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3. Great South Comet Mine

Three lodes (refer to Drg. B162 - Trend A) were worked in the South Comet section by means of four adits driven from the northern slopes of the South Comet hill, and by three more adits driven from the Adelaide mine creek in a northerly direction. However, Adit No. 1 and Adit No. 3 represent 85% of the development of the mine, and the bulk of the production came from Stope No. 7 and No. 8 of Adit No. 3.

It is to be noted that the mining method followed in the early days of the field was that of only stoping galena-rich pods, ceasing operations whenever sphalerite-rich pods were found, either, as Taylor (1950) advises, because there was no market for zinc ore or, as McKenna (1958) suggests, because the old treatment plant at the mine was never satisfactorily equipped to separate galena from sphalerite in the concentrate.

Adit No. 1 (1,124' A.S.L.)

Adit No. 1 was driven on to Lode A3. At 850 feet from the portal a rise, now inaccessible, connected with a winze sunk from Adit No. 3 (1,337' A.S.L.).

Ten feet past the foot of the rise the roof has fallen and it is not known how far the drive extends past this point.

Three crosscuts were driven from the main drive. No. 1 West Crosscut starts at 520 feet from the portal and penetrates the country rock for 172 feet. No. 2 West Crosscut and No. 1 East Crosscut were driven at 805 feet from the portal. At 12 feet from the entrance of No. 1 West Crosscut a drive was put in a southerly direction for 30 feet, with the purpose, apparently, of bypassing the obstruction in the main adit (Taylor, 1950). Some minor underhand stoping was, however, carried out on Split 'Beta' (McKenna, 1959). No.1 East Crosscut was driven for 44 feet and exposes Lode A2 and Lode A1.