

MINING HISTORY AND PRODUCTION RECORDS

Very little is known about the early history of mining in the prospect area, and only a few old production records and assay returns are still available.

Prospecting had started by 1890 in the Kosminsky Hill and some mining development started in 1891 in what was to be called the "Kosminsky mine" at about 1,000 feet downstream from the location of the later Adit No. 1 of the Great South Comet mine.

Two more adits were driven in the following years but production was apparently very limited, and only small, high grade pods were worked, as shown by the following assay return for an unknown amount of ore material extracted from Adit No. 1 of the mine (refer to Reid, 1925).

Pb = 52.2%
Zn = 13.18%
Ag = 24 oz

According to Blisset (1960), the 1901 figure of 20 tons of ore from which 10 tons of Pb and 480 oz of Ag were recovered, should represent the bulk of the production of this mine.

The area of the Great South Comet mine was first leased in 1911 by the Comet Tribute Prospecting Syndicate N.L. and was held until 1950 by various syndicates and small mining companies. However, most of the development (Adit 1, Adit 3 and Adit 4) was undertaken prior to 1925. After 1950 only minor stoping was carried out in Adit No. 1.