

The area contains Lower/Middle Cambrian Crimson Creek Formation shales, siltstones and greywackes which have been intruded by serpentinitised gabbros and pyroxenites. The mineralisation occurs as shoots in, or adjacent to, the basic sills (metasomatised fine to medium grained dolerite). Two ore types have been recognised :-

- i) nickel as pentlandite and violarite with pyrrhotite and up to 20% pyrite and chalcopyrite - occur at North and South Cuni.
- ii) nickel as millerite intergrown with chalcopyrite and pyrite - occurs as a high grade deposit and Nickel Reward and Devereaux's and as a low grade deposit at North Cuni.

The main mines and prospects in the area are as follows :-

- (a) Genet's Winze - only worked to a depth of 3 metres in 1929-31. Drilling suggested about 15,000 tons of ore with 4-6% nickel and 2-3% copper, occurring to a depth of 30 metres.
- (b) North Cuni - worked to a depth of 24 metres in 1912-14 and 1929-32. A maximum of 3,500 tons of ore with 17% nickel and 6% copper could still exist.
- (c) South Cuni - worked to a depth of 22 metres in 1909-14 with only minor ore still existing.
- (d) Blowfly - worked out 20 metre long ore zone by 1914.
- (e) Mosquito - worked out by 1914.
- (f) Vaudeau - worked in 1912-14 and for short periods in 1938 and 1948. The ore extended to a depth of 37 metres. All known lode was extracted.
- (g) Nickel Reward - small lodes of sub-economic ore were extracted until 1914. Drilling showed no economic ore even though S.P. surveys (see below) showed 7 or 3 ore bodies extending to 30 metres along strike and at unknown depth.