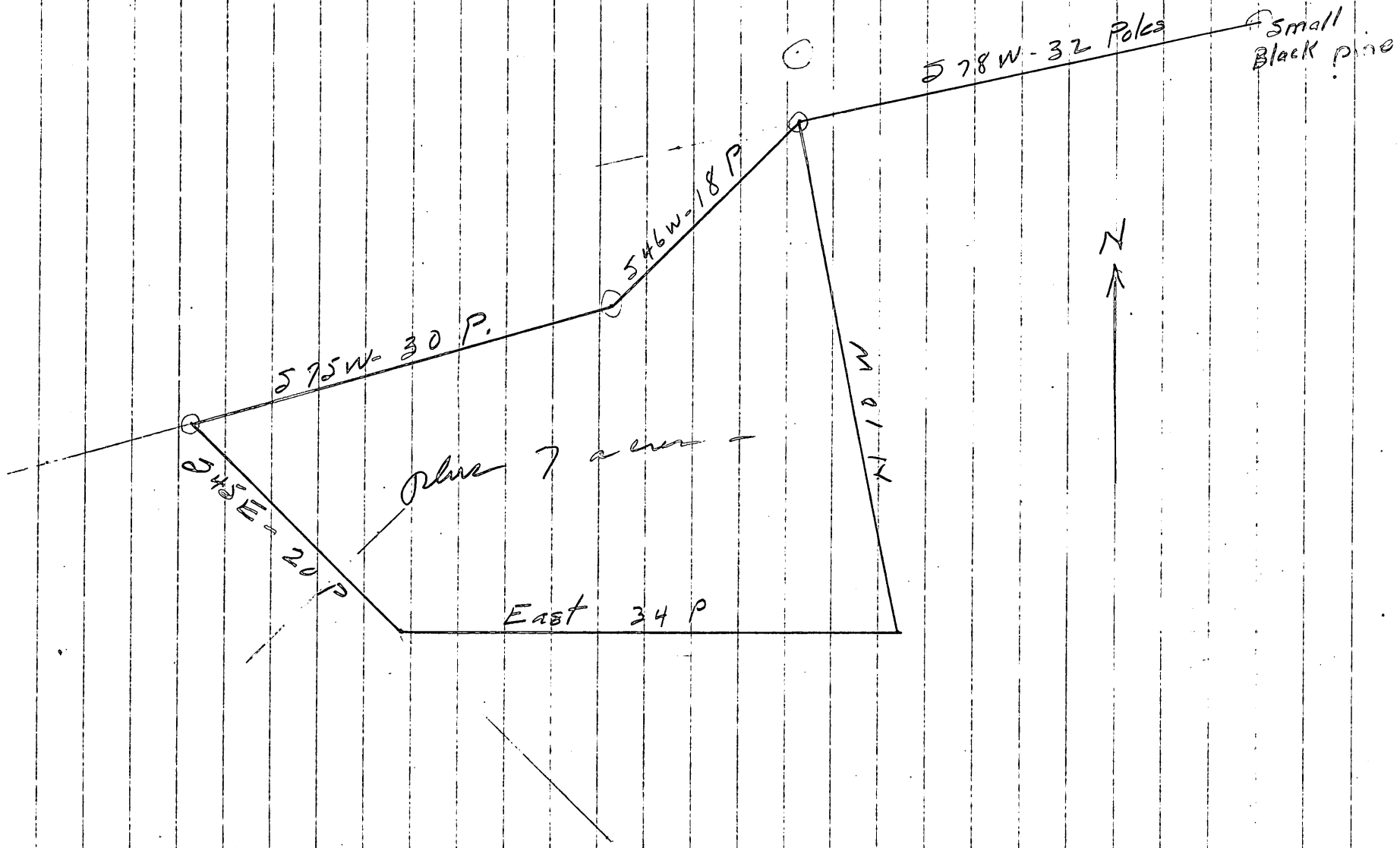
This deposit was the subject of a previous application (DMEA-1680X). A contract was prepared allowing for some core drilling. The applicant refused to sign the contract, thus it was withdrawn. Since the date of the previous report (July 12, 1951) the applicant has done considerable stripping on the pegmatite for which exploration was recommended. He also has driven 132 feet of crosscut and sunk a 25-foot shaft. None of this work has been successful. The examiners believe that adequate work has been done on the property. It has failed to show a deposit of strategic mica; therefore, we recommend that the application be denied. The deposit was re-examined on May 16, 1955.

May 16, 1955.

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

z

Ledbetter Prospect Survey 3792
Scale 1" = 10 poles.



LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning on a Small Black Pine on top of a ridge S E corner of W. T. Clows Land and Runs S. 78. W. 32 Poles to a Sour Wood, on top of Ridge then with top of Same S. 46. W 18 Poles to S. P. O. on a knob then S. 75 W 30 Poles to a Stake in a field and in the U. S. line then with the Same S. 45. E. 20 Poles to a Black Gum on South Side of Rattling Branch, then with Said Rattling Branch (approximately?) with Said Branch 34 poles to a Stake in J. H. Ledbetters west line then with Same N 10 W. to the Beginning. Containing Seven and 3/4 acres or 7 and 3/4 acres more or Less.

Legal description copied from deed dated December 7, 1918, difficult to decipher.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning on a Small Black Pine on top of a ridge S E corner of W. T. Clows Land and Runs S. 78. W. 32 Poles to a Sour Wood, on top of Ridge then with top of Same S. 46. W 18 Poles to S. P. O. on a knob then S. 75 W 30 Poles to a Stake in a field and in the U. S. line then with the Same S. 45. E. 20 Poles to a Black Gum on South Side of Rattling Branch, then with Said Rattling Branch E (approximately?) with Said Branch 34 poles to a Stake in J. H. Ledbetters west line then with Same N 10 W. to the Beginning. Containing Seven and 3/4 acres or 7 and 3/4 acres more or Less.

Legal description copied from deed dated December 7, 1918, difficult to decipher.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning on a Small Black Pine on top of a ridge S E corner of W. T. Glows Land and Runs S. 78. W. 32 Poles to a Sour Wood, on top of Ridge then with top of Same S. 46. W 18 Poles to S. P. O. on a knob then S. 75 W 30 Poles to a Stake in a field and in the U. S. line then with the Same S. 45. E. 20 Poles to a Black Gum on South Side of Rattling Branch, then with Said Rattling Branch (approximately?) with Said Branch 34 poles to a Stake in J. H. Ledbetters west line then with Same N 10 W. to the Beginning. Containing Seven and 3/4 acres or 7 and 3/4 acres more or Less.

Legal description copied from deed dated December 7, 1918, difficult to decipher.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning on a Small Black Pine on top of a ridge S E corner of W. T. Glenn Land and Runs S. 78. W. 32 Poles to a Sour Wood, on top of Ridge then with top of Same S. 46. W 18 Poles to S. P. O. on a knob then S. 75 W 30 Poles to a Stake in a field and in the U. S. line then with the Same S. 45. E. 20 Poles to a Black Gum on South Side of Rattling Branch, then with Said Rattling Branch (approximately?) with Said Branch 34 poles to a Stake in J. H. Ledbetters west line then with Same N 10 W. to the Beginning. Containing Seven and 3/4 acres or 7 and 3/4 acres more or less.

Legal description copied from deed dated December 7, 1918, difficult to decipher.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning on a Small Black Pine on top of a ridge S E corner of W. T. Clows Land and Runs S. 78. W. 32 Poles to a Sour Wood, on top of Ridge then with top of Same S. 46. W 18 Poles to S. P. O. on a knob then S. 75 W 30 Poles to a Stake in a field and in the U. S. line then with the Same S. 45. E. 20 Poles to a Black Gum on South Side of Rattling Branch, then with Said Rattling Branch (approximately?) with Said Branch 34 poles to a Stake in J. H. Ledbetters west line then with Same N 10 W. to the Beginning. Containing Seven and 3/4 acres or 7 and 3/4 acres more or Less.

Legal description copied from deed dated December 7, 1918, difficult to decipher.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning on a Small Black Pine on top of a ridge S E corner of W. T. Clows Land and Runs S. 76. W. 32 Poles to a Sour Wood, on top of Ridge then with top of Same S. 46. W 18 Poles to S. P. O. on a knob then S. 75 W 30 Poles to a Stake in a field and in the U. S. line then with the Same S. 45. E. 20 Poles to a Black Gum on South Side of Rattling Branch, then with Said Rattling Branch (approximately?) with Said Branch 34 poles to a Stake in J. H. Ledbetters west line then with Same N 10 W. to the Beginning. Containing Seven and 3/4 acres or 7 and 3/4 acres more or Less.

Legal description copied from deed dated December 7, 1918, difficult to decipher.

MAY 1 3 1955

Mr. J. H. Ledbetter
Route 1
Franklin, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3792 - Mica
J. H. Ledbetter
Ledbetter Prospect
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ledbetter:

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. Lawrence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region V, 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. Mittendorf

Administrator

WGAnderson:gad 5/10/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Hauk

600

MAY 13 1955

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3792 - Mica
J. M. Ledbetter
Ledbetter Prospect
Mason County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

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

Copies of memoranda from E. L. Newcomb of the Geological Survey, dated May 2, 1955, and from W. F. Dietrich of the Bureau of Mines, dated May 9, 1955, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

M. E. Vella for J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

WCAnderson:gad 5/10/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 10 1955

May 9, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3792 (mica)

Applicant: J. H. Ledbetter

Name and Location of Property: Ledbetter Prospect
Macon County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 4-28-55

Comments:

1. Existing workings consist of a 25-foot shaft and caved 132-foot tunnel.

2. No map was attached to the copy of the application submitted to this office.

3. Estimated costs are in line with other DMEA projects.

4. It appears a field examination is necessary to determine the feasibility of a project.

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

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

[redacted]

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 5 1955

May 2, 1955

Re: DMEA-3792
J. H. Ledbetter
(Ledbetter Prospect)
Macon Co., N. C.
34,240 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of application

The operator's proposal consists of 60 feet of shaft and 30 feet of drift.

Previous work has involved a 25 foot shaft and a 132 foot tunnel. Apparently the shaft is open but the tunnel is inaccessible for examination.

We do not have any available data in our files on this property.

I recommend the application be referred to the Field Team for their review and an examination if they deem it may be justified.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-5/2/55

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

DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
Control Slip

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

DMA Docket No. 3794

DO NOT DETACH THIS SLIP

Action on this document is recorded and controlled in Reports and Records Branch. Any movement of this document between divisions or offices of DMA or movement outside DMA must be reported to the Reports and Records Branch. Actions taken that affect status of the case must also be reported.
Cys to USBM, USGS, and Reg. V.

This document has been recorded as

Exploration

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.

Routing Slip

To:	600	Date	4/28/55
To:	Anderson	Date	5/3/55
To:	Oper Com	Date	5-10-55
To:	Oper Com	Date	6-29-55
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
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To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	

DO NOT DETACH

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

Docket File
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Hedges
Kilsgaard
Selfridge
Johnson

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

JUN 30 1955

Mr. Dave Buchanan

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3794 - Mica
Dave Buchanan, Art Buchanan
and Green Burleson
Will Owens Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Buchanan:

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

WCAnderson:pk 6/20/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

R.C.S.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RECEIVED
JUN 28 1955

June 28, 1955

Memorandum

To; Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA - 3794 (mica)

Applicant: D. Buchanan, A. Buchanan, G. Burleson

Name and Location of Property: Will Owens Prospect
Jackson County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: May 30, 1955

Date Rec'd by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: June 17, 1955

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend denial

Comments:

1. Exposures at this mine are poor and give little evidence that a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica exists.

2. Ownership of subject property is not clear.

Recommendation:

I concur with field team's recommendation for denial of this project.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

RECEIVED
JUN 20 1955

June 17, 1955

Re: DMEA-3794
Buchanan et al.
Will Owens Prospect
Jackson Co., N. C.
Mica

Memorandum

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

From: R. D. Trace, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report

The Field Team recommends, and I concur, that the application be denied.

There is no evidence to indicate the presence of strategic mica.

R D Trace

R. D. Trace

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

June 10, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region 5, Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: Field Examination Report - DMEA-3794 (mica)
Buchanan, Buchanan and Burleson, Will Owen Property
Jackson County, N. C.

Enclosed are 4 copies of the subject report.

We agree with the recommendations for denial.

Robert A. Laurence

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION V

V. J. Lynch

V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
6-17-55
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION V

On

DMEA-3794 (mica) WILL OWENS PROSPECT
Jackson County, N. C.

BY

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

May 30, 1955

Released by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
6-17-55
(Date)

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
On

DMEA-3794 (mica) WILL OWENS PROSPECT

Applicants: Dave Buchanan, Art Buchanan and Orien Burleson, Spruce Pine, N. C.

Little information is available on this deposit. No pegmatite is exposed on the property on which exploration is requested; property ownership is in dispute, and mica scraps around the old mine are of non-strategic quality. Denial of the application is recommended.

This deposit was examined on May 30, 1955. Mr. J. Dave Buchanan accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required three hours.

The Will Owens Prospect is about 1 1/4 miles northeast of Wolf Mountain near old Tennessee Gap School, about 18 miles east of Tuckasegee, Jackson County, North Carolina. A good all-weather road passes the property making it readily accessible.

No work has been done on the property on which the application applies. On the adjoining property a 25-foot incline, located 40 feet west of the property line, has been sunk; however, it is partly filled with soil and no pegmatite is exposed. Two additional dumps suggest that other openings have been made, but they have been filled during road construction.

It appears that a lenticular pegmatite occurs at this place. It is probably conformable to the granite gneiss wall rock which trends about N. 70° W. and dips about 40° N. E. No information is available as to the thickness of the pegmatite, its composition, or mica content. From a study of the dumps, it appears that the pegmatite shows little promise. Furthermore, as the outcrop is on the adjoining property and there is ownership dispute on the property involved in the application, the examiners recommend the application be denied. Actually the examiners were ordered to "get-off" the property by three of the disputing parties during the examination. This we did when we had finished.

Examined : May 30, 1955.

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

z

Docket Copy
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Selfridge
R.C.Johnson

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

MAY 11 1955

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3794 - Miss Dave Buchanan, Art Buchanan and Green Burleson
Will Owens Prospect
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 E. L. Newcomb of the Geological Survey, dated May 2, 1955, and from W. F. Dietrich of the Bureau of Mines, dated May 9, 1955, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee (S/S)

Approved:

/s/ C. J. Johnson (S/S)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

NCAnderson:gad 5/10/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

R.C.J.

Docket Copy
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Kiilsgaard
Johnson
Selfridge
Johnson

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

MAY 11 1955

Mr. Dave Buchanan

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3794 - Mica
Dave Buchanan, Art Buchanan
and Green Burleson
Will Owens Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Buchanan:

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 V, 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. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 5/10/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

R.C.G.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 10 1955

May 9, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3794 (mica)

Applicant: Buchanan and Burleson

Name and Location of Property: Will Owens Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Branch of Ceramic & Fert. Mtls.: 4-29-55

Comments:

1. The application, as submitted, is inadequate to determine geologic features and feasibility of the proposed site for a shaft.

2. Although it would be desirable for the applicant to furnish more complete information, it appears that a visit by an examiner would furnish more useful data.

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.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

Defense Minerals
MAY 3 - 1955

May 2, 1955

Re: DMEA-3794
Buchanan & Burleson
(Will Owens Prospect)
Mitchell Co., N. C.
$5,920 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of application

The operator requests assistance to sink a 60 foot shaft and drive 80 feet of drift. He reports the last activity on the property was in 1916, but the amount of production is unknown.

We do not have any information on the property in our files.

Although considerable areas of pegmatite may be exposed on the property, it may be necessary to do preliminary trenching before the applicant's proposal can be justified.

I recommend the application be referred to the Field Team for their review and a possible on-site examination.

E. L. Newcomb

E. L. Newcomb

4 copies of mining
lease received

April 28, 1955
Subject: DMEA 3794
Re: Exploration Assistance
Will Owens Prospect

Mr. Dave Buchanan
Spruce Pine
North Carolina

Dear Mr. Buchanan:

The receipt of your application dated April 26, 1955 for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA 3794 and referred to the Nonmetallic Minerals Division.

Kindly identify all future correspondence relating to your application by this docket number.

Sincerely yours,

Robert E. Adams, Chief
Operations Control and
Statistics Division

60932

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

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

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. 3794
Metal or Mineral mica
Date Received 4-28-55
Estimated Cost $5,920
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: Dave Buchanan, Art Buchanan and Green Burleson all of Spruce Pine, N.C.

Partnership

(*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 Legal description given on attached lease.

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. Will Owens Prospect

(*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. Lease attached.

(*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. None

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. See attached sheet.

(*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 Mica

(*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. See sheet.

(*c*) The work will start within 30 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. See sheet.

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)? Yes will furnish required 25%.

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

[x] 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 4-26-55, 195__

Dave Buchanan, Art Buchanan & Green Burleson
(Applicant)

By Dave Buchanan

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

MF-103 (continuation sheet)

4. (a) The last work done at this site was in 1916. Reports are that some strategic quality mica of non-ruby variety was produced here prior to that time. The dump indicates that high quality mica came from the old workings.

(b) No records on past production.

(c) From materials showing, it is believed that high quality green mica may be found through exploration work.

(d) Project is accessible to roads and shipping.

(e) Manpower, equipment, materials and supplies available; power is within 100 feet.

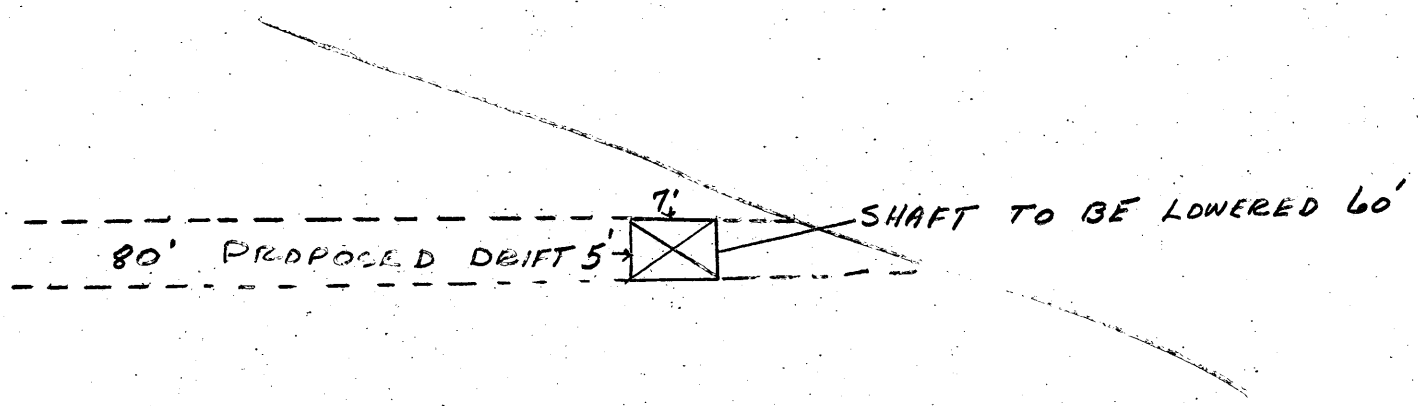
5. (b) We propose to sink a 5'x7' shaft to a depth of 60 feet; then drift 80' best direction with vein.

6. Estimate of costs:

60' Shaft @ $50.00 per ft.	$	3,000.00
80' Drift @ $25.00 per ft.		2,800.00
Toolhouse		80.00
Powder Magazine		20.00
Exploder Magazine		20.00
Total estimated cost	$	5920.00

WILL OWENS PROSPECT

JACKSON CO., N.C.



MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator _____
Docket No. DMEA- _____
Contract No. Idm-E _____
Contract Date _____

CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of Jackson, State of North Carolina, described as follows:1/

Beginning at the center of the shaft of the Will Owens Mine located 275' N.E. of a large Oak tree marked with an "X" and running 600' North; thence 600' West; thence 1200' South; thence 1200' East; thence 1200' North; thence 600' West to a point of closing. This property located on Wolf Mountain, approximately 3 Mi. N. of Wolf Mtn.P.O.

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

2. Grants to the Government a lien upon all of the undersigned's right, title, and interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom to secure the payment to the Government of a percentage royalty on production as may be provided for by the contract;2/ and represents and undertakes that there are no claims, liens, or encumbrances upon the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land prior to that hereby granted to the Government other than the following:3/

None

3. Undertakes and agrees neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Consent to Lien; and to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Consent to Lien to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land; and

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

3/ Write "none" if that is the case. Do not leave lines blank.

4. Consents to all amendments and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and agrees that this Consent to Lien shall extend and apply thereto.

5. Added provision: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Dated this 25th day of April, 1955.

Vaughn Owen [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

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Dated this 25th day of April, 1955.

Vaughn Owen [Seal]

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Dated this 25th day of April, 1955.

Vaughn Owen [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

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Dated this 25th day of April, 1955.

Vaughn Owen [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

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_____

[Corporate Seal]

MINING LEASE

State of North Carolina Jackson County:

This indenture made this 25th day of April, 1955, 19__,

between Vaughn Owen

of Jackson County and State of North Carolina as party of the first part, and known as lessor, and Dave Buchanan, Art Buchanan and Green Burleson

of Mitchell County and State of North Carolina, party of the second part and known as lessee.

WITNESSETH, That the party of the first part in consideration of One Dollar in hand received and hereby acknowledged by the lessor, 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 at the center of the shaft of the Will Owens Mine located 275' N.E. of a large Oak tree marked with an "X" and running 600' North; thence 600' West; thence 1200' South; thence 1200' East; thence 1200' North; thence 600' West to a point of closing. This property located on Wolf Mountain, approximately 3 miles N. of Wolf Mountain Post Office.

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 condition 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 operatins 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 the 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 lands. (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 part of the first part, or his or their heirs or assigns, a rental royalty of 1/8

on the minerals taken and 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 termination. The option shall be exercised by giving formal written notice to the party of the first part or by the continuation of any mining operations then being conducted. The lessor reserve the right to use the land, or convey the same not conflicting 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 _____, 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 of the remaining purchase price at any time within the next three years shall entitle the party of the second part to specific performance of this option 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 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.

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

Witness:

Vaughn Owen (Seal)

_____ (Seal)

_____ (Seal)

Kenneth R McKinney
Notary Public
My Comm Expires 8/11/55

Dave Buchanan

Mr. Buchanan was born in Spruce Pine, attended grammar and high schools here and has spent several years mining in and around Mitchell County. He is thirty-five years old.

Mr. Buchanan has been employed by the Capitol Transit Co. and Washington Terminal Railroad in Washington, D. C. and for the past two and one-half years has been employed by International Milling Co.

He gives the following references:

Mr. Ed Boone
Spruce Pine, N. C.

Mr. Frank Fortner
Spruce Pine, N. C.

Mr. J. P. McKinney
Spruce Pine, N. C.

Art Buchanan

Mr. Art Buchanan, now 70 years old, was born and brought up in Mitchell County, and has spent his entire life mica mining for himself in this area and in Georgia.

He has mined such mines as The Fanny Gouge Mine, Deer Park Mine, Mine #12 at Penland, and others. He is well acquainted and experienced in all types of mica operations.

Mr. Buchanan is a well-known and respected citizen, and lists the following references:

Mr. John McBee, Sr. , Attorney
Spruce Pine, N. C.

Mr. Walter Berry
Bakersville, N. C.

Mr. Lin Carpenter
Spruce Pine, N. C.

Green Burleson

Mr. Green Burleson, now 48 years old, was born and brought up in Mitchell County. He attended the Penland School at Penland, N. C.

Mr. Burleson worked for about five years with the Tennessee Minerals Company, and the rest of his life has mined in this area and in Georgia. He has worked the Deer Park Mine, Smith Mine, Hawkins Mountain Mine, Steel Mine in Ga., and others.

For references as to character and mining ability, he lists the following:

Mr. J. C. Wilson
Spruce Pine, N. C.

Mr. Howard Brinkley
Spruce Pine, N. C.

Mr. J. P. McKinney
Spruce Pine, N. C.