DMEA 3821

DOCKET INDEX

ACTION DOCUMENTS

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2	CONTRACT	DATE	7/21/55
3	TERMINATION AGREEMENT	DATE	
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✓ NMC

Docket Copy

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 1955

MF-200A
(Revised June 1954)

Docket No. DMEA-3821

Commodity Mica

Contract No. Idm-E 845

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT[1]
(Short Form)

It is agreed this JUL 21 1955 day of ....., 195..., between the United States of America, acting through the Department of the Interior, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, hereinafter called the "Government," and [2] Roby M. Buchanan and Joe Snyder, partners, d/b/a Buchanan and Snyder,

whose mailing address is Route 1
Bakersville, North Carolina,

hereinafter called the "Operator," as follows:

ARTICLE 1. *This contract* is entered into under the authority of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended. It consists of this form (MF-200A), the attached Exhibit "A," Annex I, and .....

The Operator shall not transfer or assign this contract or any right thereunder without the written consent of the Government.

ARTICLE 2. *Operator's property rights.*—(a) The land which is the subject of this contract (hereinafter called "the land") is in the State of North Carolina, County of Yancey, and is described in Annex I.[3]

(b) The Operator represents and undertakes that:

(1) The Operator is the [4] lessee of [5] the mineral rights in the land, in possession and entitled to possession for all of the purposes of this contract, under and by virtue of a [6] lease, [7] recorded in Book 114, pages 396 & 950 official records of said County; and

(2) The Operator's right, title, or interest (whether as owner, lessee, or otherwise) is subject only to the following claims, liens, or encumbrances: None

(c) The Subordination Agreement of the holder of any claim, lien, or encumbrance listed above, and (if the Operator does not hold the legal title) the Consent to Lien of any holder of the legal title of the land (lessor, seller, optionor, etc.), are attached, as follows: Consent to Lien of lessors.

[1] If sufficient space is not provided in any blank, use an extra sheet of paper and refer to it in the blank.
[2] Insert name, and if an organization, its nature (corporation and place of incorporation, partnership with names of partners, etc.).
[3] State on a separate sheet marked "Annex I" the legal description or enough to identify the property, particularly excluding any areas from which the production is not to be subject to the Government's percentage royalty.
[4] Insert "owner," "lessee," "contract purchaser," "locator," etc.
[5] Insert "the entire interest," "the mineral rights," "an undivided one-third," etc.
[6] Insert "deed," "lease," "contract," "location notice," "patent," etc.
[7] If not recorded, so indicate by inserting "un."

16—70918-1

(d) The Operator shall preserve and maintain his right, title, and interest in the land and his right to the possession thereof for the purposes of this contract, and shall devote the land and all existing improvements, facilities, buildings, installations, and appurtenances to the purposes of this contract. Until the lapse of the time within which the Government may make a certification of discovery or development without any such certification having been made, and after any such certification has been made, the Operator shall neither transfer, convey, nor surrender the land nor any right, title, or interest therein, nor permit nor suffer any claim, lien, or encumbrance thereon, without expressly referring to and providing in the instrument of conveyance, lien, or encumbrance for the preservation of the Government's right to a percentage royalty on production and lien for the payment thereof. If the Government makes no certification of discovery or development within the time limited in Article 7, it shall thereafter have no claim against the land or any production therefrom except for any production referred to in Article 7(b)(1).

ARTICLE 3. *The exploration project.*—The project is a search for indicated or undeveloped deposits of mica. The work to be performed is described in Exhibit "A." The Operator on or before SEP 1 1955 shall commence the work, and on or before January 31, 1956 (unless the Operator's obligation to complete the work is terminated—see Article 8) shall complete the work.

ARTICLE 4. *Performance of the work.*—(a) *Operator's responsibility.*—The work shall be performed with reasonable diligence, efficiently, expertly, in a workmanlike manner, in accordance with good mining standards and State regulations for health and safety and for liability insurance covering employment; and with suitable and adequate equipment, facilities, materials, supplies, and labor, to bring it to completion within the time fixed.

(b) *Government may inspect.*—The Operator shall consult with and inform the Government on all phases of the work as it progresses. The Government may enter at all reasonable times to inspect the work under the contract, and also after a certification of discovery or development to inspect production operations and underground workings. The operator shall provide the Government with all reasonable means of access for such inspections.

ARTICLE 5. *Contribution by the Government.*—A fixed cost for each unit of work to be performed (per foot of drifting, per foot of drilling, per hour of operations, etc.) is hereby agreed upon, and is set forth in Exhibit "A" in connection with the estimated total cost of the project in the sum of $4,764.00 The Government will contribute 75 percent of the fixed unit costs as work is performed, in a total sum not in excess of $3,573.00: *Provided,* That until the Operator has rendered to the Government his final report, and any final auditing required by the Government has been made, and a final settlement of the contract has been made, the Government may withhold from the last voucher or vouchers such sums as it sees fit not in excess of 10 percent of the estimated total cost of the work. The Government will make its contribution on the basis of the monthly vouchers referred to in Article 6(b), but all payments by the Government are provisional only, subject to audit, until the account between the Operator and the Government is finally audited and settled. To the extent that excesses over fixed unit costs or any excess over the estimated total cost may be necessary for the performance of the work, the Operator shall incur and pay such excesses for his own account without contribution by the Government. The Government may make payments directly to independent contractors and suppliers for the account of the Operator rather than to the Operator.

ARTICLE 6. *Reports, accounts, audits.*—(a) *Operator's records.*—The Operator shall keep suitable records and accounts of the units of work performed and of any production in which the Government may have an interest; and shall preserve those with respect to work performed for at least three years after final payment by the Government, and those with respect to production for at least three years after any obligation to pay royalties to the Government has terminated. The Government may inspect and audit said records and accounts at any time, either by itself or by a certified public accountant. The Comptroller General of the United States or his representative, until the expiration of said three-year periods, shall have access to and the right to examine any pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of the Operator. All of the Operator's vouchers and records and accounts relating thereto and the Government's payments thereof remain subject to adjustment until final audit by the Government.

(b) *Progress reports and vouchers.*—The Operator shall provide the Government with five copies of monthly progress reports in three sections as follows: (1) Operator's Monthly Report and Voucher showing a detailed statement of units of work performed during the reporting period; (2) Operator's Unit Cost and Progress Report showing the various types of work performed during the reporting period and the fixed unit costs incurred for each type of work; and (3) a Narrative Report of the work

performed during the reporting period including adequate engineering-geological maps or sketches, drill hole logs and locations, and assay reports on samples taken concurrently with advance in mineralized ground. (Forms for reporting under (1) and (2) above will be provided by the Government.)

(c) *Final report.*—Upon completion of the work or termination of the Government's obligation to contribute to costs, the Operator shall furnish the Government with five copies of a final report (in addition to the final progress report and voucher). This final report shall include a geological and engineering evaluation of the results of the work performed under the contract with an estimate of the ore reserves resulting from such work, complete assay data, adequate geological and engineering maps or sketches, and a summary of the work performed and the unit costs thereof.

(d) *Report of sales.*—The Operator shall provide the Government with suitable accounting and documentary evidence covering all production to which the Government's percentage royalty relates, such as copies of smelter or concentrator settlement sheets, and certified accounts of production and sale or other disposition of production.

(e) *Compliance with requirements.*—If in the opinion of the Government any of the Operator's reports, records, or accounts are insufficient or incomplete, or if the Operator fails to make them, the Government may procure the making or completion of such with suitable attachments as an expense of the work to which the Operator shall contribute. The Government may withhold approval and payment of any vouchers relating to insufficient or incomplete reports, records or accounts.

ARTICLE 7. *Repayment by Operator.*—(a) *Certification.*—If the Government considers that a discovery or development from which production may be made has resulted from the work, the Government, at any time not later than six months after a sufficient final report and final account (see Article 6) has been rendered, may so certify in writing to the Operator. Such certification shall describe broadly or indicate the nature of the discovery or development.

(b) *Royalty on production.*—The Operator, as principal if the Operator is the producer, or as surety if the Operator is not the producer, shall pay to the Government a royalty on all minerals mined or produced from the land, as follows: (1) regardless of any certification of discovery or development, from the date of the contract until the lapse of the time within which the Government may make such certification, or until the total net amount contributed by the Government without interest is fully repaid, whichever occurs first; or (2) if the Government makes a certification of discovery or development, within a period of ten years from the date of the contract, or until the total net amount contributed by the Government without interest is fully repaid, whichever occurs first.

(c) *Basis for computation.*—The Government's royalty shall be a percentage of the gross proceeds (including any bonuses, premiums, allowances, or other benefits) from the production sold, in the form sold (ore, concentrates, metal, or equivalent), at the point of delivery (the f. o. b. point); *except,* that charges of *the buyer* arising in the regular course of business, and shown as deductions on the buyer's settlement sheets, on account of the cost of treatment processes performed by *the buyer,* sampling and assaying to determine the value of the production sold, and freight paid by *the buyer* to a carrier (not the Operator), shall be allowed as deductions in arriving at the "gross proceeds" as that term is used herein. Any costs of treatment processes, sampling or assaying, or transportation, performed or paid by the Operator or by anyone other than the buyer, are not deductible in arriving at the "gross proceeds" as that term is here used. The term "treatment processes," as here used, means those processes (such as milling, concentrating, smelting, refining, or equivalent) applied to the crude ore or other production after it is extracted from the ground, to put it into a commercially marketable form; excluding fabricating or manufacturing.

(d) *Unsold production.*—If any production (ore, concentrates, metal, or equivalent), after the lapse of six months from the date the ore was extracted from the ground, remains neither sold nor used by the Operator in integrated manufacturing or fabricating operations (for instance, if it is stockpiled), the Government, at its option, as long as it so remains, may require the computation and payment of its royalty on the value of such production in the form (ore, concentrates, metal, or equivalent) it is in when the Government elects to require computation and payment. If any production is used by the Operator in integrated manufacturing or fabricating operations before the Government makes its election, the Government's royalty on such production shall be computed on the value thereof in the form in which and at the time when it is so used. "Value" as here used means what is or would be gross income from mining operations for percentage depletion purposes in Federal income tax determination, or the market value, whichever is greater.

(e) *Percentages of royalty.*—The percentages of the Government's royalty shall be as follows:

One and one-half (1½) percent of amounts ("gross proceeds" or "value") not in excess of eight dollars ($8.00) per ton of production in the form in which sold, held, or used, plus one-half (½) percent for each additional full fifty cents ($0.50) by which such amounts exceed eight dollars ($8.00) per ton, but not in excess of five (5) percent of such amounts.

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

(f) *Time for computation and payment.*—The Government's royalty shall be computed and paid currently upon each lot sold, held, or used in integrated operations, as the case may be, as above provided in this article.

(g) *Lien for payment.*—To secure the payment of its percentage royalty, there is hereby granted to the Government a lien upon the land or the Operator's interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom, until the royalty claim is extinguished by lapse of time or is fully paid.

(h) *Notice to purchasers.*—The Operator shall give notice of the Government's claim for royalty to any purchaser of the production, and shall authorize and direct such purchaser to pay the royalty directly to the Government and to furnish the Government with copies of the settlement sheets. If the records of any production and sales or other disposition of production, whether the production is by the Operator or by others, are not made available to the Government, the amount of the royalty may be estimated by the Administrator, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, or his successor, and his estimate thereof shall be final and binding upon the Operator.

(i) *No obligation to produce.*—Nothing in this contract is to be construed as imposing any obligation on the Operator or the Operator's successor in interest to engage in any production operations.

(j) *Government not obligated to buy.*—Nothing in this contract shall be construed as imposing any obligation on the Government to purchase any minerals mined or produced from the land.

ARTICLE 8. *Termination of the Government's obligations.*—(a) If in the opinion of the Government operations at any time have failed to achieve anticipated results that indicate the probability of making a worthwhile discovery, and in the opinion of the Government further operations are not justified, the Government may give the Operator written notice thereof, and thereupon the Government shall be free of all obligation to pay on account of units of work not then performed, and the Operator shall be free of all further obligation to prosecute the work other than such as may be necessary and incidental to winding up, reporting, and accounting.

(b) If in the opinion of the Government the Operator is in any manner in default under the terms of the contract, the Government may give the Operator written notice of such default with a specification of reasonable time within which the default must be cured; and if the Operator fails to cure such default as required, thereupon the Government shall be relieved of all obligation to pay on account of units of work not performed when the notice was given, and the Operator shall be free of all obligation to prosecute the work other than such as may be necessary and incidental to winding up, reporting, and accounting. The remedy provided for the Government in this paragraph "(b)" is in addition to any other remedy provided in this contract, and in addition to any other remedy the law may provide for breach of contract.

(c) The giving of any notice by the Government under the provisions of this Article 8 shall not affect the Government's rights as provided for in the contract with respect to a percentage royalty, and such rights shall be fully preserved.

ARTICLE 9. *Notices to be given by the Government* may be delivered to the Operator, or may be sent by registered mail addressed to the Operator at his mailing address stated in this contract. If mailed, notices are deemed to have been delivered five days after the date of mailing.

ARTICLE 10. *Officials not to benefit.*—No member of or delegate to Congress or resident commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit that may arise therefrom; but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

ARTICLE 11. *Changes and added provisions.*—

Executed in sextuplicate the day and year first above written.

BUCHANAN and SNYDER
(Operator)

By Joe Snyder

By Roby M. Buchanan

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By C. O. Mittendorf
Administrator, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

Butler
H. Fleming
"Appd. Sol. Off."
Anderson
J. L. Kessner
Chandler
Martin
Hoffman

I, ..., certify that I am the ..... secretary of the corporation named as Operator herein; that ..... who signed this contract on behalf of the Operator, was then ..... of said corporation; that said contract was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and is within the scope of its corporate powers.

.....

[CORPORATE SEAL]

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—70618-1

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 1955

EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
BUCHANAN and SNYDER
DOCKET NO. DMEA-3821

ANNEX I

The land referred to in Article 2 of the contract form is known as the Jim Riddle Mine. This mine is located along the west side of a south flowing tributary of Cattail Creek, west of Grassy Ridge, 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, North Carolina, and is described as follows:

> Beginning on a Chestnut, J. C. Wilson's corner, and runs a Northwest course, a marked line to the top of Arthur Ridge to a locust corner in R. R. Ray's line; thence down the main height of said ridge to R. R. Ray's and E. J. MCMahan's corner; thence a South course with E. J. MCMahan's line to a chestnut marked as a corner and pointers; thence a South course with John G. MCMahan's line to a Chestnut Oak stump, a corner of the Hiram Ray old tract of land; thence an East course with Hiram Ray old line to the beginning. Containing 25 acres more or less.

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 1956

EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
BUCHANAN and SNYDER
DOCKET NO. DMEA-3821

EXHIBIT "A"

Description of the Work

Exploration for concentrations of strategic mica shall be accomplished in the area indicated on the map entitled "Sketch of Jim Riddle Mine, Yancey Co., N. C. DMEA-3821 (mica) June 17, 1955," as follows:

1. Construct:

(a) A toolhouse, minimum dimensions 7 feet by 8 feet by 10 feet.

(b) A powder storage magazine, minimum dimensions 4 feet by 3 feet by 2½ feet.

(c) An exploder storage magazine, minimum dimensions 2 feet by 1½ feet by 1 foot.

The toolhouse may be unfloored; shall be made from rough, unfinished lumber, with protective roof covering; and shall be equipped with lock and key.

The powder and exploder magazines shall be boxed on all sides; shall be made from 2-inch hardwood or 3-inch softwood lumber; and shall be braced at the corners. No metal shall be exposed; and the lids or doors shall be securely locked with the equivalent of a 5-tumbler jarproof lock.

2. Drive an aggregate of not more than 150 feet of crosscut and drift. The crosscut shall be driven from the portal to intersect the pegmatite, from which point the drift shall be driven on the pegmatite, as indicated on the attached sketch map.

The crosscut and drift shall be timbered as necessary and shall have minimum cross-sections of 5 feet by 7 feet in the clear of timber.

The location, inclination, direction and extent of all work are subject to the approval of the Government.

FIXED UNIT COSTS
(The unit costs include all costs whatsoever necessary to complete the work.)

Constructing:	Toolhouse 1/	$ 76.00
	Powder magazine 1/	25.00
	Exploder magazine 1/	13.00
Driving :	150 feet of crosscuts and drifts @ $31.00/ft.	4,650.00
	Estimated total cost of the project	$4,764.00
	Government participation @ 75%	$3,573.00

1/ The completed work constitutes the unit.

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 20 1955

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 Yancey, State of ~~North Carolina.~~, described as follows:1/ Situated in Pensacola Township, in Yancey County, State of North Carolina, and known as the Jim Riddle mine. Begining on a Chestnut, J.C. Wilson's corner, and runs a Northwest course, a marked line to the top of Arthur Ridge to a locust corner in R.R. Ray's line; thence down the main height of said ridge to R.R. Rays & E.J. McMahans corner; thence a South course with E.J. McMahan's line to a chestnut marked as a corner and pointers; thence a South course with John G. McMahan's line to a Chestnut Oak stump, a corner of the Hiram Ray old tract of land; thence an East course with Hiram Ray old line to the begining. Containing 25 acres more or less.

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

None

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: _____

None

Dated this 16th day of May, 1955.

G. L. Riddle [Seal] Route 2, Martin, Tenn

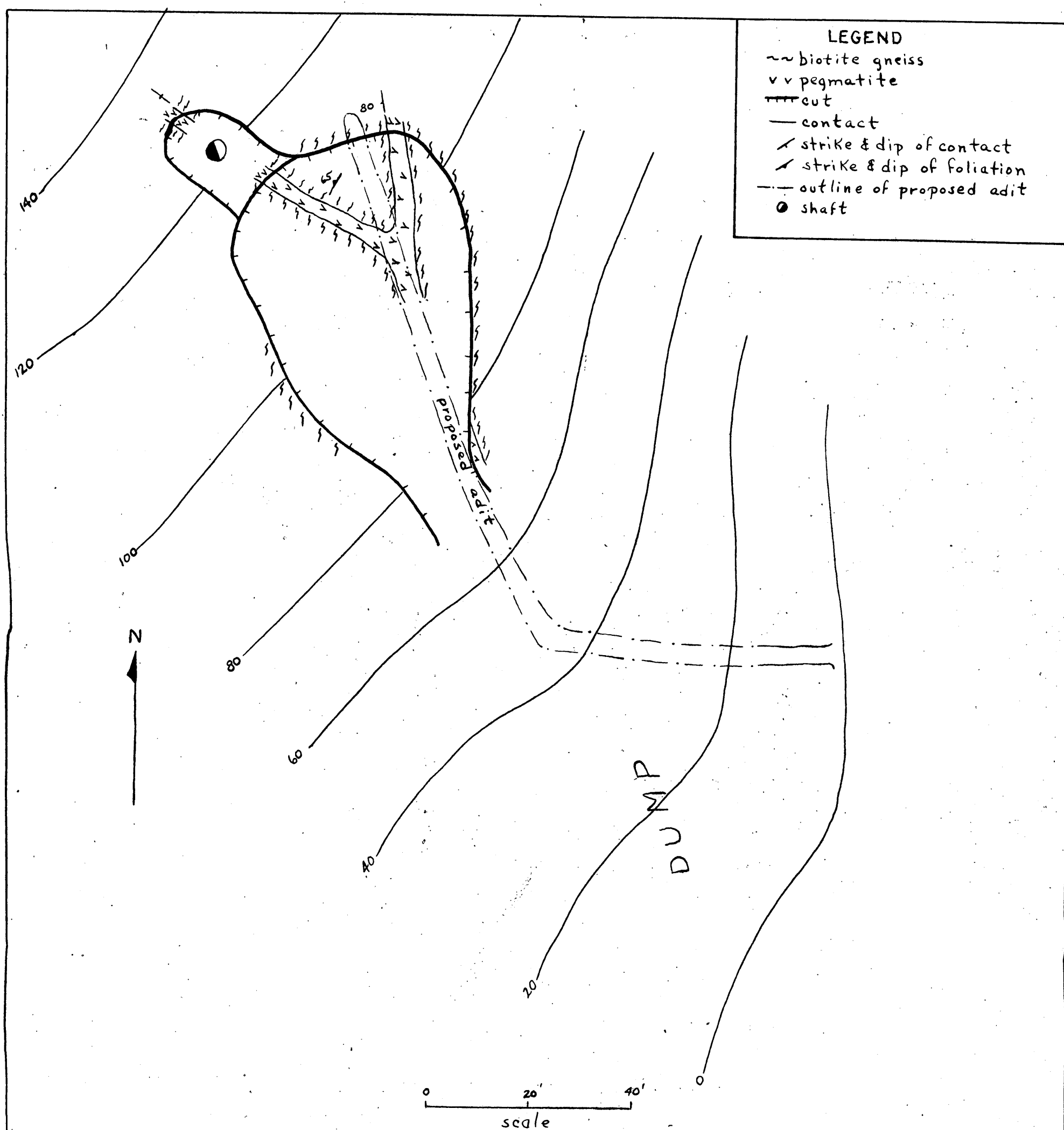
Sudie W. Riddle [Seal]

_____ [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]



SKETCH OF
JIM RIDDLE MINE
YANCEY CO., N.C.

DMEA-3821 (mica)
June 17, 1955

Docket Copy
Surname:
Anderson
Hale
Tulbert
Selfridge
Robinson

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

NOV 26 1956

Messrs. Roby M. Buchanan and
Joe Snyder
Route 1
Bakersville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3821-Mica
Buchanan & Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
Contract No. Idm-E845

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your completed exploration contract with the Government.

We sincerely regret that the work performed did not result in a certification of discovery or development under the provisions of the contract. In the absence of such certification, the Government retains no claim or lien against the property subject to the contract or any future production therefrom. We, therefore, are closing our books and records on this project. Your attention, however, is called to the provisions of the contract which require the operator to keep and preserve certain records for the period indicated.

Your interest in the DMEA exploration program and participation therein are fully appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 11/20/56
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

Mr. R. L. Riddle and
Mrs. Sudie W. Riddle
Route 2
Martin, Tennessee

R.G.S.

Docket Copy
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Talbert
Selfridge
Johnson

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

NOV 26 1956

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Riddle
Route 2
Martin, Tennessee

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3821-Mica
Buchanan & Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
Contract No. Idm-E845

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Riddle:

Reference is made to the Consent to Lien which you executed on May 16, 1955, in connection with the DMEA contract for an exploration project on your property located in Yancey County, North Carolina.

For your information, there is enclosed a copy of our letter of this date to Messrs. Roby M. Buchanan and Joe Snyder advising that the Government retains no claim or lien against the property described in the contract or on any future production therefrom.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

Enclosure

WCAnderson:gad 11/20/56
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

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

November 20, 1956

Project Summary Report
(Supplement to Report of May 1, 1956)

By: Walter C. Anderson

1. Docket No. DMEA-3821-Mica
Roby M. Buchanan and Joe Snyder
d/b/a Buchanan and Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
Contract No. Idm-E845

2. Total production of mica from the Jim Riddle Mine up to June 16, 1956:

To G.S.A.	51.44 lbs.	$295.88
Scrap	1 ton	36.00
Total		$331.88
Royalty paid		$16.59

The mine is not being worked now.

3. Comments:

(a) By Field Team
(1) The magnitude of the reserves is estimated at 7,000 pounds of block mica having a value of about $2,000 after sheeting.
(2) Both the Operators and the Examiners were of the opinion that an economic operation was indicated.

(b) The Nonmetallic Minerals Division is of the opinion that a total reserve of $2,000 worth of mica does not indicate an economical operation and does not justify certification. It appears to be a clear cut mathematical deduction.

Walter C. Anderson
Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

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

RECEIVED
OCT 22 1956

October 19, 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Washington, D. C.

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3821, Contract Idm-E845 (Mica)
Buchanan and Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina

Reference is made to your letter of October 15.

Following is the total production from the Jim Riddle mine to June 16, 1956:

10/18/55	To GSA	9.57 lbs.	$71.33
12/30/55	To GSA	26.56 lbs.	160.52
12/30/55	To GSA	15.31 lbs.	64.03
12/ 6/55	Scrap, 1 ton		36.00
		Total	$331.88

So far as we can ascertain, there are no unpaid royalties. The mine is not being worked now.

Robert A. Laurence
Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer

V. J. Lynch
V. J. Lynch
Member, Bureau of Mines

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

600

DOCKET COPY
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Selfridge
Mattenberg

OCT 15 1956

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

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3821-mica
Buchanan and Synder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
Contract No. Idm-E845

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Reference is made to your memorandum of June 13, 1956, advising that data on sales of mica to the Spruce Pine Depot from the subject mine would be forwarded as soon as obtained.

We would appreciate having a report on the status of this project including value of production and sales of mica up to June 16, 1956, the final date for certification.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee (GCS)

Approved:

Frank D. Lamb (GCS)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard (GCS)
Member, Geological Survey

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
10-12-56
(date)

WCAnderson:ms 10/10/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Admr. R. File

Docket Copy
Surname:
Anderson
Hon. Selfridge
Mr. Anderson

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

OCT 15 1956

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

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3945-Mica
Edwin Herbert Schwab
Duke Mine
Upson County, Georgia
Contract No. Idm-E886

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Reference is made to the subject contract which was completed on February 29, 1956, and which the Field Team recommended not be certified.

Before we write a closing letter, we would appreciate having a report on the status of this project including value of production and sales of mica up to September 26, 1956, the final date for certification and whether there are any unpaid royalties due the Government.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee (GCS)

Approved:

Frank D. Lamb
Member, Bureau of Mines (GCS)

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey (GCS)

WCAnderson:gad 10/11/56
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Mr. Anderson

R.C.L.

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

RECEIVED
JUN 15 1956

June 13, 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Washington, D. C.

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

Subject: DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (Mica)
Buchanan & Snyder, Bakersville, N. C.
Jim Riddle Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina

Reference is made to your letter of May 24:

We have not been able to get complete data on production from the Jim Riddle mine. A check will be made next week of sales to the Spruce Pine depot, and a letter is being written to the Operator. We will advise you as soon as additional data are received.

Robert A. Laurence
Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer

V. J. Lynch
V. J. Lynch
Member, Bureau of Mines

DOCKET COPY
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Chambers
Martin
Hanson
McHenderson

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

MAY 24 1956

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

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3821-mica
Buchanan and Synder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
Contract No. IDM-E845

Dear Mr. Laurence:

This is with reference to the subject project on the question of certification.

After careful review of the docket, we do not believe certification is justified. During your discussion with the members of the Nonmetallic Minerals Division in this office, you indicated that certification possibly would not be justified in this case.

It will be appreciated if you will give us a report on the total production and sales of mica made during the project and up to the present time.

Sincerely yours,

W. S. Martin
ACTING Chairman, Operating Committee (2/B)

WCAnderson:ms 5/21/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Mr. Anderson
Admr. R. File

Approved:

/s/ Robert W. Geehan (2/B)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard (2/B)
Member, Geological Survey

RCL

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

Project Summary Report

May 1, 1956

By: Walter C. Anderson

1. Docket No. DMEA-3821-mica
Contract No. Idm-E845
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Application: MF-103(April 1952) received May 20, 1955
Work proposed:
100 feet of drifts
Amount requested:
$4,099.86
Operator:
Roby M. Buchanan and Joe Snyder
Route #1
Bakersville, North Carolina
Operator's property rights:
Mining lease for 10 years on the R. L. Riddle property covering 25 acres, dated May 3, 1955.
Consent to Lien of the Owner dated May 16, 1955.

2. Contract: Form MF-200A(June1954) dated July 21, 1955.
Work authorized:

Constructing toolhouse, powder and exploder magazines	$114.00
Driving 150 feet of crosscuts and drifts @ $31.00/ft.	4650.00
Estimated total cost of project	$4764.00
Government participation @ 75%	$3573.00

Amendments: none
Work completed:
same as authorized

The project started on August 1, 1955 and all of the work under the contract was completed November 28, 1955.
Final Field Team Report received January 9, 1956
Final Operator's Report dated December 1, 1955 received December 16, 1955.
No equipment purchased under the contract.

3. Audit: Report of Review issued December 20, 1955

Accepted cost	$4,764.00
Government participation	$3,573.00

4. Certification of Discovery or Development -

The following calculations indicate there is no justification for certification:

a) Nonmetallic Minerals Division Estimate -

Assuming pegmatite extends to the surface and allowing 25 feet extension below and beyond the adit, we have a pegmatite block 150 feet long by an average of 50 feet high and 3.6 feet wide, or 2160 tons of pegmatite rock(at 12.5 cu. ft./ton). During the project, over a length of 125 feet of drifting, 270 tons of pegmatite rock was removed which yielded 2,500 pounds of "mine-run" block mica. On the basis of $600.00 a ton, the value of the pegmatite rock is $2.80 a ton, or approximately $6,000.00 as the value of the reserves. Royalty - $300.00.

b) Field Team Estimate -

On the basis, as used in their memorandum of April 9, 1956, of 3% recovery of sheet mica at $9.25 per pound, the value of the pegmatite rock is $2.70 per ton as against our $2.80. In the Field Team estimate the size of the pegmatite block was not given, however, they estimate a reserve of 7000 pounds of block mica having a value of $2000.00. Royalty - $100.00.

c) Our estimate of reserves is considerably higher than that of the Field Team, but even using our estimate as a basis, the royalty returns will not be sufficient to justify certification. The cost of DMEA inspection over a period of ten years would be greater than royalty returns to the Government.

d) It is doubtful that the Operator will mine out these reserves, as it is evident from the foregoing data that the yield of salable mica per ton of rock mined would be too low for an economic operation.

5. Comments:

How conducted:

All of the work in which the Government participated was acceptable.

Operation: good

Engineering: Reporting by the operator was above average

Geological Premise:

Although the pegmatite was intersected and followed by the adit as premised, the yield of mica was too low to justify certification.

5. Comments(continued)

Geological Criteria upon which work was based:

1. Pegmatite - poorly zoned, disconformable to wall rock, 6 feet thick by 150 feet long and rich in mica.
2. Mica - both ruby and non-ruby. Some contains "A" structure and biotite inclusions, most is relatively flat, clear, hard and free-splitting.
3. Past Production

Criteria developed during project:

1. Pegmatite - poorly zoned, 3.3 to 4 feet thick by 152 feet long. Probably a vertical extension of body exposed at surface. Composed of sodic-feldspar, quartz, muscovite, sericite and garnet
2. Country rock - garnetiferous - biotite gneiss
3. Mica - 3 to 4 inch blocks, flat "A" and clear. Some is flat and slightly stained.
4. Production, as given in paragraph 4.

Future possibilities:

It appears that the mining of this ore-body would be an uneconomic operation.

Recommendations:

Based on the small mica reserve and possible uneconomic operation in mining this pegmatite, the Nonmetallic Minerals Division recommends that this project <u>not</u> be certified.
Certification is recommended by the Field Team and the Commodity Members of the Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines.

Walter C. Anderson

Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

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

RECEIVED
APR 11 1956

April 9, 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

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

Subject: Contract Idm-E845, DMEA-3821 (mica) Jim Riddle Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina

With reference to your letter of February 13 concerning the Final Field Team Report of the subject contract, we will try to clarify certain portions of the report:

1. This sentence is simply the summary or abstract of the entire report.

About 2500 pounds of mine-run block mica were recovered from the exploration work. The magnitude of the reserves is estimated at 7000 lbs. of block mica having a value of about $2000 after sheeting. This is based on assumed 3% recovery and an average of $9.25 per pound.

2. Neither a sketch of the mica occurrences nor a crystal count were made while the project was in operation. It is not possible to do it now. It was not practical to make them at the time of the last inspection.

3. Strategic grade mica as used in this report means mica that will be purchased by the Government Purchasing Depot in Spruce Pine, N. C.

"Fairly abundant" was meant to convey the idea that the deposit was not especially rich but contained enough mica to make it a probable profitable mining operation.

4. Both the Operator and the Examiners were of the opinion that an economic operation was indicated.

5. The figures quoted under item 5 of your letter are approximately correct and the value per pound is somewhat lower than the average. However, most of the mica as well as the best mica recovered came from the last 50 feet of the drift, so that the recovery and values would be somewhat higher than your figures. We believe the pegmatite exposed by the contract work is sufficient to justify certification, though it is difficult to express it in specific quantitative terms.

Expenditures were as follows:

Total approved	$4,764.00
Cost of project	4,764.00
Government's share of cost	3,573.00
Government's share unexpended	0.00
Royalty received to date	16.59 (4-6-56)

We consider the deposit adequately explored and do not recommend further exploration.

Robert A. Laurence

Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region V

V. J. Lynch

V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

RECEIVED
MAR 12 1956

March 9, 1956

Re: DMEA 3821, Idm-E845
Buchanan and Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey Co., N. C.
$4,764.00 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of Final Field Team Report

The contract authorized the spending of $4,764.00, and the sum of $3,679.00 was expended on a drift 152 feet long driven on a 3.3- to 4.5-foot crosscutting pegmatite.

The pegmatite in the drift is poorly zoned for the most part, but at 97 feet in, material comparable to that found in the open cut was met, and 400 pounds of mine-run block was recovered. The width of the pegmatite in the drift is less than that of the pegmatite mapped in the open cut, but the positions and attitudes correlate reasonably well.

At any rate some mica was produced and the adit has made available more. The examiners and the Field Team recommend that certification of the property be made. I concur with that recommendation.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

Docket Copy
Surname:
Hank
Selfridge
Kelleman
Mattendorf

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

FEB 13 1956

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3821 - Mica
Buchanan and Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
Contract No. Idm-E845

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Reference is made to the Final Field Team Report and the recommendation for a certification of discovery on the subject contract.

We are unable to concur with the Field Team's recommendation for certification with the facts provided by the Interim Report and the Final Field Team Report. An elaboration on the following quoted portions of the Final Field Team Report would help us with our decision.

1. First page, first paragraph, first sentence.

"Exploration of this mine by means of an adit has produced muscovite mica of strategic grade and indicates possible reserves."

What is the magnitude and value of the possible reserves? A vertical section through the adit showing the possible reserves would be appreciated.

2. First page, second paragraph, third sentence.

"The Operator plans to continue work at his own expense by stoping the richer mica occurrences in the drift and possibly extend the drift from the present face."

A sketch of the richer mica occurrences with a crystal count or an estimated percentage of mica would be helpful.

3. Second page, fourth paragraph.

"Strategic grade mica is fairly abundant, hard, free from inclusions and free splitting."

Define strategic grade as used here. Does strategic grade mean that mica that is being purchased under the Domestic Mica Program or does it mean good stained or better quality. Define fairly abundant.

R.C.L.

Use either the crystal count method or an estimate of the percentage of mica.

4. Second page, fifth paragraph, first sentence.

"The Operators are continuing mining since indications of reserves are favorable."

Does this sentence mean that an economic operation is indicated?

5. Page two, paragraph 5, second sentence.

"More level work along strike and stoping will probably produce a minimum of 7,000 lbs. of strategic grade book mica."

Is strategic grade book mica, run of mine, block, or sheet mica? Should we use $600.00 a ton in figuring its value or the average price paid by the Depot for sheet mica? It would appear that the 7,000 pounds of strategic grade book mica would depend upon future work to be done by the Operators. Our certifications are based upon the work completed under the contract. A recovery calculation of the mica produced from approximately 100 feet of drifting in the pegmatite shows a return of approximately $1.11 per ton of rock moved. Taking the Operators' figures of 2,500 pounds of mica produced from the adit and relating it to the sales of 51.44 pounds, the recovery factor is 2.06% and the value per pound $5.75; quite a bit lower than the District average. The expenditures listed in the Final Field Team Report do not agree with our figures:

		Field Team	Washington Office
(a)	Total approved	$4,764.00	$4,764.00
(b)	Total cost of project	3,679.00	4,764.00
(c)	Government's share of cost	2,759.25	3,573.00
(d)	Government's share unexpended	1,085.00	-0-
(e)	Value of production during opr.	Unknown	---
(f)	Royalty received to date	3.56	---

There is no comment in the Field Team's Final Report on the Operators' request for additional funds. Is the area adequately explored? A study of the sales made to the General Services Administration to date shows that the good stained and better portion of the mica sold is only 16.2%.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee (GCS)

Approved:

P. F. Yopes (GCS)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard (GCS)
Member, Geological Survey

LGHouk:gad 2/10/56

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

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

RECEIVED
JAN 26 1956

January 26, 1956

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA - 3821 (mica)

Applicant: Buchanan and Snyder

Name and Location of Property: Jim Riddle Mine, Yancey Co. N. C.

Contract Number: Idm-E 845

Date of Field Team Report: 12/10/55

Date Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials: 1/23/56

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend certification of discovery.

Comments:

1. Mica of strategic grade was encountered in exploration, and possible reserves were indicated.

2. Operator plans to mine mica disclosed during exploration.

3. Expenditures -

Total approved	$4,764.00
Total cost	3,679.00
Gov't. share of the cost	2,759.25
Value of production during operation	Unknown

Recommendation:

I concur with the field team's recommendation for certification of discovery.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

Mineralogy of the pegmatite consists primarily of sodic-feldspar (albite-oligoclase), quartz, muscovite, sericite and garnet.

The country rock is primarily a garnetiferous-biotite gneiss with a general foliation trend of N. 40° W. - N. 60° W., and dips 60° NE. in the explored adit.

Muscovite of strategic grade occurs as 3 to 4 inch blocks, and is flat "A", clear ruby mica. Some of this mica is flat and slightly stained. Green mica has also been produced during exploration. It is reported that about 70% of past production was green or non-ruby.

Strategic grade mica is fairly abundant, hard, free from inclusions and free splitting.

Value?

The Operators are continuing mining since indications of reserves are favorable. More level work along strike and stoping will probably produce a minimum of 7,000 lbs. of strategic grade book mica. At present, overhead stoping and side slabbing of the adit are planned by the Operators as a quick, efficient means of recovering more strategic mica.

Expenditures:

(a)	Total approved	$4,764.00	
(b)	Total cost of project	3,679.00	$4,764.00
(c)	Government's share of cost	2,759.25	3,573.00
(d)	Government's share unexpended	1,085.00	-0-
(e)	Value of production during opr.	Unknown	
(f)	Royalty received to date	3.56	

The work was conducted in an efficient and satisfactory manner.

Since reserves are indicated and the cost of mining will be less in stoping, etc., than in driving a heading, the field examiners recommend certification as a discovery.

December 10, 1955

S. C. Bergman and A. R. Taylor, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

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

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

January 5, 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville

Subject: Final Report - DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) Buchanan & Snyder Jim Riddle Mine, Yancey County, N. C.

Enclosed are four copies of the Field Team final report on the subject contract. The Operator's final report was combined with his narrative report for the November voucher, and was forwarded with the voucher December 13, 1955, when it was approved for payment.

We recommend certification of discovery.

Robert A. Laurence
Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION V.

V. J. Lynch
V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines

RECEIVED
JAN 9 1956

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
1-18-56
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FINAL REPORT

FIELD TEAM, REGION V

On

DMEA-3821, JIM RIDDLE MINE (Mica)
Yancey County, N. C.

By

S. C. Bergman and A. R. Taylor, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

and

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

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
1-18-56
(date)

RECEIVED
JAN 9 1956

December 10, 1955

EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT

FINAL REPORT

On

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845, JIM RIDDLE MINE (mica)

Operator: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o R. M. Buchanan, Route 1, Bakersville, North Carolina

Location: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

Exploration of this mine by means of an adit has produced muscovite mica of strategic grade and indicates possible reserves. The field examiners recommend certification of the contract.

Since starting on August 1, 1955, work has progressed very well. All work under contract was completed November 28, 1955. The Operator plans to continue work at his own expense by stoping the richer mica occurrences in the drift and possibly extend the drift from the present face.

An access road was built at the Operators' expense. Buildings and equipment on the property consists of: a tool house, powder magazine, exploder magazine, a 105 c.f.m. air compressor with accessory drilling equipment. The adit was timbered at the portal and stulls and top lagging were set in the drift where needed.

The total distance of the adit is 152 feet. Drift directions from the portal are: 31 feet N. 70° W.; 69 feet N. 40° W.; 36 feet N. 50° W., and 16 feet N. 40° W. (See map). The adit is 5 feet wide and 7 feet high.

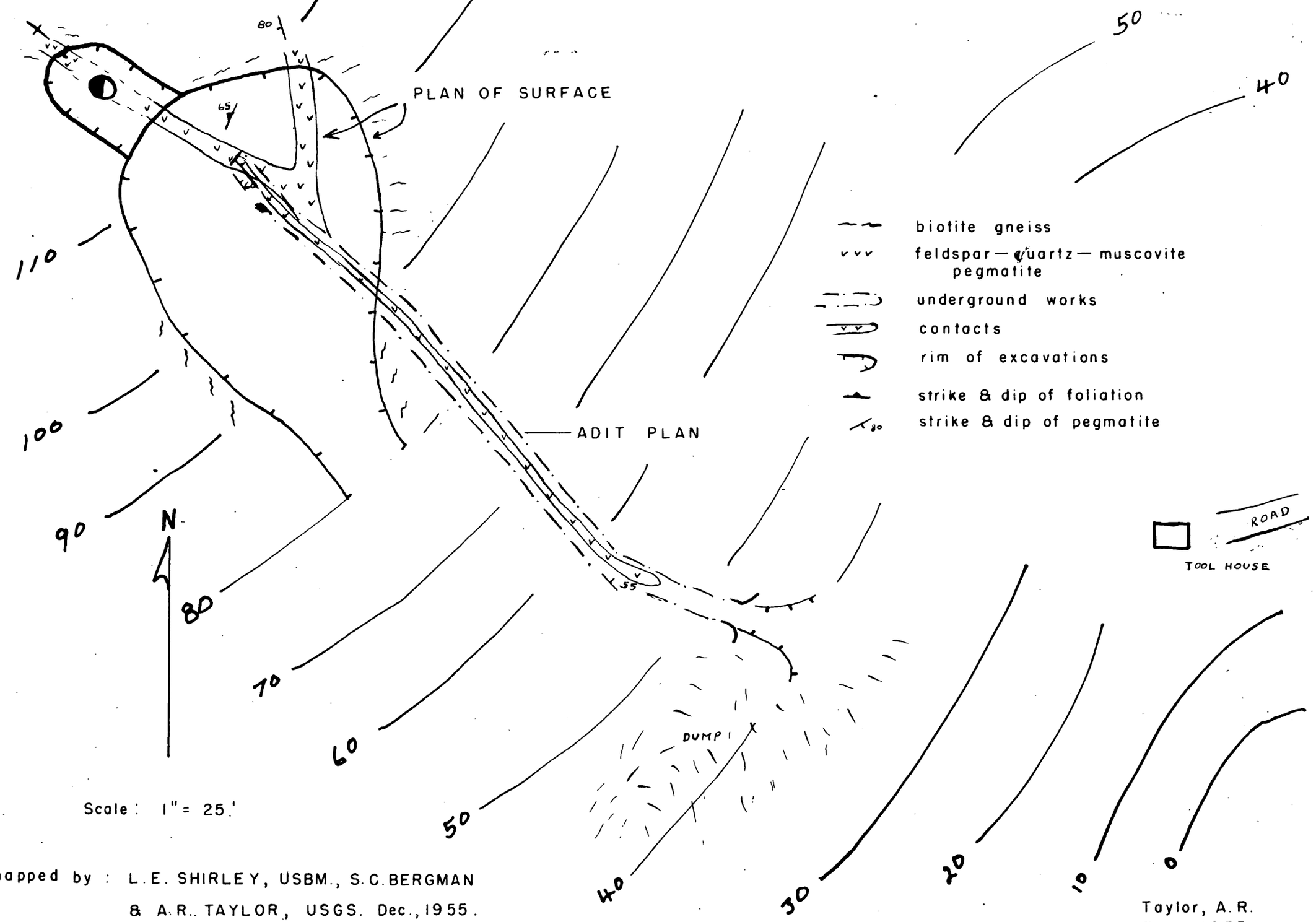
A poorly-zoned, mica-bearing pegmatite was encountered 19 feet from the adit portal and was followed throughout the total distance of 152 feet. This pegmatite is probably a vertical extension of the body exposed in the surface cut and described in the examination report. At 49 feet from the portal the generally 3.3 - 4.0 ft wide pegmatite became pegmatitic and granitic stringers barren of mica. Good grade mica occurs in the adit at about 97 feet and about 400 pounds of "mine-run block" was produced from 12 feet of drift near the 97 ft station. About 250 pounds of "mine-run block" was produced in the two weeks of operations.

Contacts are irregular but generally range from N. 40° W., 55° NE to N. 55° W., 58-60° NE.

SKETCH OF THE
JIM RIDDLE MINE (mica)

DMEA-3821

YANCEY CO., N.C.



Adit mapped by: L.E. SHIRLEY, USBM., S.C. BERGMAN
& A.R. TAYLOR, USGS. Dec., 1955.

Taylor, A.R.
Dec., 1955

INTERIM REPORT

RECEIVED
DEC 15 1955

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, N. C.

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

This contract has been completed and all costs as outined in Exhibit "A" have been expended. No large amounts of mica were produced under the contract, but the Field Examiners are of the opinion that this mine can be recommended for certification. The Operator plans to continue work in the present head and will stope those areas from the adit where the best mica was recovered during work under contract.

One hundred and fifty-two feet of drift had been completed along the strike of the pegmatite as of the date of this visit. Thirty-one feet were driven N70°W, 69 feet were driven N40°W, 36 feet were driven N50°W, and the remaining 16 feet were driven N40°W. Pegmatite was first encountered at 19 feet from the starting point and was followed from that point to the present head. The body strikes N40°W, and the dip has varied from steeply SW to 60°NE. It is disconformable with the country rock, a mica gneiss, has an average thickness of 3.5 feet and is composed of quartz, feldspar, garnet, and scattered muscovitemica. The mica contains some biotite stain, hair cracks, and is partially bent or "wavy". The Operator stated that 11 pounds of processed mica had been sold to the GSA Depot, 35 pounds of processed mica is now on hand ready for sale, and that scrap and punch mica would be sold at a later date.

This contract was completed satisfactorily and was timbered where necessary. No additional exploration under government contract appears warranted.

L. E. Shirley

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

S. C. Bergman and A. R. Taylor, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

November 28, 1955

INTERIM REPORT

DMEA-3821, Idm E-845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, N. C.

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

Drifting continues on this contract and now totals 129 feet. The adit is being driven northwest and is following a pegmatite body 3.3 feet thick striking N40°W and dipping 60°NE. The body is composed of a medium amount of quartz, feldspar, and is rich in small mica. About 250 pounds of "mine-run" block has been recovered in the past two weeks of work. Recommendations were made to the operator for continuing the drift in the present direction. Eleven feet of drift remains to be driven under contract.

The operator was advised to scale the entire adit, and especially remove all loose rock in the roof. Progress on this contract is satisfactory.

L. E. Shirley

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

S. C. Bergman

S. C. Bergman and A. R. Taylor, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

November 14, 1955

RECEIVED
NOV 25 1955

INTERIM REPORT

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, North Carolina

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, North Carolina

Drifting continues on this contract, and now totals 115 feet. The adit continues to be driven to the northeast and is following the trend of the pegmatite. The body as exhibited in the present face is 3.5 to 4 feet thick, and has thinned slightly in the past 18 feet of work. The body is composed of quartz, feldspar, and scattered medium-sized blocks of muscovite mica. The mica appears to be of good quality, and the size of the crystals as shown in the face has increased. The operator was advised to continue driving the drift in the same general direction in pegmatite until another visit can be made.

L. E. Shirley

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

K. H. Teague S.C. Bergman A.R. Taylor

K. H. Teague, S. C. Bergman, and A. R. Taylor
Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

October 31, 1955

RECEIVED
NOV 14 1955

INTERIM REPORT

RECEIVED
OCT 28 1955

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, N. C.

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

Drifting continues on this contract and now totals 97 feet. The last 12 feet of drift has yielded approximately 400 pounds of mine-run block mica of better quality than that previously obtained. The body is about 4.5 feet thick in the present face and is composed of feldspar, quartz, and clear muscovite mica. The adit is being driven N40°W, and the work is following the trend of the body. The operator was advised to continue the drift in the present direction until another visit can be made. Recent progress on this contract is satisfactory.

L. E. Shirley

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

K. H. Teague

K. H. Teague, S. C. Bergman, A. R. Taylor
Geologists, U. S. Geological Survey

October 19, 1955

RECEIVED
OCT 17 1955

INTERIM REPORT

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, N. C.

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

Drifting continues on this contract and is now at 83 feet. The present face exhibits a pegmatite about 4 feet thick trending N40°W and near vertical. The present direction of the drift is N50°W, and work has followed a body composed of feldspar, added quartz, and scattered blocks of muscovite mica. The operator was advised to continue the drift in the same general direction, following the trend of the body. Progress on this contract is satisfactory.

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

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

October 5, 1955

INTERIM REPORT

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, N. C.

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

Drifting continues on this contract, and is now at 68 feet. The present direction of the adit is N30°W, and the work is following a pegmatite about 4 feet thick as exhibited in the roof and along the east wall. A narrow body, barren of mica was encountered along the west wall. Some mica has been produced from the last 20 feet of drift, but is of poor quality. The mica bearing body on the east wall is composed of feldspar and an occasional small block of mica. The operator was advised to continue the drift in the present direction with test holes at intervals. Progress on this contract is satisfactory.

Messrs. V. J. Lynch and R. A. Laurence accompanied the Field Examiners on this visit to the mine.

L. E. Shirley

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

K. H. Teague

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

September 21, 1955

INTERIM REPORT

RECEIVED
SEP 1 0 1955

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, North Carolina

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, North Carolina

Drifting continues on this contract, and is now at 49 feet. The adit is being driven alongside pegmatite in a N43°W direction. The major portion of the body is on the northeast side of the adit, and thickness at this point is unknown. The mine foreman stated that the contact was being followed, and that the body would be slabbed into the drift, thereby saving most of the mica in the body. Pegmatitic and granitic stringer material shows in the present heading. Very little mica has been recovered in the past two weeks of work. Progress on this contract is satisfactory.

L. E. Shirley

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

K. H. Teague

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

September 8, 1955

RECEIVED
SEP - 2 1955

INTERIM REPORT

DMEA-3821, Idm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, N. C.

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

Drifting continues on this contract, and new work accomplished totals 34 feet. Pegmatite was encountered at 19 feet from the beginning point, and all of the adit work has been driven in a N70°W direction. The contact with the country rock strikes N40°W and is very irregular. The present face of the body is composed of feldspar, scattered quartz, and an occasional small block of muscovite mica. Approximately 700 pounds of mine-run block has been recovered during the past two weeks work, some of which contains stain.

Timbering has been necessary at the portal, and stulls and overhead lagging have been set to the present face. The operator was advised to continue timbering until fresh ground is encountered. Progress on this contract is satisfactory.

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

D. H. Amos
D. H. Amos, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

August 22, 1955

INTERIM REPORT

DMEA-3821, 1dm-E845 (mica) JIM RIDDLE MINE

OPERATOR: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route #1, Bakersville, N. C.

LOCATION: 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancey County, N. C.

The starting date on this contract is August 1, 1955. Drifting is underway, and has advanced 23 feet in muck and loose weathered material. No timbering has been accomplished to date, but is expected to begin in the near future. An access road has been constructed to the mine at the operator's own expense. A tool house and powder and cap magazines have been built, and necessary drilling equipment has been moved on the job. Progress on this contract has been good.

L. E. Shirley

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

K. H. Teague D. H. Amos

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

August 8, 1955

RECEIVED
AUG 22 1955

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

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 1955

August 4, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee - DMEA - Washington

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region V

Subject: Signed Contract - Idm-E845, DMEA-3821, Buchanan & Snyder
Route 1, Bakersville, North Carolina

Transmitted are three signed copies of the subject contract. The usual distribution of the other copies has been made.

Robert A. Laurence
Robert A. Laurence

Docket Copy
Surname:
Anderson
F L Krause
Chamber
Martin
F J Johnson
ma

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

JUL 21 1955

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3821 - Mica
Buchanan & Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Please find herewith the original and five copies of a contract covering the subject exploration project which have been signed by the Government with register number and effective date as shown.

If the contract meets with your approval present it to the Operators for their approval and signature. Please explain to the Operators that the contract, when executed, is a firm commitment under the terms of which they are obligated to complete the work outlined at the agreed unit cost. If any part of this contract does not have either your approval or that of the Operators and cannot be amended within your delegated authority, then the original and all copies of the contract are to be returned to this office, together with the proposed changes for consideration.

After execution of the contract, the copies are to be distributed in the usual manner. Copies of memoranda from W. E. Nelson of the Geological Survey, dated July 13, 1955, and from W. F. Dietrich of the Bureau of Mines, dated July 13, 1955, are enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

W. S. Martin
ACTING Chairman, Operating Committee (alB)

Approved:
/s/ Robert W. Geehan (alB)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard (alB)
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 10

WCAnderson:gad 7/20/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

R.C.4.

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

RECEIVED
JUL 13 1955

July 13, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA - 3821 (mica)

Applicant: Buchanan and Snyder

Name and Location of Property: Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: June 27, 1955

Date Rec'd by Br. of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials: July 12, 1955

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend exploration contract at a cost of $4,763.00

Comments:

1. The proposed program of exploration will determine value of ground in mine that previously has been reported as a producer of mica.

2. The field team's covering memorandum apparently is in error regarding the distribution of Social Security and Insurance.

Recommendation:

I concur with the field team's recommendation.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

July 13, 1955

Re: DMEA 3821
Buchanan & Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey Co., N. C.
$4,763.00 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of Field Team Report.

If this rich vein is found at the 120-foot (adit) level and for the length shown on surface, a good operation should come into being.

I concur with the recommendation of the Field Team.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

RECEIVED
JUL 1 5 1955

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

RECEIVED
JUL - 5 1955

July 1, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Washington, D. C.

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

Subject: Field Examination report, DMEA-3821 (Mica)
Buchanan and Snyder, Bakersville, North Carolina
Jim Riddle Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina

Enclosed are four copies of the subject report, and six extra copies of the sketch map. We recommend approval of a unit-cost contract as outlined in the report.

The item, Social Security and Insurance, is broken down as follows:

Compensation Ins.

Social Security, 10% of payroll	?	$196.00
Insurance, 2% of payroll	?	39.20
Unemployment insurance, 2% of payroll		39.20
Sales tax @ 3%		50.00
Total		$324.40

Robert A. Laurence
Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team

V. J. Lynch
V. J. Lynch, Member
U. S. Bureau of Mines

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
7-8-55
(Date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECEIVED
JUL - 5 19

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

EXAMINATION REPORT BY FIELD TEAM, REGION V

On

DMEA-3821, JIM RIDDLE MINE (mica)
Yancey County, N. C.

By

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

and

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

June 27, 1955

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
7-8-55
(date)

RECEIVED
JUL - 5 1955

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
ON THE
JIM RIDDLE MINE - DMEA-3821 (mica)

Applicants: Buchanan and Snyder, c/o Roby M. Buchanan, Route 1, Bakersville, North Carolina

This deposit produced about $2,700.00 worth of green mica during World War II. It has been mined only to shallow depths, thus there appears to be a good possibility that significant reserves of strategic mica can be found below the depth of previous workings. Exploration assistance is recommended.

The deposit was examined on June 17, 1955. Messrs. Roby Buchanan, two of his sons, and Joe Snyder accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

The Jim Riddle mine is along the west side of a south flowing tributary of Cattail Creek, west of Grassy Ridge, 1.25 airline miles due east of Pensacola, Yancy County, North Carolina. Access to the property is good at all times.

The applicants appear competent to conduct the proposed work. Area under lease is adequate.

Past mining has been from open cuts which have reached an unknown depth. These cuts have been made over a distance of about 150 feet on a pegmatite which pinches and swells, with a maximum thickness of about six feet. The pegmatite strikes in a general northwest direction, dipping steeply to the southwest and is disconformable to the wall rock--a mica-kyanite gneiss.

The pegmatite is poorly zoned, consisting of a medial quartz core of glassy quartz bounded by feldspathic pegmatite which is composed of plagioclase, small scattered quartz, relatively abundant muscovite, and scattered red garnet. Inclusions of the wall rock occur in the pegmatite.

Mica from this pegmatite is both ruby and non-ruby in color, with the non-ruby constituting about 70 percent. Some contains "A" structure and biotite inclusions; however, most of the mica is relatively flat, clear, hard, and free splitting. It is abundant and occurs in relatively large sizes.

Early history of this mine is not known. Apparently it was first worked by Ray and Silvers. During World War II Pollard and Bill worked the mine and produced 2090.1 pounds of green mica which was sold to the Colonial Mica Corporation for $2,677.63. This included 1627 pounds of punch. About 60 percent of this mica was classified as stained or better in quality.

The examiners believe that exploration assistance on the deposit is justified. The pegmatite is probably in excess of 150 feet in length, up to six feet in thickness, and is rich in mica.

As this deposit is on a steep hillside, the most logical way to explore it appears to be by an adit. It is recommended that the 40 feet (approximate) of crosscut be driven to intersect the pegmatite at a point approximately 30 feet deeper than the deepest workings; then the adit should follow the pegmatite on its strike to the northwest. A total of 150 feet of adit is recommended.

Estimated Cost:

Toolhouse	$75.00	
Powder magazine	25.00	
Exploder magazine	13.00	
Total		$113.00
Drive 150 feet of crosscut and drift 5' x 7' with portal timbered (70 shifts)		
Labor:		
1 - Miner @ $1.50/hr.	$840.00	
2 - Laborers @ $1.00/hr.	1,120.00	
Equipment (rental):		
Compressor, drill and jackleg @ $230/mo.	805.00	
Supplies:		
Explosives	450.00	
Drill steel	200.00	
Gasoline and oil	225.00	
Timber, 1,000 b.f. @ $65/M	130.00	
Small tools and pipe	200.00	
Rail	75.00	
Miscellaneous	255.00	
Insurance and Social Security	350.00	
Total		$4,650.00
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST		$4,763.00

31.00/ft.

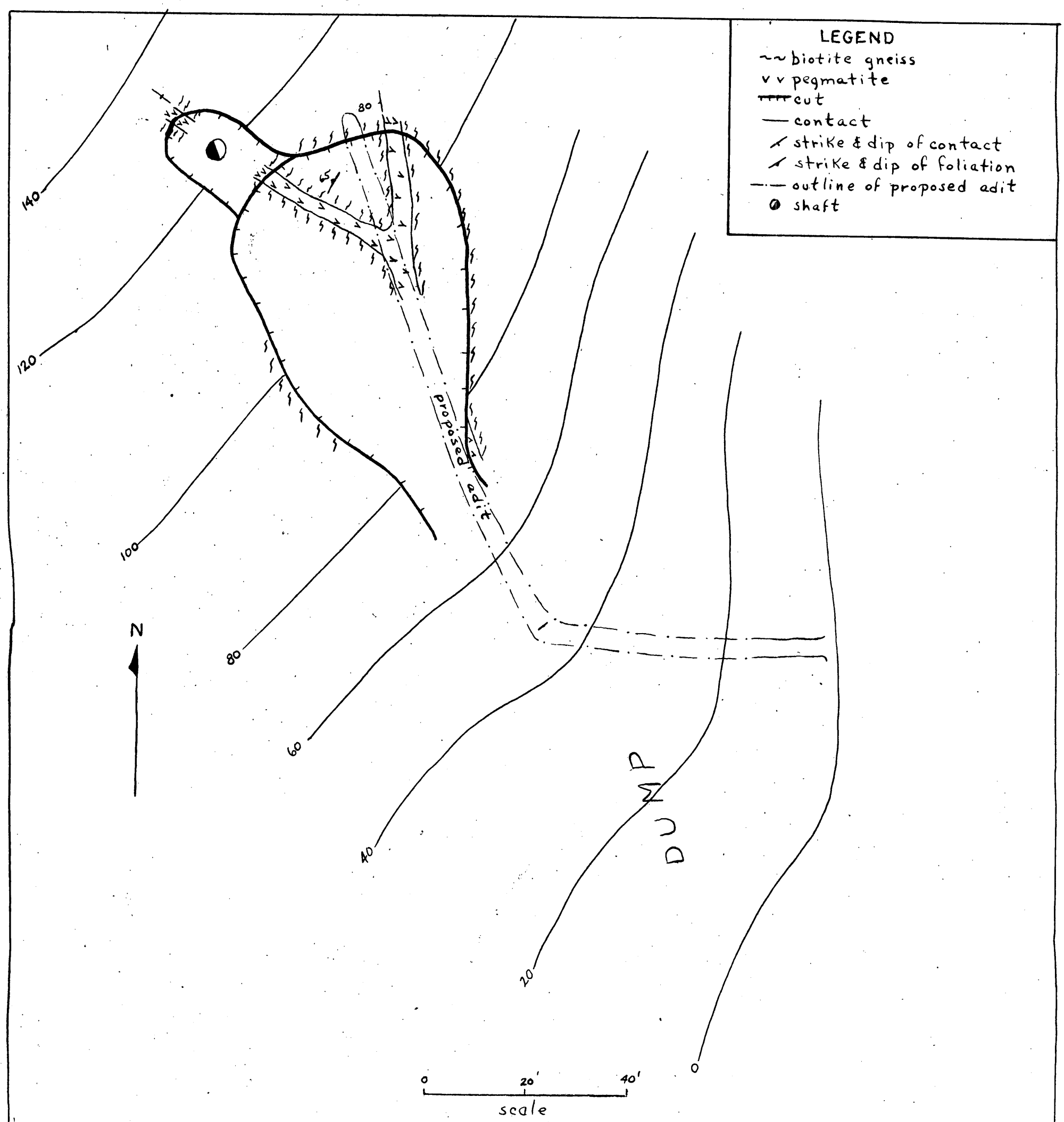
June 27, 1955.

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

and

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

g



SKETCH OF
JIM RIDDLE MINE
YANCEY CO., N.C.

DMEA-3821 (mica)
June 17, 1955

Docket File
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Kiilsgaard
Hedges
Selfridge
Johnson

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

JUN 16 1955

Messrs. Buchanan & Snyder
Route 1
Bakersville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3821 - Mica
Buchanan & Snyder
Jim Biddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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,

Frank E. Johnson

ACTING Administrator

WCAnderson:pk 6/13/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V (2)
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

P.C.L.

Docket File
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Selfridge
Johnson

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

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

Subject: Docket No. DME -3821 - Mica
Buchanan & Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Bakersville, N. C.

JUN 16 1955

Dear Mr. Laurence:

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

Copies of memoranda from N. E. Nelson of the Geological Survey, Dated May 26, 1955, and from W. F. Dietrich of the Bureau of Mines, dated June 7, 1955, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee (JHB)

Approved:

/s/ J. H. Hedges (JHB)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard (JHB)
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

Mr. W. C. Anderson:pk 6/13/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

R.C.L.

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

RECEIVED
JUN - 7 1955

June 7, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3821 (mica)

Applicant: Buchanan & Snyder

Name and Location of Property: Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceram. & Fert. Mat.: May 20, 1955

Comments:

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

2. Applicants state that strategic quality mica was produced during World War II, but our incomplete records do not show this mine.

3. Geologic description appears to indicate a favorable area for exploration.

4. Proposed exploration consists of an adit and winze.

5. Total estimated costs are in the amount of $4,099.86.

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 Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 27 1955

May 26, 1955

Re: DMEA-3821
Buchanan & Snyder
Jim Riddle Mine
Yancey Co., N. C.
$4,099.86 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of application

If an inspection and inquiries by the Field Team check the statements of the applicants concerning the geology and production of this property the driving of the adit may well be justified. A raise at the inner end to tap the bottom of the 35 foot shaft would facilitate the shaft sinking if such appears warranted. The water in the 35 foot shaft will probably find its way to the adit.

A referral to the Field Team is recommended.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

May 20, 1955

Subject: DMEA 3821
Re: Exploration Assistance
Jim Riddle Mine

Buchanan & Snyder
Route 1
Bakersville, N. C.

Gentlemen:

The receipt of your application dated May 16, 1955 for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA 3821 and referred to the Non Metallics 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. DMEA 3821
Metal or Mineral Mica
Date Received 5-20-55
Estimated Cost $4.099.86
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: Roby M. Buchanan, Rt.1. Bakersville, N.C. (A Partnership.
Joe ~~Sydnrx~~ Snyder, Rt.1. Bakersville, N.C.)
Doing business under the firm name of ---
Buchanan & Snyder, Rt.1. Bakersville, North Carolina.

(*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 A 25 acre tract of land located in Pensacola Tp. Yancey County, N.C. including the "Jim Riddle Mine". (See Mineral Lease Attached for a fuller description of land)

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

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise
Lessee's under virture of mineral Lease attached hereto.

(*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. ~~XXXXX~~ See Lease Attached hereto.

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it
Lessee's Only

(*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 supplement sheet # 1.

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

(*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. See supplement sheet # 1.

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points. See supplement sheet # 1.

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power. See Sup sheet ~~# 1~~ 1.

5. *The exploration project.*—(*a*) State the mineral or minerals for which you will be to explore Muscovite 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 supplement sheet # 2.

(*c*) The work will start within (30) days and be completed within (4) 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 sup sheet # 2.

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.). None

(*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. See sup sheet # 3.

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel. See sup sheet # 3.

(*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. See sup sheet # 3.

(*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. See sup sheet # 3.

(*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 See sheet 3

(*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. See sup sheet # 3.

(*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. See sup sheet # 3. & 4.

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.

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

☐ Money ☒ Use of equipment owned by you ☒ Other labor

Explain in detail on acompanying paper. See sup sheet # 4.

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 May 18th, 1955

Duchanan & Snyder
(Applicant)

By Joe Snyder

Note: Address all mail to--------- Joe Snyder, Project Supvr.
Rt.1.
Bakersville, North Carolina.

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

SUPPLEMENT SHEET # 1.
re;
DMEA FORM # 103, (Rev.)

Re: Buchanan & Snyder,
R.F.D. # 1,
Bakersville, N.C.

Section 4.-(a) PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT.

The Mica exploratory project proposed is located on the lands of R.L. Riddle, in Pensacola Township, Yancey County, State of North Carolina. It is located near the foot of a ridge known as the "Arthur Ridge", the top of said ridge running a course of roughly Northwest-Southeast. Prior mining operations are marked by (3) distinct surface openings now visible as follows: (1) An old open shaft now filled with water but said to be 35 foot deep. (2) Another shaft (dry) located about 18 feet below the 35 foot shaft. This shaft is around 16 feet deep and appears to be latest site of operation. (3) A large open cut approximately 30 foot long by 10 feet wide and 20 feet deep at the head of the cut. The cut is located about 15 feet below the dry 16 foot shaft. All three previous operation are in direct line with the strike of the vein which crosses the ridge on a NE-SW course. There is a road (sled) a few feet below the mouth of the open cut. The main pegmatite body as exposed in cut and in the 16 foot dry shaft appears to be about 8 feet through from the footwall to hanging wall slates. The formation is composed of feldspar, granite, quartz and a rich mica rock binder. Muscovite mica of a greenish-brown color (border type) is said to have been recovered in large quanities from the old workings above mentioned. The applicants didnot participate in any of the previous operations. The project is readily acessible for inspection purposes.

Section 4.-(b) There is no current production of mica as no mining operation has been in progress (except for a few days) since World War 11, the lower shaft and the cut having been operation during that time. Large quanities of high grade mica was recovered from the 35 foot shaft while in operation, (dates unknown). A quanity of high grade mica was recovered and sold from the 16 foot shaft and open cut during World War 11 through Colonial Mica Company. The mica is of good hard texture of greenish-brown color and is realitively clear of defects such as reeves, iron stain, cracks ects., The mica is ready salable at the Govt Buying Depot at Spruce Pine, N.C.

Section 4.-(c) As setout in Sect. 4-(a) above, the main pegmatite body averaging about 8 foot from slate to slate crosses the ridge striking a course NE by SW. The pitch of the strike is to the South on dip of about 45 degrees. The main pegmatite body is made up of Feldspar, granite, quartz and a rich mica rock binding . A quartz core of 12" to 14" is prominient and small pods of quartz are intermingled all through the main body. Both slates are exposed both in 16 foot shaft and the head of the large cut. Some books of weathered mica was noted in and around the dump that would measure 4" X 4". Much larger books are said to have been mined from the 35 foot shaft now filled with water. It is the applicants beleif that large quanities of high grade strategic mica can be recovered by driving a drift that would penetrate the main pegmatite body on a level well below the deepest level of the old works. (See sketch of proposed project attached)

Section 4.-(d) The proposed exploratory project is located just off a good gravel road about 2 miles NE of Pensacola, N.C. on the Rocky Fork prong of Cat tail creek. It is reached by auto over a paved road from Burnsville, N.C. to Pensacola, N.C. and then over the graveled road to within about 300 yards of the proposed project site. There is a sled road leading to the site from the gravel road, [redacted]). The nearest railway shiping

SUPPLEMENT SHEET # 2.
re:
DMEA FORM MF-103, (Rev)

Re: Buchanan & Snyder,
R.F.D. # 1.
Bakersville, N.C.

Section 4.-(d)(con.) point is located at Pensacola, N.C. (2) miles from the proposed project site. Electric power line within 300 yards of the project site and water supply available. The nearest residence is some ¼ mile from the proposed project.

Section 4.-(e) Experienced miners are available in sufficient number to assure the immeadiate start of the operation upon its approval and keep said project operating. Sufficient power & water are available at all times. Ample mining supplies & equipment are available both at Burnsville & Spruce Pine, N.C. for the proper operation of the proposed project.

Section 5.-(a) The proposed operation would be on exploratory basis for the mining and recovery of strategic muscovite mica of high grade as required for Govt stockpiling.

Section 5.-(b) A drift, 5' X 7' would be started at a point some 20 feet down the steep slope of the ridge below the mouth of the large open cut. This drift would be driven on a level and pointed towards the 16 foot shaft and the old 35 foot shaft and would be driven a distance of about 100 feet to bring it below the bottom level of the old 35 foot shaft at a depth of some 35 to 40 feet, (estimated). No actual contact would be made with any of the old works during this operation. The proposed drift to be in direct line with the strike of the pegmatite body and to follow said strike on a level keel for the entire 100 feet to be driven. Upon reaching a point directly beneath the old 35 foot shaft, a shaft would be driven down and with the dip or pitch of the main body to a depth of 50 feet. (see sketch)

Section 5.-(d) All the applicants are experienced miners having had some several years previous experience in both mica & feldspar mining and only thoroughly experienced mica miners would be employed on the project. The operation would be under the joint supervision of Mr. Joe Snyder, one of the applicants, and Mr. G.R. Snyder, his father. Both have had years of actual mica mining experience ranging from 5 to 20 years.

Section 6.-(a) Independent Contracts. None.

Section 6.-(b) Labor-Supervision & Consultants.

No.	Class	Hr. Rate.	Daily Rate.	Weekly Rate.	monthly Rate.	16 Week Rate.
(1)	Supervisor	$ 1.50	$ 12.00	$ 60.00	$ 240.00	$ 960.00
(1)	Drill Opr	1.25	10.00	50.00	200.00	800.00
(2)	Muckers @ 1.00	2.00	16.00	80.00	320.00	1280.00
(4)	Man Crew-------$	4.75	$ 38.00	$190.00	$ 760.00	$2040.00

Section 6.-(c) Operating Materials & Supplies. (Purchase)

Unit.	Items.	No. Units	Unit Cost.	Est. Cost for Period	
Gal.	Gasoline	560	$ 0.22	$ 123.20	
Qts.	Motor Oil	160	0.20	32.00	
Ea.	Line Lubricator	1	20.00	20.00	
Ft.	1½" met Air line	147	0.16½	24.26	
Lbs.	Dynamite	500	0.25	125.00	
Ea.	6" Exploders	400	0.14	56.00	
Ft.	Air Hose	50	0.60	30.00	
Ft.	Drill Steels	24(Tung)	6.40 (2) 6' runs	153.60	(6) Pcs.
Ea.	Blasting Battery	1	25.00	25.00	
Ft.	Lead Line	100	0.10	10.00	
Ft.	Car Railing	350	0.10	35.00	
Ea.	Mine Car	1	10.00	10.00	
TOTALS----------				$ 644.06	

SUPPLEMENT SHEET # 3.
re:
DMEA FORM MF-103, (Revised)

Re: Buchanan & Snyder,
R.F.D. # 1.
Bakersville, N.C.

Section 6.-(d) Operating Equipment. (Rental Basis Monthly)

Unit.	Item	No. Units	Rental monthly	Rental Period
Ea.	Air Compressor	1	$ 125.00	$ 500.00
Ea.	Jackhammer Drill	1	50.00	200.00
Ea.	Jack Leg	1	15.00	60.00
Ea.	Gas Hoist 1 ton cap.	1	35.00	140.00
TOTALS			$ 225.00	$ 900.00

Section 6.-(e) Rehabilitation & Repairs. None.

Section 6.-(f) New Building-Installations.

Unit.	Item	No. Units.	Unit Cost.	Cost for Period
Ea.	Toolhouse	1	$ 75.00	$ 75.00
Ea.	P. magazine	1	25.00	25.00
Ea.	Exp. magazine	1	15.00	15.00
TOTALS			$ 115.00	$ 115.00

Section 6.-(g) Miscellanous Expenses.

Federal Payroll Taxes@ 2% of $ 2040.00	(period)	$ 40.80
Employers Liability Ins. (4 man crew)	(Estimated)	100.00
Empolyee's Group Ins. " " "	(Estimated)	160.00
TOTALS		$ 300.80

Section 6.-(h) Contingencies.

10 Hours Bulldozer Hire @ $ 10.00 per hr. for use on road & dump	$ 100.00
TOTALS	$ 100.00

Section 7.-(a) YES.

Section 7.-(b) The operators, (lessee's) will furnish 25% of the total cost of the proposed exploratory project by suppling all small tools, all operating equipment as listed under Sect.6.-(d) above plus labor equivelant to $ 124.97 of total payroll, a total of $1024.97 or 25% of the total project cost of $ 4099.86

RECAPITULATION OF ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT
----- BY UNITS -----

6.(b)	Labor & Supvrn.	16 week Period	$ 2040.00
6.(c)	Opr material & Supplies	" " "	644.06
6.(d)	Opr Equipment	" " "	900.00
6.(f)	Bldgs & Install'ns	" " "	115.00
6.(g)	Miscellanous Exps.	" " "	300.80
6.(h)	Contingencies	" " "	100.00
	TOTALS:	16 Week Period	$ 4099.86

GENERAL SUMMARY OF PROJECT EXPENSES AND
THE GOVERMENTS & OPERATORS PARTICIPATION

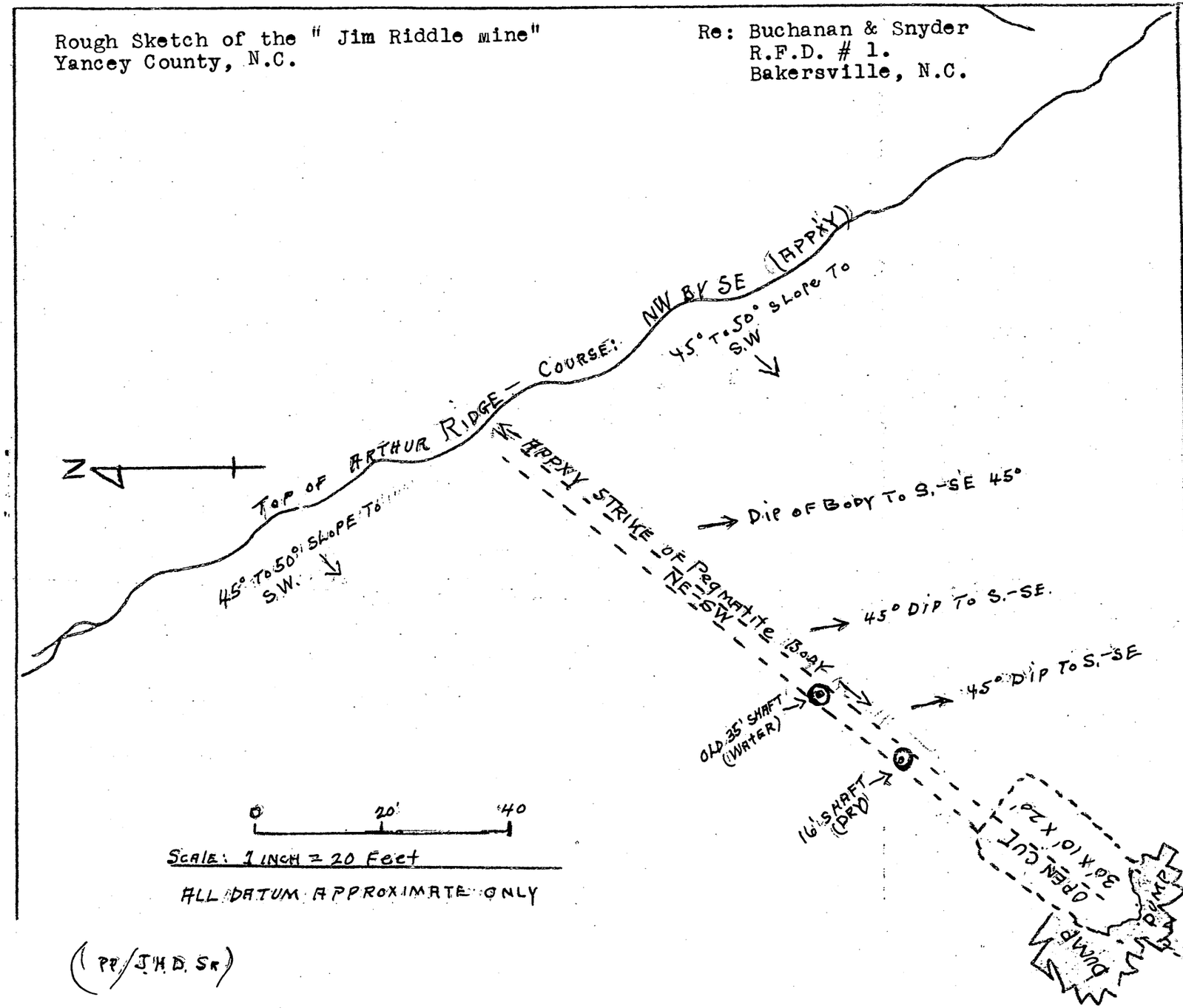
TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS OF PROJECT, (16 WEEK PERIOD)	$ 4099.86
OPERATORS SHARE OF ABOVE @ 25% OF ESTIMATED COSTS.	$ 1024.97
GOVERMENTS SHARE OF ABOVE TOTAL COST @ 75% (Loan)	$ 3074.89

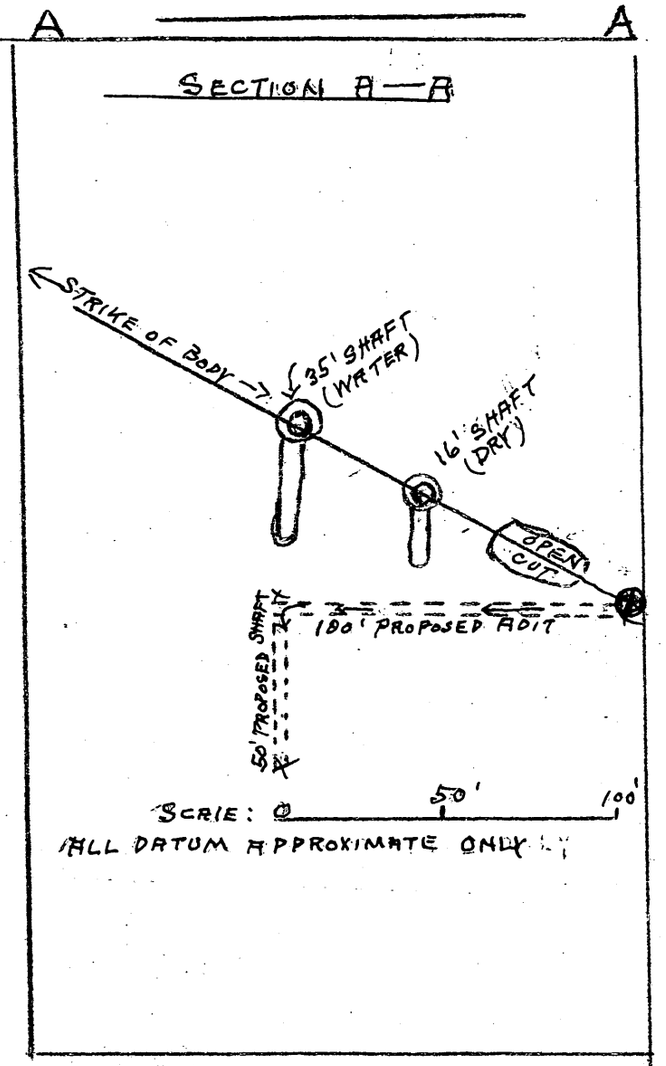
Respectfully Submitted,
Joe Snyder
Buchanan & Snyder,
By: Joe Snyder, (Partner)
Rt.1. Bakersville, N.C.

pp/J.H.D. Sr.

Rough Sketch of the " Jim Riddle mine"
Yancey County, N.C.

Re: Buchanan & Snyder
R.F.D. # 1.
Bakersville, N.C.





(PP/J.H.D. SR)

Division of the Director
Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 20 1955

MINING LEASE

State of North Carolina Yancey County:

This indenture made this 3 day of May 1955, 1953,

between R. L. Riddle and wife Sudie W. Riddle

of Yancey County and State of North Carolina as party of the first part, and known as lessor s, and Roby M. Buchanan and Joe Snyder

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 consideration of One Dollar in hand received and hereby acknowledged by the lessor s, 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 ten 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: Situate in Pensacola Township and known as the Jim Riddle mine. Beginning on a Chestnut, J. C. Wilson's corner, and runs a Northwest course a marked line to the top of Arthur Ridge, to a Locust corner in R. R. Ray's line; thence down the main height of said ridge to R. R. Ray's and E. J. McMahan's corner; thence a South course with E.J.McMahan's line to a Chestnut marked as a corner and pointers; thence a South course with John G. McMahan's line to a Chestnut Oak stump, a corner of the Hiram Ray old tract of land; thence an East course with the Hiram Ray Old line to the BEGINNING, containing 25 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 ten 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 parties of the first part, or his or their heirs or assigns, a rental royalty of a one-eighth

on the minerals taken and sold from said mines which shall be for the use of the said lands for the aforesaid period of ten 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 ten 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 s 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 XXXXXXXXXXX, 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 s 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:

R. L. Riddle (Seal)

Sudie W. Riddle (Seal)

Joe Snyder (Seal)

Roby M. Buchanan (Seal)

This lease must be recorded in Mine Div. & Land Records Div.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

YANCEY COUNTY

I, LOWE THOMAS, CLERK SUPERIOR COURT, hereby certify that, B. L. Riddle & Susie W. Riddle personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed Lease, Let the instrument, with the certificate, be registered.

Witness my hand and official seal this 16th day of May 1955.

Lowe Thomas
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT

NORTH CAROLINA,
YANCEY COUNTY.
Filed for Registration on the 16 day of May 1955 at 9:30 o'clock A M., and registered in the Office Register Deeds, and verified this 16 day of May 19 55 at 11:30 o'clock A M., in Book 114 of deeds on page 350 etc.
Evelyn H Pate
Register of Deeds.

North Carolina

Mitchell County

I, Mae Elizabeth Snyder Deputy Clerk of Superior Court of Mitchell County hereby certify that Joe L. Snyder and Roby M. Buchanan this day personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed Lease. Let the instrument with the certificate be registered. This the 16th day of May 1955.

Mae Elizabeth Snyder
Dep. Clerk Superior Court.

NORTH CAROLINA,
YANCEY COUNTY.
Filed for Registration on the 17 day of May 1955 at 9:00 o'clock A M., and registered in the Office Register Deeds, and verified this 17 day of May 1955 at 11:30 o'clock A M., in Book 114 of deeds on page 358 etc.
Evelyn H Pate
Register of Deeds.