

LEASE 11708/M - ZEEHAN - W.F. THOMAS

Lease No. 11708/M, of 50 acres, is held in the name of W.F. Thomas. It is situated mostly within the township of Zeehan and on its Western boundary. The lease covers portions of those leases previously held and known as Queen Extended, the Argent, the State Argent and No. 6 Argent, on all of which considerable development has taken place.

Within the limits of the 50-acre lease, recent work consists of a series of prospecting cuts and costeans and slight development from adits and winzes. In no instance, however, has ore in profitable amount been won. The total output from the mine during five years' occupation is approximately 10 tons of ore.

Most of the development on the leases has been carried out by the former companies and consists of prospecting adits and shafts. The main shaft of Argent No. 2 is situated 160 feet south from the south-western corner of the lease.

Warren's Adit has been driven a total distance of more than 260 feet with cross-cuts to the west at 140 and 240 feet from the portal. At 140 feet from the portal a rise to the surface has been put in.

From a point 65 feet in the cross-cut at 140 feet, a prospecting drive has been driven in a north-easterly direction on a Galena Vein 4 inches in width. At 15 feet in this drive a winze has been sunk a few feet only without any improvement in size or grade of the Vein.

From a point 180 feet from the portal in the main adit a level has been driven, in a south-westerly direction on the same vein, and connection with the former workings has been made; the two workings being connected by a hole, 2' in diameter, in the face.

The cross-cut to the west at 240 feet from the portal failed to cut ore. A second cross-cut to the east was driven a few feet and a winze sunk to cut the vein previously opened by the cross-cut at 140 feet from the portal. No ore was revealed. Although these workings have failed to produce marketable quantities of ore, the spoil dump has recently been treated by Thomas to produce approximately 3 tons of ore.

The country rock in these workings is slate. The Vein is essentially quartz and galena with subsidiary amounts of siderite and pyrite.

Inglis' Adit At Inglis' Adit (Back tunnel) some underhand stoping from the surface has taken place. This work has been done, apparently, on a vein which has been cut in a cross-cut driven in a westerly direction from a point 80 feet from the portal of the adit. Connection, however, has not been made with the adit workings.

A second cross-cut has been driven in a westerly direction from a point 180 feet from the portal of the adit to cut a vein of galena at a distance of approximately 140 feet from the adit. Short levels, both to the north and to the south have been driven on the vein without profitable results. The spoil dump has recently been treated by Thomas for the recovery of 1.5 tons of ore.

Main Workings What is referred to as the main workings consists of an adit driven on a bearing of 290° for a distance of approximately 100 feet. At a point 78 feet from the portal a winze has been sunk for 50 feet on a vein dipping to the east at a high angle.

From the bottom of the winze a drift in an easterly direction cuts two veins of galena. Some development has taken place on the principal vein reported as varying in width from four to eight inches in a formation varying in width to four feet. As the winze was full of water these workings could not be examined but there is no indication that these veins persist upwards to the adit level.

Most of the development in the Main workings, and the construction of a water wheel and fluming to operate a pump in the winze has been carried out on Government Subsidy.

The country rocks are Slates and Quartzites, which strike in a north-westerly direction and dip towards the north-east at high angles.

In the north-eastern section of the Lease a comparatively large open cut has been made in a pyrrhotite-pyrite formation. These workings were originally for the purpose of mining pyrite for the production of sulphur. The formation is reported as tin-bearing but tests in the field failed to reveal its presence.

Conclusions: It is considered that the operations of the various companies which originally worked the area have thoroughly tested its possibilities and that their operations have extended to the limits of the productive ore bodies.

Recent operations have been guided by the use of the Divining Rod and although many positions have been tested by shallow workings all have failed to reveal the ore bodies believed to exist.

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