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TIN IN THE UNITED STATES

(exclusive of Alaska and Hawaii)

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Introduction

The principal deposits and occurrences of tin minerals in the United States (exclusive of Alaska and Hawaii) are shown on the accompanying map. Although some very minor occurrences are included to indicate the extent of distribution, those in which only trace amounts of tin have been found spectrographically or geochemically have been omitted. Unverifiable reported occurrences of tin-bearing minerals have been excluded also.

Known tin-bearing deposits in the conterminous United States are small, few in number, and widely scattered; only small amounts of tin concentrates are being recovered at the present time (1964). The total amount of metallic tin produced since 1950, mainly as a by-product of molybdenum ores, is less than 500 tons, and the total production from all sources prior to 1950 is similar.

Map locations are shown by symbols, the shapes of which denote different geologic types of occurrence; some areas of scattered occurrences in pegmatites are shown by a stippled pattern. Occurrences are numbered by State on the map and identified by number in the index. The index also gives the geographic coordinates, brief geologic descriptions, and references to the principal published reports. The more important or better known localities are named on the map.

Geology

Tin minerals occur in lode deposits and in related placer deposits. The most important tin mineral is cassiterite, SnO₂, which, because of its weight, hardness, and resistance to chemical alteration, is an important placer mineral. Placer or stream tin is derived from the weathering of lode deposits and accumulates in detrital deposits like gold. Much less common tin minerals are the sulfide, stannite, Cu₂FeSnS₄; franckeite, Pb5Sn₃Sb₂S₁₄; cylindrite, another lead-tin-antimony sulfosalt; and colusite, Cu₃ (As, Sn, V, Fe, Te)S₄.

Almost all cassiterite-bearing lode deposits are closely associated, both spatially and genetically, with granitic intrusive rocks; some granites have been reported to contain cassiterite as a late primary constituent. The lode deposits commonly occur in well-defined veins, particularly pegmatite and pegmatitic quartz veins, in either the granitic host rock or adjacent country rocks. Associated with cassiterite are a number of high-temperature minerals, chiefly tourmaline, topaz, beryl, fluorite, apatite, wolframite,

molybdenite, and arsenopyrite. Most of the primary tin-bearing deposits in the Black Hills, S. Dak., in San Diego County, Calif., and in the Appalachian region are in pegmatites.

Closely related to pegmatites are the "greisen" deposits, which commonly contain cassiterite as an accessory mineral. Intense alteration of wall rocks and vein material is characteristic of these deposits. The alteration is believed to be the result of attack by hot acid solutions and vapors which converted the wall rock minerals, chiefly feldspar, to coarse-grained mixtures of muscovite, quartz, and topaz or tourmaline. The deposits at Temescal, Calif., Irish Creek, Va., and Majuba Hill, Nev., are of the greisen type.

Cassiterite also occurs in other, economically less important, kinds of deposits. Near Gorman, Calif., cassiterite forms pods, stringers, and disseminations in iron-rich replacement bodies in calc-silicate (tactite) zones of limestone roof pendants in a granitic intrusive. At Mescal, Calif., cassiterite occurs in a hematite-filled breccia pipe that appears to have been formed by replacement along intersecting fractures in dolomitic marble. Cassiterite and specularite form narrow incrusted veinlets in Tertiary porphyritic rhyolite lavas in the Black Range (Taylor Creek, Squaw Creek, and Hardcastle Creek), N. Mex., and in Miocene(?) lavas in the Izenhood Ranch area, Nevada.

The Climax, Colo., deposit is marked on the map by a diamond-shaped symbol for unspecified type. Perhaps it should have been included as a variant of the greisen type. Some of the cassiterite is in later veinlets with topaz, tungstates, sulfides, and fluorite. Sericitization occurs along the same fractures.

Tin sulfide minerals are rare in pegmatites and greisen deposits; rather they occur-although sparsely in the United States-in veins containing sulfides of other metals, chiefly those of copper, lead, and zinc. Stannite has been reported in the Etta pegmatite of the Keystone area in the southern Black Hills, S. Dak., and in greisenized quartz veins in the Franklin Mountains, Tex. Stannite occurs in veins with base-metal sulfides at several localities in Washington State, and is also reported from New Mexico, and near Basin, Mont. Stannite and franckeite occur with lead-antimony sulfides in limestone near Santa Cruz, Calif., and with bismuth selenide in silver ores in limestone adjacent to a quartz monzonite stock near Darwin, Calif. Stannite and cylindrite are reported in the Silver Still mine, Idaho, Colusite occurs with copper and lead sulfides at Butte, Mont., Red Mountain in the Ouray district, Colorado, and in Santa Fe County, N. Mex.

A tin sulfo-salt is reported in the Jumbo Extension mine at Goldfield, Nev.

In this report all occurrences of cassiterite in detritus, including surface "float" in northern California, are mapped as placer. Although no extensive placer tin deposits have been found in the United States, secondary or detrital deposits are represented by small residual, eluvial, and alluvial deposits in the vicinity of many of the lode sites, as well as at additional alluvial sites where the source lodes are yet unknown. Much of the tin recovered near Gaffney, S. C., in the early 1900's was from residual or eluvial deposits. Stream tin production has been mainly from creeks in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming. A low content of cassiterite is reported in the heavy mineral fraction from Eocene conglomerate at Skykomish and elsewhere in Washington State, Cassiterite is among the heavy minerals from sands of Aptos Beach (loc. 5) in California, and in dune sand at Long Beach, Pacific County, southwestern Washington.

The lode occurrences of tin minerals, as might be anticipated from their scattering over a vast area and in many geologic settings, represent several ages of formation. Tin in the oldest terranes may belong to a Precambrian mineralization. Much of the tin in the Appalachians and Piedmont is probably of middle or late Paleozoic age. Some of the tin in the Western States appears to belong with Late Cretaceous mineralization. Part of the tin in Idaho may be related to a mid-Tertiary mineralization. The veinlets in Catron and Sierra Counties, N. Mex., and in Lander County, Nev., cut Tertiary lavas.

At the 15 sites named on the map, deposits were of sufficient size, number, or richness to encourage development attempts. Initial work at these places rarely had a duration of several years. Only a few sites, after varying intervals of inactivity, became targets of renewed effort in further development. Much of the small output has been from test shipments during development. More continuous work has been restricted to an earlier small, intermittent output of stream and lode tin from South Dakota, and in the current decade to by-product recovery of cassiterite at Climax, Colo, In addition to the named localities, a few small shipments have been made from placers in Montana, and discarded dredge concentrates from Jordan Creek, Idaho, were reputedly hauled away for their tin content. Early unsuccessful attempts were made to develop the small vein occurrences at Jackson, N. H., and at Wins-

	Index		
Lo	cality	Lat. N.	Long W.
	ALABAMA		
1.	Rockford. Cassiterite in peg- matites; very minor in asso- ciated detritus deposits. Hein- rich and Olson, 1953; Hunter, 1944; Reed, 1950.	33°10' to 32°48'	86°00' to 86°28'
	CALIFORNIA		
1.	Hungry Creek. Placer (hillside float). Irelan, 1888; Segerstrom, 1941; Murdock and Webb, 1956.	41°57'	122°36'

Locality

Lat. N. Long W.

CALIFORNIA -- Continued

- 2. Weaverville area. Placer. Whit-40°43' 122°58' ney, 1865; Segerstrom, 1941; Murdock and Webb, 1956.
- 3. Sonoma County:

 Healdsburg (Derrick), Trace of
 tin along and adjacent to fault in
 Franciscan Formation, Bedford
 and Johnson, 1946; Gealey 1951.
 Stream tin, Murdock and Webb,
 1956.
- 4. Santa Cruz area, Stannite and 36°58' 122°04' franckeite with lead-antimony sulfides in limestone, Murdock and Webb, 1956.
- 5. Ano Nuevo Creek and Aptos 36°58' 121°54' Beach. Cassiterite in beach sands, Hutton, 1959.
- 6. Darwin (Thompson mine). Stannite and franckeite with bismuth selenide in silver ores along faults in late Paleozoic limestone adjacent to quartz monzonite stock, Hall and MacKevett, 1958.
- 7. Woody (Greenback Copper and 35°42' 118°49' Iron Mountain). Small amounts of tin in ferruginous material along shears in granodiorite. Bedford and Johnson, 1946.
- 8. Big Blue. Alaskite body adjacent to metamorphic sedimentary rocks. Nature of tin occurrence unknown. Bedford and Johnson, 1946.
- Black Jack, Tin-bearing gossan 35°36' 118°24' in limestone, Bedford and Johnson, 1946.
- Rocky Point, Basic dike in granitic rock; nature of tin occurrence unknown. Bedford and Johnson, 1946.

35°26' 118°23'

- 11. Lucky Three and Jennette Grant.
 Traces of tin along contact of
 granitic batholith with metamorphic sedimentary rocks.
 Bedford and Johnson, 1946.
- 12. Atolia (Union mine). Traces of 35°19' 117°36' tin with tungsten along shear zone in quartz monzonite intrusive body. Bedford and Johnson, 1946.
- 13-16. Gorman area. Cassiteritebearing gossan and tactite bodies near contact of limestone and granite intrusive body. Wiese, 1950; Wiese and Page, 1946; Little 1960.

Lo	CALLEORNIA Continu		Long W.	Locality COLORADO Continu	-5-5-0	Long W.
10	CALIFORNIAContinu	ea		COLORADOContinu		1050061
13-	-16Continued	0.48501	1100451	 Devils Head (Platte) Mountain. Cassiterite and topaz in peg- 	39°16'	1.05°06'
	Gray Eagle	34°53'	118°45'	matite. Cross and Hillebrand,		
	Butler	34°52'	118°43'	1885; Landes, 1935; Pearl, 1941a; Peacock, 1935; Eckel,		
	Crow Bar Gulch	34°50'	118°45'	1961.		
1.77	Meeke	34°51'	118°44'	4. Crystal Peak (Topaz Butte).	39°00'	105°17'
17.	Mescal (Cima) (Evening Star mine). Cassiterite in hematite-filled shatter zone in dolomitic		115°32'	Cassiterite and topaz inpegmatite. White, 1935; HeInrich, 1953; Eckel, 1961.		
limestone near granitic intru- sion. Tucker and Sampson, 1943; Bedford and Johnson, 1946; Hewett, 1956; Wright and others,				 St. Peters Dome-Cook Stove Mountain. Cassiterite in pegma- tite. Over, 1929; Pearl, 1941b. 	38°45'	104°55'
	1953.			6. Red Mountain. Colusite with	37°54'	107°42'
s I I I	Temescal (Cajalco mine). Cas- siterite in tourmaline-quartz replacement veins and breccia		117°30'	lead-silver-copper sulfides in volcanic breccia pipe. Burbank, 1947; Nelson, 1939; Eckel, 1961.		
	pipes along fractures in quartz			CONNECTICUT		
	monzonite and metamorphic rocks. Tucker and Sampson, 1945; Bedford and Johnson,			 Strickland quarry. Cassiterite in pegmatite. Schooner 1961. 	41°35'	72°35'
19.	1946. Pala (Hiriart Mountains). Cas-	33°23'	117°04¹	2. Gillette quarry, Cassiterite in pegmatite, Schooner 1961.	41°30'	72°30'
	siterite in pegmatite, Jahns and			IDAHO		
20	Wright, 1951.	0.000 41	11/0001	1. Pierce. Placer. Shannon, 1926.	46°29'	115°41'
	Chihuahua Valley, Cassiterite in pegmatite. Schaller, 1916.	33°24'	116°39'	2. Salmon (3 mi NW of). Tin reported with copper-lead	45°14'	114°02'
21.	Mountain Lily mine. Cassiterite with tourmaline in pegmatite. Murdock and Webb, 1956.	33°20′	116°46'	sulfides in brecciated quartz vein in granite, near contact with quartzite, Bell, 1904, 1905.		
22.	Mesa Grande (Himalaya mine), Cassiterite with stibio-tantalite in gem pegmatite, Penfield and Ford, 1906; Schaller, 1916; Car-	33°13'	116°47'	3. Panther Creek, Placer, Umple- by, 1913; Livingston, 1919; Bell, 1901; Shannon, 1926; Hubbard, 1955.	45°01'	114°19'
23.	nahan, 1960. Little Three Gem mine. Cassiterite with topaz in pegmatite.	33°02'	116°52'	4. Silver Creek, Placer, Umpleby, 1913; Livingston, 1919; Bell, 1901; Ross, 1927.	44°53'	114°21'
	Schaller, 1916.			5. Silver Still mine, mineral dis-	44°32'	117°02'
24.	Granite Mountain (Banner Can- yon). Cassiterite with lithium minerals in pegmatite. Murdock and Webb, 1956.	33°03'	116°29'	trict. Stannite and cylindrite in Cu-Pb ore, filling and replacement in fractured andesitic volcanics. Anderson, 1963.		
25.	Laguna Mountains. Placer. Merrill, 1916; Schaller, 1916; Segerstrom, 1941.	32°55'	116°23'	 Jordan Creek. Placer. North- west Mining News, 1942; Blake, 1866, Ohly, 1903; Shannon, 1926. 	42°52†	116°50'
	COLORADO			MAINE		
1.	Arapahoe Peak. Cassiterite in greisen veins. George, 1927.	40°00'	105°41'	Cassiterite in complex pegmatites erals of columbium, beryllium, and li	thium, and	darsen-
2.	Climax, Quartz-molybdenite veinlets with minor amounts of copper, tin, lead, zinc, and tung-		106°10'	opyrite and tourmaline; some with a topaz, fluorite, gahnite, pollucite, an als.		
	sten in Precambrian granite and schist intruded by quartz mon- zonite porphyry stock and dikes			 Newry mines. Cameron and others, 1954; Maine Geological Survey, 1957. 	44°32'	70°44'
	of Tertiary age. Tin occurs as cassiterite. Vanderwilt and King, 1955; Burk, 1959.			2. Black Mountain quarries. Cameron and others, 1954; Maine Geological Survey, 1957.	44°35'	70°38'

Lo	cality	Lat. N.	Long W.	Lo	cality		Long W.
	MAINEContinued				MISSOURI Contin	ued	
3.	Stoneham. Cassiterite in peg- matite and as "float". Morrill and others, 1958; Bastin, 1911.	44°15'	70°47'	2.	Einstein silver mine. Dissem inated cassiterite in veins bear ing topaz, fluorite, wolframite	,	90°29'
4.	Harvard quarry-Tamminen mine. Cameron and others, 1954; Landes, 1925.	44°15'	70°39'		and lead-zinc sulfides. Singe wald and Milton, 1929. MONTANA	-	
5.	Tubbs ledge, Clarke, 1886; Kunz 1890; Maine Geological Survey, 1957.	44°14'	70°32'	1,	Missouri River (French, Eldo rado). Placer. Blake, 1882 Kunz, 1893; Osborn, 1920.		111°45'
6.	Mount Mica. Clarke, 1886; Kunz, 1890; Wigglesworth, 1919.	44°16'	70°28'	2.	Clancy creek. Placer. Blake 1882; Browne, 1868.	, 46°30'	112°01'
7.	Bennett feldspar quarry. Cameron and others, 1954; Landes, 1925; Maine Geological Survey, 1957.	44°17'	70°25'	3.	Cataract creek (Morning Glor mine). Stannite reported wit ruby silver and copper and lea- sulfides in crushed zone i	h d n	112°15'
8.	Little Singepole-Hibbs feldspar quarries. Cameron and others, 1954; Morrill and others, 1958;	44°13'	70°24'	4.	grano-aplite. Roby and others 1960. Ten Mile creek. Placer. Blake		112°20'
0	Maine Geological Survey, 1957.	44°12'	700221		1882; Knopf, 1913; Raymond 1870.	,	
	Mount Rubellite. Clarke, 1886; Kunz, 1890.		70°23'	5.	Basin creek, Placer, Blake 1882; Hess and Graton, 1905	,	112°18'
10.	Berry quarry-Mount Apatite. Cameron and others, 1954; Clarke, 1886; Kunz, 1890; Wig-	44°04'	70°18'	6.	Ruppel, 1963. Peterson creek (Deer Lodge)	. 46°17'	112°38'
11.	glesworth, 1919. Winslow. Cassiterite in narrow	44°32'	69°37'		Placer. Blake, 1882; Becker 1885.	•	
	veins with lepidolite, fluorite, muscovite, arsenopyrite and quartz. Jackson, 1869; Hussey, 1958.			7.	and cassiterite with copper lead-zinc sulfides in replace ment lodes and veins in quart	- - z	112°32'
12.	Warren. Cassiterite in pegmatite. Hess and others, 1943; Morrill, 1959.	44°07'	69°15'		monzonite. Grimes, 1928; Lan don and Mogilnor, 1933; Smith 1941; Murdock, 1953; Nelson 1939; Perry, 1932; Sales, 1914	,	
	MASSACHUSETTS			8.	Big Hole River (Wisdom)	. 45°37'	113°27†
1.	Goshen-Lithia area. Cassiterite in pegmatites. Hitchcock, 1829; Shaub and Schenck, 1954; Bill-	42°27'	72°47'		Placer. Day and Richards, 1906 Sahinen and Crowley, 1959.	;	
2.	ings, 1941. Chesterfield. Cassiterite in	42°23'	72°50¹	9.	Hughes creek (Alta). Placer Lindgren, 1904; Day and Rich ards, 1906.		114°15'
	pegmatite. Haidinger, 1825; Teschemacker, 1843; Shepard,	12 20	72 00		NEVADA		
	1866.			1.	Izenhood Ranch area. Veinlet		116°51'
3.	Norwich. Cassiterite in pegmatite. Shepard, 1864.	42°17'	72°51'		in Miocene(?) lavas bearing cas siterite, specularite, quartz, to paz, and fluorite. Knopf, 1916a	-	
4.	Leominster-Fitchburg, Cassiterite in pegmatite, Billings, 1941; Seaman, 1953; Hess and	42°35'	71°49'	2.	b; Vanderburg, 1939; Fries 1942b; Gianella, 1941. Antelope (Majuba Hill). Cassit	,	118°27'
5.	others, 1943. Beverly. Shepard, 1838.	42°33'	70°52'		erite with tourmaline, quartz and sericite in breccia zone i	,	110 =/
-	MISSOURI		200		rhyolite plug. Smith and Gia-		
1.	Sheahan granite quarry, St.	37°40¹	90°421		nella, 1942; Matson, 1948 Trites and Thurston, 1958.	5	
	Francois Mountains. Cassiterite with topaz, fluorite, beryl, and muscovite in complex pegmatite. Tolman and Goldich, 1935.			3.	Goldfield (Jumbo Extensio mine). Sulfo-salt of tin with gold silver, and bismuth in Tertiar dacite and other volcanic rocks	y,	117°15†

Lo	cality	Lat. N.	Long W.	Locality Lat. N. Lo	ng W.
	NEVADAContinued			OREGON	
3	-Continued D. F. Hewett, unpublished data, 1941; Wilson, 1944; York, 1944.			1. Pine Creek, Baker vicinity. 44°35' 1 Cassiterite in placer deposits. Day and Richards, 1906; Treasher, 1939; Dake, 1949.	17°50'
	NEW HAMPSHIRE			SOUTH CAROLINA	
1.	Tin Mountain (Eastman Hill). Cassiterite with wolframite in veins cutting micaceous slate and granite. Jackson, 1843, 1844; Hitchcock, 1878.	44°08'	71°13'		81°37'
2.	Parker Mountain mine. Cassiterite in pegmatite. Switzer, 1938; Cameron and others, 1954; Morrill, 1960.	43°18'	71°10'	2. Brewer mine. Replacement bodies of topaz with trace amounts of enargite, covellite, cassiterite, native bismuth and gold in silicified schist; related	80°24'
	NEW MEXICO			placers of topaz, 'cassiterite,	
1.	Petaca. Cassiterite in pegmatite. Jones, 1915; Jahns, 1946.	36°31'	106°02'	kyanite, and gold. Clarke and Chatard, 1884; Nitze and Wil- kins, 1897; Fries, 1942a.	
2.	Harding pegmatite. Cassiterite in zonedtantalum, beryl, lith-	36°11'	105°47'	SOUTH DAKOTA	
	ium-rich pegmatite. Montgom-				03°24'
	ery, 1950; Northrop, 1959.			ite in pegmatite. Page and to	to
3.	Lone Star mine. Colusite in copper ores along fault in Mio-	35°32'	106°12'	others, 1953; Ricketts, 1960; 43°43' 1 Gardner, 1939; Hess, 1909a.	03°45'
	cene rocks, Lustig and Rosen- weig, 1959.		11000000	and in related placer deposits.	04°02'
4.	 Taylor creek. Cassiterite and specularite in stringers in altered porphyritic rhyolite flow 	33°22'	108°03'	Smith and Page, 1941; Page and others, 1953; Gardner, 1939.	
	and in placers. Fries, 1940; Hill, 1921; Volin, 1947.				06°30'
5.	Squaw creek. Cassiterite and specularite in stringers in altered porphyritic rhyolite flow and in placers. Fries, 1940; Volin, 1947.	33°29'	107°57'	and stannite in quartz veins in granite and in related placer deposits. Sellards and others, 1934; Weed, 1901, 1903; Chauvenet, 1910, 1911; Dinsmore, 1909; Richardson, 1906,	
6.	Hardcastle creek. Cassiterite	33°291	107°52'	1909.	
	and specularite in stringers in altered porphyritic rhyolite flow and in placers. Fries, 1940; Volin, 1947.			 Quitman Mountains. Lead-tin 31°04' 1 mineral with tourmaline, wolf-ramite, tetrahedrite, and pitch-blende. Streeruwitz, 1890, 1891; 	05°31'
7.	Chloride. Cassiterite-bearing	33°21'	107°40'	Simonds, 1902.	
	veinlets in extrusive porphyries. Harley, 1934; Harrington, 1943; Anderson, 1957.			3. Grit-Streeter area. Placer.Mc- 30°47' Cammon, 1941; Comstock, 1891a, b; Baker, 1932; Hess,	99°22'
8.	Organ, Merrimac mine. Stannite	33°27'	106°36'	1909b, 1911; Meyer, 1913.	
	reported. Northrop, 1959.			VIRGINIA	
1.	NORTH CAROLINA Hiddenite (Colburn mine). Cas- siterite in pegmatite. Griffitts and Olson, 1953.	35°52†	81°05'	1. Irish Creek. Cassiterite in grei- senized granodiorite. Kosch- mann and others, 1942; Glass and others, 1958.	79°09'
2.	Tin-spodumene belt. Cassiterite in pegmatite and greisen and in related placer deposits. Kes-	35°29' to 35°11'	81°15' to 81'30'		77°59'

Lo	cality	Lat. N.	Long W.
	WASHINGTON		
1.	Long Beach. Cassiterite indune sand. Wilson and others, 1942.	46°21'	124°03'
2.	Silverton (Hoodoo). Stannite with copper sulfides in veins in con- glomerate and slate. Huntting, 1956; Hodges, 1897.	48°05'	121°33'
3.	Buena Vista (Bear Basin). Stan- nite with copper-lead-zinc sul- fides along fault zones in grano- diorite. Purdy, 1951.	47°39'	121°29'
ł.	Skykomish. Cassiterite in Eocene conglomerate. Wilson and others, 1942.	47°43'	121°21'
	Northport (Young America). Stannite and cassiterite with copper-lead-zinc sulfides in stringers and lenses in Cambrian(?) dolomite. Hundhausen, 1949; Purdy, 1951.	48°451	118°03'
5.	Metaline (Frisco Standard). Stannite with copper-lead-zinc sulfides in quartz veins in sheared schist. Huntting, 1956.	48°58'	117°26'
	Blue Grouse Mountain area (Tungsten Products). Tin- bearing huebnerite and pyrite in greisen vein ingranite. Hunt- ting, 1956.	48°06'	117°31'
8.	Silver Hill. Cassiterite in peg- matite. Page, 1942; Culver and	47°33'	117°20'

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