

generally poorly developed.

Secondly, the constant high rainfall contributes to rapid erosion, which has been accentuated by the removal of the original forests.

Thirdly, rock type must be carefully considered. Generally, south of Lynch Creek, a deep limonitic clay has developed over Andesitic rocks. In the deepest shaft uncovered in the vicinity of the King Gold Mine, clay is still present at 80 feet. Over the other rock types, the "B" horizon varies from 6" over harder fresh volcanics and as deep as 3' over softer tuffs where the soil type is generally clay or occasionally loam.

WORKINGS:

Gold was discovered at Lynch Creek in 1883 prior to the discovery of copper at Mt. Lyell. The King Gold Mine, which was the richest gold prospect located, has been worked several times since that date, and as late as 1932. The mine consists of a small open cut at the top of a hill just south of Lynch Creek. Two crosscutting tunnels, on the eastern side of the hill, are reported to penetrate the open cut workings. Another short tunnel is open near the crest of the hill, and is more or less parallel to the open cut. Two shafts occur close to the open cut, one 80 feet deep and the other 30 feet deep. It was reported in early literature that a tunnel was driven for a total length of 700 feet, from 200 feet below the crest of the hill. Possibly because vegetation has flourished in the site of the old workings, the location of the tunnel opening was not found. It is also possible that the "tunnel" is now represented by the north-south trending open adit, which is of similar length. The top might have been removed by the later tribute workers or by cave-in.

No evidence of the auriferous reef can be found. Ironstained, pyritic quartz rarely are seen. It is reported that the 700 feet long tunnel was driven on a reef approximately 500 feet long, the width being on the average three feet. The grade of the reef was reported to be patchy, and generally poor on an average. The ore extracted from the open cut consisted of decomposed andesite with veins of quartz and oxides of iron and manganese.

Exploration work has uncovered several other shafts, tunnels and adits, as well as a series of sluicing trenches.

Old miners consistently seem to have followed quartz veins within the limonitic clay cover. Local prospectors have spoken of sulphides (chalcopryrite and galena) associated with