

MINERAL OCCURRENCE DATABASE

OCCURENCE NUMBER:	F04-016
OCCURENCE NAME:	Widow Point Au Mine
COMMODITIES:	Au
MINERALS:	gold, native gold, pyrite, chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite, galena, sphalerite
STATUS:	Past Producer
COUNTY:	Guysborough

CLAIM INFORMATION (Coordinates in UTM NAD83)					
Claim Map	Tract	Claim	Easting	Northing	Zone
11F/04C	99	H	594841	5010517	20
11F/04C	98	D	595155	5010229	20

HOST ROCK INFORMATION		
Stratigraphic Unit	Age	Host Rock(s)
Goldenville Formation	Cambro-Ordovician	metasiltstone
Goldenville Formation	Cambro-Ordovician	Metawacke
Meguma Group	Cambro-Ordovician	Metasediment
Meguma Group	Cambro-Ordovician	metasiltstone
Meguma Group	Cambro-Ordovician	Metawacke
Meguma Group	Cambro-Ordovician	Quartzite

LOCATION DIRECTIONS

From the intersection in Cross Roads Country Harbour, Guysborough County, proceed 4.6 km south on Highway #316 to the community of Country Harbour Mines. At this point, a road leads south from Highway #316 and across a bridge over Country Harbour River. Immediately after crossing the bridge, turn left at the stop sign and take the road that follows the southwest shore of Country Harbour River for 3.44 km to the intersection of the Fentons Brook Road with a road that leads south up the hill to a microwave tower. Continue along the Fenton's Brook Road, which actually is just the continuation of the road following the south shore of the river, for 0.91 km. At this point (Location 1 in the Coordinates Table), some of the old shafts and workings of the Widow Point Au mine are found in the area between the road and the river.

Continue east along the road for 160 m to a sharp bend to the right (south). Continue around the bend and up a hill for another 190 m at which point the timbered Highland Shaft is found on the right (west) side of the road. The shaft is between the road and a till cut in the bank and is surrounded by some small bushes (1997). For most of the year water flows from the shaft and feeds a small stream that follows the gutter along the road side.

About 20 m down the hill from the Highland Shaft a skid trail leads west from the road. Much of the diamond-drilling that has been done on the Widow Point property has taken place from sites accessed by this skid trail.

MODE OF OCCURRENCE

Quartz Veins

Stratabound quartz veins

veins

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SURVEYS

Adit
diamond drilling
Shafts
trenching

GEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

The region around Country Harbour, and Widow Point, is underlain by metasedimentary rocks of the Cambro-Ordovician Meguma Group and granitic rocks of the Devonian-Carboniferous Bull Ridge Pluton and related small plugs and dikes. The Widow Point area is predominantly underlain by metawackes, quartzites and metasiltsstones of the Goldenville Formation. The Goldenville Formation conformably underlies the slate-dominated Halifax Formation and together, these formations comprise the Meguma Group. Halifax Formation slates outcrop immediately to the west of the Widow Point workings indicating stratigraphically, the deposit is in the uppermost Goldenville Formation.

Leucomonzogranite and leucogranite dikes and small intrusions are frequent in the Widow Point area. These are thought to be off-shoots of the larger Bull Ridge Pluton which outcrops a kilometer to the northwest of the mine. Dikes of these granites are common in outcrops exposed along streams and brooks in the area and were frequently intersected in the diamond-drilling. Furthermore, the diamond-drilling indicates that a sub-cropping granite pluton underlies the area immediately east of the Highland Shaft and that this small pluton cuts off the Au-bearing veins in that area.

Bedding in the Widow Point area strikes 130°Az and dips steeply to the southwest. This bedding orientation differs from the northeast-southwest trend of bedding common throughout much of the eastern region of the mainland. A pronounced, northwest-trending fault, the Country Harbour Fault, transects the Country Harbour region. Regional airborne aeromagnetic data indicate that the discordance of bedding at Widow Point relative to the more common northeast trend for the Meguma Zone, is due to dragging related to movements on the Country Harbour Fault.

The Au mineralization at Widow Point occurs as native Au hosted predominantly within, or immediately adjacent to, bedding concordant, laminated quartz veins. Minor amounts of Au occur within discordant breccia veins and angulars and a few flecks of Au has been noted along schistosity planes in slates (Rankin, 1987a). The Au-bearing veins may, or may not, contain trace amounts of pyrrhotite, pyrite, galena, sphalerite, chalcopyrite and carbonate. Arsenopyrite is rare.

PREVIOUS WORK

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Exactly when the Au mineralization at Widow Point was discovered and first developed is not known for certain. The first recorded exploration activity dates from 1944-45 when Copper Gold Limited carried out prospecting and sampling (Keating, 1949; Rankin, 1987a). However, the condition of the old workings, especially in the area of the Main Zone found along the river, suggest that some of the development may pre-date that era. Little information exists as to the early workings except by Keating (1949) whose report encompassed explorations throughout the entire Country Harbour area. Between 1946-1949, development consisted of diamond-drilling (7 holes, 475 m), trenching, shaft construction and a small amount of milling of ore. Gold intersections were encountered in 2 of 7 diamond-drillholes on the Highland Zone: 1.23 oz/ton over 1.5 ft. and 0.545 oz/ton over 2 ft.

A shaft was sunk based on these intersections in 1947 and bulk samples were taken. One of 4,150 lbs returned 0.79 oz/ton and one of 1,206 lbs. returned 0.973 oz/ton. Bulk sampling from the Main Zone in 1948 returned 0.237 oz/ton for an estimated 7x60 ft. block of ore.

A five stamp mill was built in 1949 and milling of 8 tons of ore from the Main Zone yielded 12.7 oz/ton. The property remained dormant until 1954 when Macson Development Co. Ltd. performed mill tests on four bulk samples weighing from 1,646 to 1,712 lbs. These returned results from 0.009 to 0.234 oz/ton.

The property remained idle until 1975 when Quebec Uranium drilled a single hole beneath the Main Zone. The result was not encouraging enough for them to retain the claims and the property was dropped. In 1980, Shell Canada Resources Ltd. drilled a diamond-drillhole at the Lynch Showing to test a coincident VLF and biogeochemical gold anomaly underlying that area. The hole intersected scattered quartz stringers and trace amounts of Au.

Outland Resources Corp. optioned the property from M.E.X. Explorations Ltd. in 1982 and carried out soil sampling, magnetic and electromagnetic surveys, diamond-drilling (55 holes) and bulk sampling (Forgeron, 1983a&b). The Outland results were encouraging and outlined at least one new ore shoot grading 0.5 oz/ton over 2 m width. Cobequid Resources Ltd. continued the exploration of the site between 1986-87 (Rankin, 1987a&b). A total of 19 diamond-drillholes (2,801 m) were drilled in the area immediately west of the Highland Shaft. These returned numerous quartz intersections, many of which had visible gold and returned significant assays. Rankin (1987a) interpreted the results indicate that the Au mineralization is confined to stratabound laminated quartz veins within 4 broadly defined zones. Collectively, the zones have a combined strike length of 250-300 m. A grade and tonnage could not be estimated, but impressive intersections up to 2.7 oz/ton over 3.6 m are present, and many others are in the order of 0.2 oz/ton over 2-4 m width.

The property remained dormant until 1996 when the site was again staked and explored by local prospectors (Grant and Mazerolle, 1997). This effort consisted of a compilation of existing information, re-flagging the previous grids and diamond-drill collars. Following this, the property was prospected and a compilation geology map was produced.

SITE DESCRIPTION

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The Widow Point Au mine consists of two main sites of interest known as the Main Zone and the Highland Zone. The Main Zone is found in the area of Location 1 in the Coordinates Table. The Highland Zone is found in the area of the Highland Shaft, Location 2 in the Coordinates Table.

The Main Zone consists of at least one shaft, and possibly two, and what looks like a now collapsed adit. The mine openings are in the 30 or so metre wide wooded area found between the river and the road. In fact, some of the workings extend to the river bank. On the south side of the road, opposite the old mine openings, a large flagstone foundation is found that likely represents a building associated with the mine activity.

The area surrounding the Highland Shaft bears little evidence of the past mining activity except for the shaft itself. The logging road which passes within a few metres of the shaft was constructed some time after the late 1980's as assessment reports dating from the early-mid 1980's make no mention of it. At that time the shaft was found amongst woods. A seasonal stream now flows from the shaft and a glacial till bank adjacent to the shaft has had material removed at some time in the recent past, possibly for construction of the road. A skid trail or old logging road leads west into the woods from a point on the road immediately to the north of the Highland Shaft. This skid trail served as an access road for much of the diamond-drilling on the property.

Some of the previous exploration reports refer to a site known as the Lynch Showing which supposedly has a shaft. The Lynch Showing is found up the hill a couple of hundred metres south of the Highland Shaft. Whether or not a shaft actually exists at this showing is not known for certain, but Grant and Mazerolle (1997) indicate an area of exploration pits adjacent to the newly constructed logging road approximately 360 m south from the Highland Shaft.

COMMENTS

No Data

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Forgeron, D. 1983a: Gold, Country Harbour, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia, Report on geology, soil and till geochemical surveys and magnetic and VLF - EM surveys; Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Assessment Report 11F/04C 21-G-07(01).

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Keating, B. J. 1949: Gold, Country Harbour, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia, Report on 1948 operations and maps and company prospectus; Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Assessment Report, 11F/05B 21-G-07(08).

Rankin, L. D. 1987a: Geological report on the Highland gold property, Guysborough County, N. S.; Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Assessment Report ME 1987-137.

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POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS

No Data

UPDATED

Field checked by G. A. O'Reilly, July, 1997.

Compiled by G. A. O'Reilly, February, 2002.

