UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Mr. Lowell Ann Decker
1212 Harper Road
Silver Spring, Maryland

Re: Docket No. OME-6053 (Beryl)
Lowell Ann Decker
Part of Gorman-Worthington Property
Howard County, Maryland

Dear Mr. Decker:

Your application for aid in an exploration project and other information available to us in Washington concerning the above-named property have been reviewed.

Careful study of all the information available to us indicates that the probability of disclosing significant ore reserves on your property is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation in the proposed exploration.

We regret to advise you that, under the circumstances, your application for exploration assistance is denied. However, this action is taken without prejudice to your property. If you do additional work on this property of sufficient scope to obtain favorable information, we shall be pleased to consider a new application. In submitting a new application, you should refer to the original application by docket number, describing the work accomplished and the results achieved in detail.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson

Acting Director

JWAlt/gla 7-10-59
cc to: Director's Reading File
Operating Committee
Mr. Eilertsen, USBM
Mr. Kirkemo, USGS
OME Field Team, Region V (2) w/2 cys each USBM memo 6/19/59
Docket and USGS memo 7/6/59
Chron

July 6, 1959
Re: OME 6053
Lowell Asa Decker
Part of Gorman-Worthington Property
Howard County, Maryland
$3,000 - $5,000 (Est.)
Mica - Beryl

Memorandum

To: J. W. Alt, Office of Minerals Exploration

From: Harold Kirkemo, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of referenced OME application

This prospect has developed one of the several complex-core pegmatites known in this area. A modest output of mica with byproduct feldspar and beryl has resulted from sporadic attempts at mining these deposits for many years.

The area is underlain by the Wissahickon formation which is composed of oligoclase-mica shist of Precambrian age (?). Geological Survey geologists who have visited the subject property since the pit was filled report that on the surface the pegmatite dike narrowed to the north. Pits about 100 yards north of the old pit had been bulldozed in unsuccessful efforts to find the extension of the subject dike or to discover other pegmatites.

On the surface at the subject dike films of autunite were noted in joints and cracks in the walls of the pit. The quantity of uranium-bearing mineral, however, is too meager to be of commercial interest.

About 100 pounds of mica found on the dumps was generally discarded, poor quality material. Sheets up to 6 inches in diameter were too flawed to be of value. Sheets up to 2 inches in diameter of apparent good quality could be trimmed from some of the discard.

It is doubtful that a field examination now would yield enough additional information to plan an exploration program. If the applicant re-excavates the old pit and/or exposes bedrock in new trenches or pits, an examination might be warranted.

It is recommended that the application be denied without field referral or without prejudice because a geologic target is not suggested by the present mine development or surface exposures.

Harold Kirkemo

cc: OME (3)
M. L. Skow, 3425
Director's reading
Branch reading
Chron. file Docket file
HKirkemo/mm G-MD-7-6-59

1212 Harper Road
Silver Spring, Maryland
June 1, 1959

6053

Office of Minerals Exploration
Dept. of the Interior,
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Attached are four copies of completed Form 40, Application For Financial Assistance in Minerals Exploration.

Following is "Information Required With This Application":

1. Financial Eligibility:
   (a) See enclosed correspondence between myself and my bank of accounts (Security Bank), and the Citizens Building and Loan Assn. through whom I have done all my real estate dealings.
   (b) There are no others involved or concerned.
   (c) As an industrial engineer I plan to give my own time to supervising at least the initial work (my present salary exceeds $50 per day), and I can put a few hundred dollars of my own savings into the project and no doubt can borrow on a personal loan basis from relatives or friends.

2. Applicant's Rights in Land:
   (a) I am the sole person named in the title to the property which includes all rights including mineral rights. The Citizens Building and Loan Assn. at Silver Spring, Md. holds a first trust for approximately a $4,000 balance, and Messrs. Fred W. and Jewell A. Heine and Frank L. Hewitt, Jr., all of Silver Spring, Md. hold two small second trusts for approximately $1,200 each; making a total of approximately $6,400 in mortgages against a property worth upwards toward $20,000. These are recorded at the County Building at Ellicott City, Maryland, Liber R.H.M. No 208, Folio 553, one of Howard County Land Records.
   (b) For description of property see surveyors map. The land I own is the part of the Gorman-Worthington plot on the North and identified as "Area Remaining 17.059 Acres" less the one acre plus owned by the Md. State Roads Commission which intersects the property on the South-East Corner.
   (c) No encumbered mineral rights.

3. Physical Description:
   (a) See marked map showing approximate location of the old mine where the Scaggs' mined mica for many years by hand and at the same location where in 1954 more mica and at least one load of beryl ore was dug by hand. There are no existing mine workings or facilities.
   (b) I had nor have my interest in operations described above.
   (c) See copies of the three GSA purchase invoices for 1954. No current operations.
   (d) Only information I have is shown on enclosed copy of Report of Analysis dated March 19, 1954, to J. T. Patton & Sons who together with Fred Taylor were at that time interested and working the mine.
   (e) Have no knowledge of the geologic features of the property except that it is cut through with two deep ravines and has a small stream running across the property.
   (f) I was told by the previous owner who permitted Messrs. Patton and Taylor to work the old mica mine, that samples taken about 85 feet down showed uranium deposits and that he was encouraged to put heavy equipment on the land and explore the minerals. The documents I have already referred to above offer other reasons for expecting to find commercial grade ore.
   (g) Enclosed are two copies of the Assayers report and GSA Purchase Invoices.

4. Accessibility of Property:

(a) The undersigned and owner will meet OME representatives who may examine the property. My address is 1212 Harper Road, Silver Spring, Md. and my office telephone number from 8:45 until 5:15 is STerling 3-5100 Ext. 409. Property is first privately owned land out Highway 29 beyond Burtonsville in Howard County just over the Montgomery County line and contiguous to the Suburban Sanitary Commissions property beyond the bridge over the lake and Patuxent River. The highway intersects the property. The old mica mine workings can be seen on the left side of the highway as you drive up the long hill from the bridge over the lake. The hole has been filled in as a safety precaution.

(b) The nearest rail line would be Silver Spring or possibly Laurel. The highway intersects the property for truck and equipment hauling.

5. Exploration Work:

(a) I am not familiar with best methods of exploration and would seek the advise of mining engineers. However, it would seem feasible to use a bulldozer for surface investigation and perhaps a clamshell type digger for a little more depth. Perhaps core drilling would be advisable on several points.

(b) If the Suburban Sanitary Commission would continue to permit entrance to the property over their land no access road would be required. Otherwise the State Roads Commission might be required to put in temporary access road to the property off the highway until the West lanes of the new Highway 29 are built. The highway intersects the property.

(c) If an OME contract is executed work could be started immediately and 60 to 90 days should be sufficient to do the exploratory work.

6. Experience:

I and another man worked a small stream gold mining operation in Colorado many years ago. We did not however use mechanical equipment. I have worked in a large lead mine in Colorado and understand much of mining problems. I would need to hire equipment operators and the equipment but would do most if not all of the immediate supervising myself.

7. Estimate of Costs:

Since this would be a small undertking in a small area, it is my plan to either check several points on the land by hand digging down a few feet or with a clamshell type machine, or if not too expensive to have core drillings made at several points on the property, depending upon a geologists and a mining engineers recommendations. There would be no need for buildings at least in the exploration stage, unless a small tool shack for locking up tools or other items of equipment.

Please write me at my home address or call me on STerling 3-5100 Ext. 409 for any additional information you may desire regarding this application.

Sincerely yours,

Lowell A. Decker

LAD/D

MME Form 40
Dec. 1958

Budget Bureau No. 42-R1368
Approval expires Dec. 31, 1963

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN MINERALS EXPLORATION

Pursuant to Public Law 85-701 (72 Stat. 700; 30 U.S.C. 641)

NAME OF APPLICANT *(Full legal name and mailing address as they should appear on contract if one is executed.)*

Lowell Ace Decker
1212 Harper Road
Silver Spring, Maryland

APPLICANT DO NOT USE THIS BLOCK

DOCKET NUMBER 6053

DATE RECEIVED 6-8-59

REGION V

DIVISION CODE 600

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION *(Check one)*

- INDIVIDUAL [X]
- CORPORATION [ ]
- PARTNERSHIP [ ]
- OTHER *(Specify)* [ ]

STATE IN WHICH FIRM IS ORGANIZED ——

LIST CORPORATE OFFICERS OR PARTNERS HERE, IF APPLICABLE

NAME	ADDRESS	TITLE
NONE		

MINERAL(S) FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO EXPLORE
Beryllium, Aluminum, Silicon, Sodium, Other

ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT
$ $3,000--$5,000; Actually I do not know.

PROPERTY
NAME
Part of the old Gorman-Worthington

LOCATION
COUNTY STATE
Howard County, Maryland

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Before filling out this application, please read the *OME Regulations for Obtaining Federal Assistance in Financing Explorations for Mineral Reserves* (30 CFR Chap. III). To assure prompt action, your application must provide all applicable material and information specified on the back of this application form. Avoid unnecessary correspondence and delays by submitting complete and accurate information. *Please submit four copies of this application and all accompanying papers* except as otherwise noted. Place your name and address on each sheet. Each item of information, maps, and reports required as a part of this application is described on the back of this form. Identify each attached statement by the item number to which it applies. If an item does not apply to your application, show the item number on your statement and after it write "not applicable." Maps or sketches should be used to supplement narrative descriptions of the property location and boundaries in item 2, existing mine workings and geology in item 3, and the proposed exploration work in item 5. When this information is not too complex, all of it may be shown on one map or sketch. All documents and other attachments submitted as a part of this application, except those in item 3(g) which you mark to be returned, become the property of the Government and will not be returned to the applicant. Send true copies, *not originals*, of leases, contracts, and other documents which are an essential part of your business records. *File this application with the Office of Minerals Exploration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest OME Field Office.*

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, whether as an individual, corporate officer, partner, or otherwise, both in his own behalf and acting for the applicant, certifies that the information set forth in this form and accompanying papers is correct and complete, to the best of his knowledge and belief, and that he would not ordinarily undertake the proposed exploration under current conditions and circumstances at his sole expense.

June 1, 1959
DATED

Lowell A. Decker
Lowell A. Decker BY *(Signature)*
Individual having deed to property
TITLE

A wilfully false statement or certification to any Department or Agency of the United States Government is a criminal offense. U. S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 1001.

INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH THIS APPLICATION

1. Financial Eligibility:

(a) Submit evidence of efforts made within 90 days preceding the filing of this application to obtain credit from your bank of account and at least one other banking institution or other private source of credit. Such evidence shall include true copies of correspondence which show: (1) date of loan request, (2) amount and terms requested, (3) proposed use of loan funds, and (4) the replies from credit sources. If the loan was offered under terms which you consider unreasonable, state why you consider them so.

(b) List names and addresses of affiliated, parent, or controlling companies or organizations and state extent and nature of their interest.

(c) State how you propose to furnish your share of the exploration [redacted] cost.

2. Applicant's Rights in Land:

(a) State your interest in the land and mineral rights, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or other. If you are not the owner, submit one true copy of the lease, contract, or other document (with address of owner) under which you control the property. Describe all liens, mortgages, or other encumbrances on the land and state book and page number and official place where recorded.

(b) State the legal description (section, township, and range; metes and bounds; patent number of claims) of the land upon which you wish to explore and all adjacent land which you own or control. Describe any part of the land or workings which should not be subject to Government royalty and liens. If the land consists of unpatented claims, state book and page number for each recorded location notice, including amended locations, and official place where recorded. State all the names by which you know the property.

(c) For all land or mineral rights encumbered or not owned, submit five copies of Lien and Subordination Agreements on MME Form 52. If the agreements cannot be obtained, state reasons and provide copies of letters of refusal.

3. Physical Description:

(a) Describe in detail and illustrate with maps or sketches all mining or exploration operations which you know have been or are being conducted upon the land. Include existing mine workings and all production facilities.

(b) State your interest, if any, in operations described in (a).

(c) State, if you know, the past and current production, supporting your statement with copies of settlement sheets, mine records, or published data if available.

(d) Describe known ore reserves, giving quantities and grades and sampling methods used. Support your statement with copies of assay certificates and assay maps if available.

(e) Describe by narrative and maps or sketches the geologic features of the property, including ore minerals, geologic formations if known, and type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.).

(f) State your reasons for expecting to find ore, and if you have sampled the area you propose to explore, show where the samples were taken, describe sampling methods used, and provide copies of assay certificates.

(g) Send with your application at least *two* copies of all geologic or engineering reports, assay maps, or technologic information which you have, indicating whether you require their return.

4. Accessibility of Property:

(a) To aid the OME representative who may examine the property, state name and address of person who will meet him; give directions for reaching the property; and describe accessibility of property and of any mine workings.

(b) Name the shipping and supply points and state the distances to the property.

5. Exploration Work:

(a) Describe fully the proposed exploration work giving individual footages and sizes of openings *for each item of work.* Use narrative, maps, plans, and sections as necessary. Show location of the proposed work as related to geologic features such as veins, ore-bearing beds, contacts of rock formations, etc. Show also the relation of the proposed work to any existing mine workings and to *land boundaries* or to the closest identifiable corner.

(b) If an access road must be built, show the proposed location on the property map and state the length, type and construction methods proposed.

(c) If an OME contract is executed, state how soon thereafter work would be started and finished. State your anticipated average daily or monthly rate of progress for each type of work.

6. Experience:

State your operating experience and background to conduct this exploration work and also that of the person who will supervise the work.

7. Estimate of Costs:

Furnish detailed estimates of the necessary costs *for each item of the work proposed in 5(a)* under the headings listed below with a total for each heading and the estimated total cost of the work. Costs for any work to be performed by an independent contractor should be listed separately under category (a) below. Costs for any work that is not to be performed by an independent contractor should be listed under categories (b) through (g).

(a) Independent contracts. State the total cost of any proposed independent contract for all or any part of the work, and the number of units and the unit cost for each type of work, such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, or per cubic yard of material moved. Cost estimates should be supported by bids from three contractors if possible. (*Note*—If none of the work is to be contracted, write "none" after this item.)

(b) Personal services. The cost of supervision, engineering and geological services, outside consultants, and labor should be itemized by numbers and classes of employees; rates of wages, salaries or fees; and periods of employment. State whether these services are available.

(c) Operating materials and supplies. List items of material and supplies giving quantity and cost of each. Include under this heading power, water, and fuel, and units of equipment and tools costing less than $50 each.

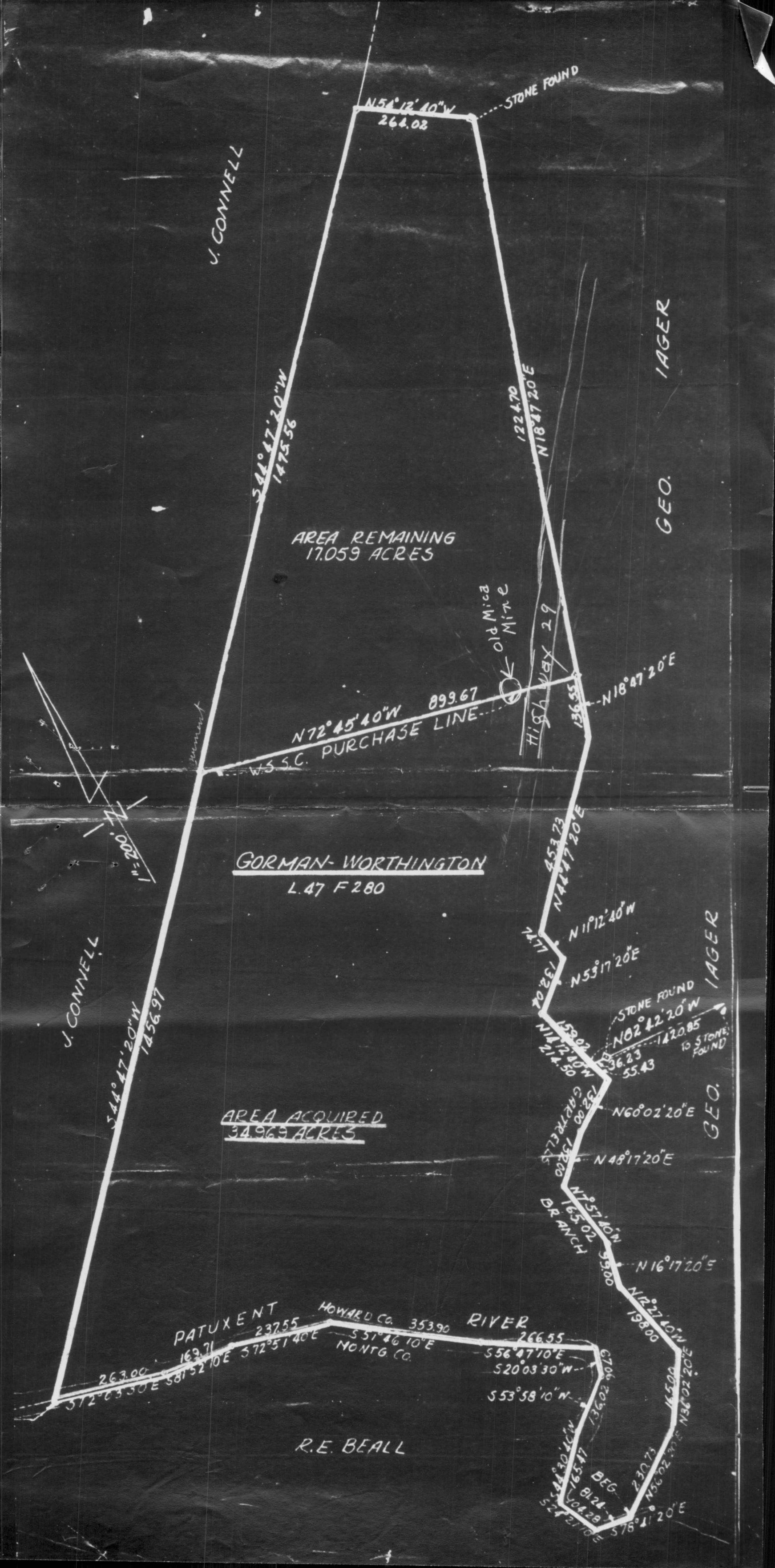
(d) Operating equipment. List items of equipment and tools costing $50 or more per unit. Give specifications and indicate how each item is to be acquired—i.e., rented, purchased or provided by the applicant. If rented or purchased, state the estimated rental or purchase price. If furnished by the applicant, state condition and present fair market value.

(e) Initial rehabilitation and repairs. Describe the type and the cost of *initial* rehabilitation or repair of existing buildings, fixtures, installations (exclusive of mine workings), and movable operating equipment now owned by the applicant which will be used in the exploration work.

(f) New buildings, fixtures, installations. Describe each building, fixed improvement, and installation to be purchased, constructed, or installed for the exploration work, stating specifications and cost including labor, materials, and supervision.

(g) Miscellaneous. Describe the type and estimate the cost of repairs and maintenance of the operating equipment listed in 7(d). Do not repeat initial repairs listed in 7(e). Show also the costs of analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employees' liability insurance, payroll taxes, and other required costs that do not fall within the previous categories. [*Note*—The Government will not contribute to costs incurred before the date of the contract, or to costs of or incident to: (1) acquiring, using, or possessing land and any existing improvements, facilities, buildings, installations, and appurtenances, or the depreciation and depletion thereof; (2) general overhead, corporate management, interest and taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes); (3) insurance (other than employees' liability insurance); and (4) damages to persons or property (other than authorized repair to or replacement of equipment or other property used in the work).]

INT.-DUP. SEC., WASH., D.C. 48740


N54°12'40"W
264.02
STONE FOUND
J. CONNELL
S44°47'20"W
1475.56
1224.70
N18°47'20"E
GEO. IAGER
AREA REMAINING
17.059 ACRES
old Mica Mine
High Way 29
N18°47'20"E
136.55
899.67
N72°45'40"W
W.S.S.C. PURCHASE LINE
1"=200'
GORMAN-WORTHINGTON
L.47 F280
453.73
N44°47'20"E
N11°12'40"W
74.77
N53°17'20"E
132.04
STONE FOUND
N02°42'20"W
1420.85
TO STONE FOUND
159.02
N11°12'40"W
214.50
36.23
55.43
J. CONNELL
S44°47'20"W
1456.97
AREA ACQUIRED
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GEO. IAGER
N48°17'20"E
N7°57'40"W
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BRANCH
99.00
N16°17'20"E
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198.00
PATUXENT
HOWARD CO.
353.90
RIVER
237.55
S51°46'10"E
MONTG. CO.
266.55
169.71
S72°51'40"E
S56°47'10"E
263.00
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S20°03'30"W
S72°03'30"E
S53°58'10"W
136.02
R.E. BEALL
S44°30'46"W
165.47
BEG.
81.24
104.28
230.73
N36°02'20"E
S78°11'20"E

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Mr. Lowell Ann Decker
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Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson

Acting Director

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