DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
Control Slip

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

DMA Docket No. 4369

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Exploration Project

Any action taken to change the type of request for assistance must be promptly reported to the Reports and Records Branch. Use DMA Form 2 for submitting these reports.

Routing Slip Cys to USGS, BM

To:	600	Date	7/3/56
To:	Mr. Anderson	Date	7-3-56
To:	Oper Com	Date	7-24-56
To:	FEJ	Date	7-25-56
To:	Cfon	Date	7-25-56
To:	Oper Com	Date	9-27-56
To:	Edmr	Date	9-28-56
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
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CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

DOCKET COPY
Surname:
Anderson
Hopkins
Kiilsgaard
Lardy
Selfridge.

SEP 28 1956

Mr. N. H. Plemmons
Box 335
Franklin, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4369-mica
N. N. Plemmons
Sheep Knob Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Plemmons:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other reports available to us in Washington relating to the subject property have been reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration must, in its judgment, show definite promise of yielding materials of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense Program.

Careful study of all our information indicates to us that the probability of disclosing significant reserves of mica is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:ms 9/26/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Admr. R. File

R.C.G.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

September 26, 1956

Memorandum

To: Mr. C. O. Mittendorf, Administrator

From: Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Evaluation of Application and Field Examination Report

Docket No. DMEA-4369-mica
H. H. Plemmons
Sheep Knob Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Denial of application is recommended

Three Prospects - A, B, and C

Mica: Only scrap mica observed in all three prospects.

Pegmatite:
Prospect A - weathered, fine-grained, 1-foot thick.
Prospect B - irregular, generally conformable, kaolinized feldspathic, 1/2 to 3 feet thick, exposed for 15 feet along strike.
Prospect C - weathered, kaolinized, 3 to 4 feet thick and exposed for 10 feet along strike.

Old Workings:
Prospect A - 2 pits, 14 feet and 15 feet deep and a 60-foot shaft filled to the 23-foot level.
Prospect B - Trench, 30 feet long by 10 feet wide and 10 feet deep.
Prospect C- 40-foot adit.

Past Production:
Sales of mica from the three prospects total $550.00, representing an uneconomical operation in pegmatites showing unfavorable mineralogical enviroment.

Method of exploring:
Applicant proposes the following:
Prospect A - 90-foot shaft and 50 feet of drifts.
Prospect B - 65-foot shaft and 50 feet of drifts
Prospect C - 85-foot shaft and 50 feet of drifts.
Total requested: $9,440.00

Recommendation:

Because of the absence of strategic mica and unfavorable mineralogical enviroment, the Field Team recommends denial of the application. The Nonmetallic Minerals Division and the Commodity Members of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines concur.

Walter C. Anderson

Walter C. Anderson

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator
Docket No. DMEA-
Contract No. Idm-E
Contract Date

CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of MACON, State of NORTH CAROLINA, described ~~as follows~~ in a lease dated December 1, 1955, and recorded in Book H-6, at page 621, official records of said County.,

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

2. Grants to the Government a lien upon all of the undersigned's right, title, and interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom to secure the payment to the Government of a percentage royalty on production as may be provided for by the contract;2/ and represents and undertakes that there are no claims, liens, or encumbrances upon the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land prior to that hereby granted to the Government other than the following:3/

NONE

3. Undertakes and agrees neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Consent to Lien; and to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Consent to Lien to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land; and

1/ Either (a) insert the legal description of the land, or (b) strike out the words "as follows" and insert "in a lease [or contract, deed, or other document] dated _____, and recorded in book _____ page _____ official records of said county." If (b) is used, the book and page of recordation cannot be dispensed with. If the space provided is insufficient, use an Annex, and refer to the Annex in the space.

2/ Mining or production from the land is not required, and in the absence of production there is no obligation to repay the Government.

3/ Write "none" if that is the case. Do not leave lines blank.

4. Consents to all amendments and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and agrees that this Consent to Lien shall extend and apply thereto.

5. Added provision: _____

Dated this 26th day of June, 1956.

Frank Sheppard [Seal]

Jane Sheppard [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator _____
Docket No. DMEA- _____
Contract No. Idm-E _____
Contract Date _____

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of _____, State of _____, described as follows: [illegible] in a lease dated December 2, 1950, and recorded in Book [illegible], at page 621, official records of said County,

_____,

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

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[illegible]

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5. Added provision: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Dated this 25th day of June, 1958.

Frank Shepard [Seal]

Jane Shepard [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator _____
Docket No. DMEA- _____
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Contract Date _____

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CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of _____, State of _____, described ~~as follows:~~ [illegible] in a lease dated December 1, 1950, and recorded in Book 246, on page 621, official records of said County.

_____

_____

_____

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Dated this 25th day of June, 1956.

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Jane Shepard [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

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[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

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EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator _____
Docket No. DMEA- _____
Contract No. Idm-E _____
Contract Date _____

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JUL 2 - 1956

CONSENT TO LIEN

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5. Added provision: _____

Dated this 26th day of June, 1956.

Frank Shepard [Seal]

Jane Shepard [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

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_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator _____
Docket No. DMEA- _____
Contract No. Idm-E _____
Contract Date _____

CONSENT TO LIEN

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

To the United States of America:

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5. Added provision: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Dated this 25th day of June, 1956.

Frank Shepard [Seal]

Jane Shepard [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

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_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

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EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator_____
Docket No. DMEA-_____
Contract No. Idm-E_____
Contract Date_____

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of _____, State of _____, described as follows 1/: [illegible]

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which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

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5. Added provision: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Dated this _____ day of _____, 195_.

Frank Shepard [Seal]

Jane Shepard [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

September 20, 1956

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: W. F. Dietrich, Chief
Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-4369 (mica)

Applicant: H. H. Plemmons

Name and Location of Property: Sheep Knob Mine, Macon County, N. C.

Date of Field Team Report: 8/30/56

Date Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 9/6/56

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend denial of subject application.

Comments:

1. Geological factors show that this deposit is unlikely to produce any sizable quantities of strategic mica.

2. Reserves of strategic mica are estimated to be negligible.

Recommendation:

I concur with the field team's recommendation for denial.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RECEIVED
SEP - 7 1956

September 6, 1956

Re: DMEA 4369
H. H. Plemmons
Sheep Knob Mine
Macon Co., N. C.
$9,440.00 - Mica

Memorandum

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report.

The applicant requested assistance in exploring, by 2 shafts, extending a third and drifting, a pegmatite which yielded $550.00 worth of mica from 100 feet of shaft. The applicant lost money on the operation, but thinks with help a better showing would be made.

The examiners conclude that the chances of finding more and better mica are poor and recommend denial of the application. The conclusion appears to be justified; hence, I concur with the recommendation.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

A

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
ROOM 13 POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

RECEIVED
SEP - 4 1956

August 31, 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Washington, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region V

Subject: Field Examination Report, DMEA-4369 (Mica)
H. H. Plemmons, Franklin, N. C.
Sheep Knob Mine, Macon County, North Carolina

Enclosed are original and three copies of the subject report. We agree with the recommendation for denial.

Robert A. Laurence
Robert A. Laurence

Enclosures 4

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
9-7-56
(date)

RECEIVED
SEP - 4 1956

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
REGION V

On

DMEA-4369 (mica) SHEEP KNOB MINE (Prospects A, B, & C)
Macon County, North Carolina

By

A. R. Taylor, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

and

L. E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

August 30, 1956

DMEA [illegible]
9-7-56
(date)

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

DMEA-4369 (mica) SHEEP KNOB MINE
(Prospects A, B, and C)

RECEIVED
SEP - 4 1956

Applicant: H. H. Plemmons, Box 335, Franklin, N. C.

Summary

The applicant has requested DMEA assistance on three prospects west and north of the old Sheep Knob Mica Mine, none of which presents a target for exploration.

The pegmatite at prospect "A" is 1 ft thick and contains small, scrap muscovite at the surface. It is reported to bottom at the 25-ft level in a shaft. The applicant sold only $550 worth of muscovite from 5 pits and shafts at "A" and states that he lost money.

Prospect "B", an open cut, exposes an irregular fine-grained pegmatite containing scrap muscovite.

Prospect "C" is an adit that exposes a pegmatite 4 ft thick with scrap-sized muscovite.

It is recommended that the application be denied DMEA assistance.

Introduction

Location

The Sheep Knob Mine (Prospects A, B, and C) is 1.9 airline miles N. 58° E. of Wests Mill, in Cowee Township, Macon County, North Carolina. Wests Mill is on North Carolina Highway 28, seven miles north northwest of Franklin, North Carolina.

Prospect "A" is 500 to 600 ft west down the ridge from the old Sheep Knob Mica Mine's northernmost open pit (Larrabee and Heinrich, 1944, map).

Prospect "B" is 500+ ft north of the Sheep Knob Mica Mine, and Prospect "C" is about 50 ft immediately north of the open pit and barbed wire fence as seen on Larrabee's and Heinrich's map of 1944.

All the workings are about 2300 ft in elevation on the western slope of Sheep Knob which is 2750 ft high. (SE sect., Alarka, N.C., Quad., 166-SW, 1/24,000)

Examination

Three hours were spent in the examination on August 7, 1956. Mr. H. H. Plemmons, Mr. W. F. Shepherd, and Mr. P. C. Dalton accompanied the field examiners.

Geology

Prospect "A"

Old workings consist of an untimbered 37-ft shaft in weathered biotite-hornblende gneiss, and a 15-ft pit 30 ft S. 25° W. of the shaft. Forty feet S. 25° E., upslope from the pit, is an untimbered 23-ft shaft (reported 60 ft deep). About 20 ft S. 40° E. from the 23-ft shaft is a pit 14 ft deep.

Kaolinized feldspar-quartz pegmatite was observed in the 15 ft pit. In the 14-ft pit a weathered pegmatite 1 ft thick trends N. 40° W. to the 23 ft shaft.

The applicant says he sank the partially filled 23 ft shaft to a total depth of 60 ft. The fine-grained 1 ft thick pegmatite bottomed at the 25 ft level.

Scrap ruby muscovite (200 - 300 lb.) was observed piled up on the dump. Most of it was ruled and contained quartz or biotite inclusions. Some clear, flat sheets up to 4 inches wide were also observed. The applicant states that he recovered muscovite that was cracked, up to 10 inches wide, but that the smallest sizes of muscovite was the best grade.

The total value of reported production is $550, which represents 50 lb. of trimmed muscovite. The applicant stated that he lost money on this prospect.

Prospect "B"

An irregular, generally conformable, but locally disconformable, kaolinized feldspathic pegmatite 1/2 to 3 feet thick, containing minor quartz and some scrap size muscovite is exposed in the southeast end of an irregular trench. The cut, in saprolite, trends roughly N. 30° W. downslope and is 30 ft long, 10 ft maximum depth (SE end), and about 10 ft wide.

The pegmatite, which is exposed for 15 ft, strikes N. 30° W. and dips 35° SW. The enclosing country rock contains migmatized zones normal to the foliation.

Prospect "C"

A 40 ft long north-south trending untimbered adit curves to the east at its southern end. A weathered, kaolinized pegmatite dike, 3 to 4 feet thick, is exposed in a pit 6 ft deep at the portal and along strike for 10 feet into the adit where it abruptly terminates. It may be cut off by a fault.

This dike, containing only scrap-size muscovite is essentially along strike from and may be the same body as that which is exposed 50 ft southward on the ridge crest in the Sheep Knob Mica Mine (see map).

About 40 ft east of the adit portal 6-inch stringers of pegmatitic material are exposed in a shallow pit (6 ft).

No strategic muscovite was observed in the exposed pegmatite.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The total sales reported to the examiners from the three prospects amounted to $550.00. This represents an uneconomical operation in pegmatites that exhibit an unfavorable mineralogic environment, in that they consist of scrap muscovite and fine-grained kaolinized feldspar and no massive quartz core. Disseminated small masses of quartz is minor in the three deposits.

It is recommended that the application for DMEA assistance be denied because of the lack of a suitable strategic-muscovite pegmatite target.

Ref: Heinrich, E. Wm., 1944, Sheep Knob Mica Mine and map; USGS open file report.

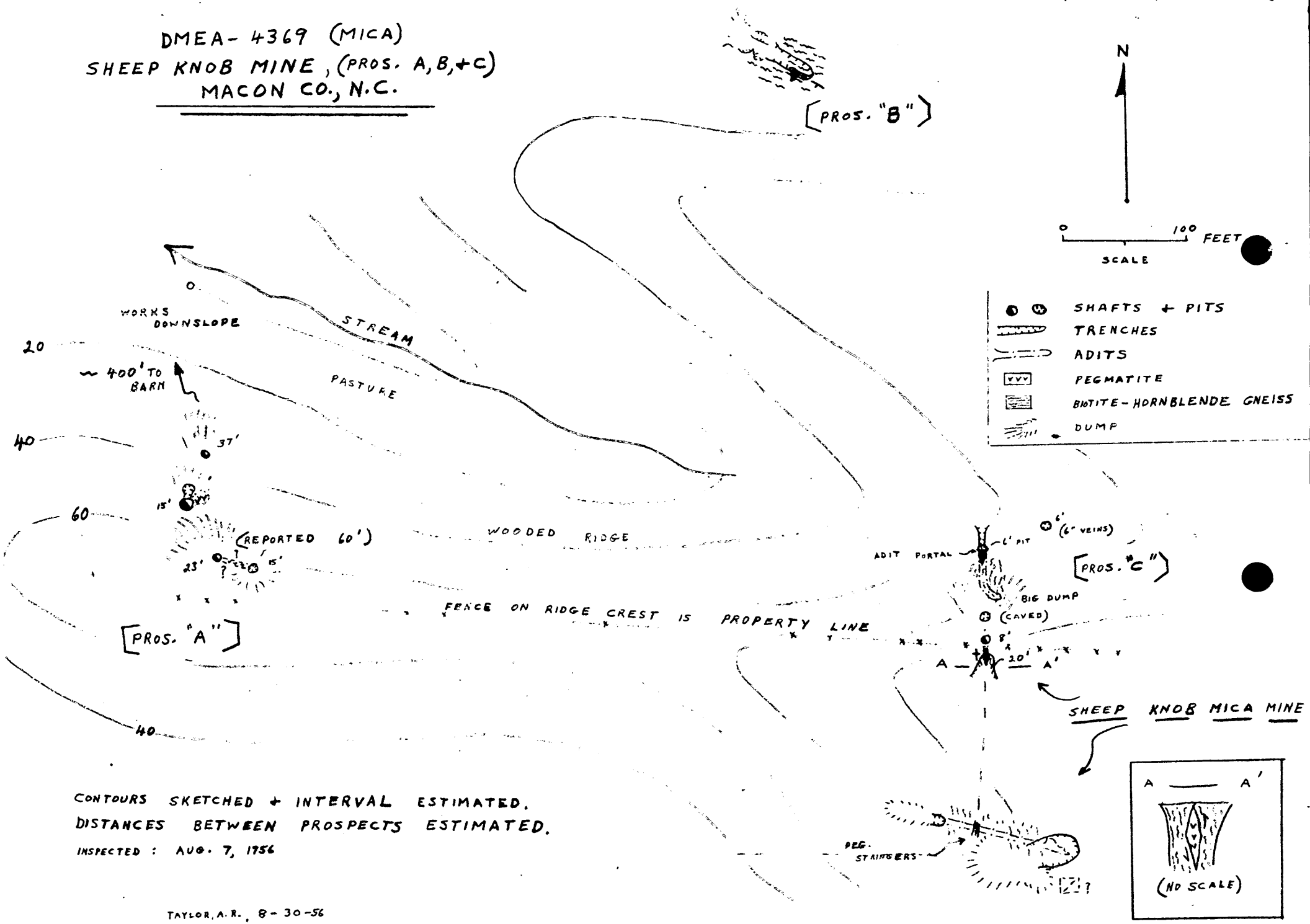
August 30, 1956

A. R. Taylor, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

L. E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

g

DMEA- 4369 (MICA)
SHEEP KNOB MINE, (PROS. A, B, + C)
MACON CO., N.C.



CONTOURS SKETCHED + INTERVAL ESTIMATED.
DISTANCES BETWEEN PROSPECTS ESTIMATED.
INSPECTED : AUG. 7, 1956

TAYLOR, A.R., 8-30-56

7

RECEIVED
SEP 4 1956

DOCKET COPY
Surname:
Anderson
Houk
Wilson
Yoder
Selfridge
H. Johnson

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

JUL 2 6 1956

Mr. N. H. Plemmons
Box 335
Franklin, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4369-nica
N. H. Plemmons
Sheep Knob Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Plemmons:

Your application for assistance in exploring the subject property has been reviewed by the Nonmetallic Minerals Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and has been referred to Mr. Robert A. Lawrence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region V, Room 13, Post Office Building, Knoxville, 2, Tennessee, for further consideration and possibly a field examination.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date if an examination is to be made. Any assistance you may give the members of the Field Team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:ms 7/20/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Admr. R. File

R.C.L.

DOCKET COPY
Surname:
Anderson Houk Selfridge
H. Johnson

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

JUL 2 6 1956

Mr. Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region V
Room 13, Post Office Building
Knoxville, 2, Tennessee

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4369-mica
H. H. Plemmons
Sheep Knob Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Please review the subject application and arrange for a field examination if you deem it necessary.

Copies of memoranda dated July 6 and 18, 1956, by Mr. N. E. Nelson, USGS, and Mr. W. F. Dietrich, USBM, respectively, relating to the project are enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
(By cs)

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:
M. E. Yopes

Member, Bureau of Mines
N. E. Nelson

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures: 4

WCAnderson:ms 7/20/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Admr. R. File

R.A.L.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 18, 1956

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: W. F. Dietrich, Chief
Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-4369 (mica)

Applicant: H. H. Plemmons

Name and Location of Property: Sheep Knob Mine

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 7/5/56

Comments:

1. Although the applicant states that mica has been sold to the Spruce Pine depot, there is no data available in this office on subject mine.

2. The relative locations of the 3 areas of proposed exploration should be determined with the purpose of possibly eliminating some exploration.

3. This deposit appears to have possibilities for the development of strategic mica.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this mine when in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration project is justified. If so, the field team and applicant should agree on a definite plan of exploration on a unit-cost basis.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

RECEIVED
JUL 19 1956

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 6, 1956

Re: DMEA 4369
H. H. Plemmons
Sheep Knob Mine
Macon Co., N. C.
$9,440.00 - Mica

Memorandum

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of application.

The applicant requests assistance in exploring by sinking 2 shafts and extending a third, and drifting, a pegmatite in which 2 shafts, 60 and 40 feet deep, have been sunk by the applicant in recent months. The applicant sold $550.00 worth of mica recovered in sinking 100 feet of shaft.

Unless very good reasons are given for expecting better results from the proposed shafts and drifts than have been obtained to date, the application should be denied.

However, if the shafts are open for inspection a field examination is warranted.

Referral of the application to the Field Team for appropriate action is recommended.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

RECEIVED
JUL 9 - 1956

July 3, 1956

Mr. H. H. Plemmons
Box 335
Franklin, N. C.

Subject: DMEA-4369
Re: Exploration Assistance
Sheep Knob Mine

Dear Mr. Plemmons

The receipt of your application dated June 26, 1956 for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-4369 and referred to the Nonmetallic Mineral Division.

Kindly identify all future correspondence relating to your application by this docket number.

Sincerely yours,

Robert E. Adams, Chief
Operations Control and
Statistics Division

July 3, 1956

Memorandum

To: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region V

From: Chief, Operation's Control and Statistics Division

Subject: Assignment of Docket Number

There is listed below the assigned docket number to an application recently received from Region V.

DMEA
-4369 H. H. Plemmons

Robert E. Adams
Chief, Operation's Control
and Statistics Division

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 5 HIRST POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

June 28, 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville, Tenn.

Subject: Application from H. H. Plemmons, Franklin, N. C.
Sheep Knob Mine, Macon County, N. C. (mica)

Enclosed are three copies of the subject application, with one copy of the lease and six executed copies of the Consent to Lien. We are keeping the fourth copy of the application for our use.

The three individual rectangles which the applicant wants to include in the contract contain about two acres each. If work is to be done at all three localities, it would probably be better to include the entire leased area in the contract. If, on the other hand, it appears advisable to explore only one or two of the three areas, the Applicant may then wish to limit the area in the contract. In that case, a specific area of adequate size could be determined. The Consent to Lien apparently covers the entire leased tract.

Robert A. Laurence

Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer,
DMEA Field Team, Region V

V. J. Lynch

V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

June 28, 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville, Tenn.

Subject: Application from R. H. Plammons, Franklin, N. C.
Sheep Knob Mine, Macon County, N. C. (mica)

Enclosed are three copies of the subject application, with one copy of the lease and six executed copies of the Consent to Lien. We are keeping the fourth copy of the application for our use.

The three individual rectangles which the applicant wants to include in the contract contain about two acres each. If work is to be done at all three localities, it would probably be better to include the entire leased area in the contract. If, on the other hand, it appears advisable to explore only one or two of the three areas, the Applicant may then wish to limit the area in the contract. In that case, a specific area of adequate size could be determined. The Consent to Lien apparently covers the entire leased tract.

Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer,
DMEA Field Team, Region V

RAL/sm
sc:
Lynch
Shirley

V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines

June 28, 1956

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville, Tenn.

Subject: Application from H. H. Plemmons, Franklin, N. C.
Sheep Knob Mine, Macon County, N. C. (mica)

Enclosed are three copies of the subject application, with one copy of the lease and six executed copies of the Consent to Lien. We are keeping the fourth copy of the application for our use.

The three individual rectangles which the applicant wants to include in the contract contain about two acres each. If work is to be done at all three localities, it would probably be better to include the entire leased area in the contract. If, on the other hand, it appears advisable to explore only one or two of the three areas, the Applicant may then wish to limit the area in the contract. In that case, a specific area of adequate size could be determined. The Consent to Lien apparently covers the entire leased tract.

Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer,
DMEA Field Team, Region V

RAL/sm
cc:
Lynch
Shirley

V. J. Lynch, Member

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

June 28, 1956

Mr. H. H. Plemmons
P.O. Box 335
Franklin, N. C.

Dear Mr. Plemmons:

Your application for aid in exploring for strategic mica at three sites on Sheep Knob Mine, Macon County, N. C., has been forwarded to our Washington office in accordance with established procedure.

We will notify you in advance if a field examination is to be made.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region V

RAL/km

cc:

Opr. Com.
Lynch
Files

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

June 28, 1956

Mr. H. H. Plemmons
P.O. Box 335
Franklin, N. C.

Dear Mr. Plemmons:

Your application for aid in exploring for strategic mica at three sites on Sheep Knob Mine, Macon County, N. C., has been forwarded to our Washington office in accordance with established procedure.

We will notify you in advance if a field examination is to be made.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region V

RAL/mm

ec:

Opr. Com.
Lynch
Files

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

Form Approved. Budget Bureau No. 42-R1035.2.

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

APPLICATION FOR AID IN AN EXPLORATION PROJECT, PURSUANT TO DMEA ORDER 1, UNDER THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED

Not to be filled in by applicant

Docket No. 4369
Metal or Mineral Mica
Date Received 7-2-56
Estimated Cost $9,440.00
Participation (Government %)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Name of applicant.*—(*a*) State here your full legal name, in the form in which you will wish to contract, and your mailing address: H. H. Plemmons
Box 335
Franklin, North Carolina

(*b*) If other than an individual, add to your name above whether a corporation, partnership, etc., and the name of the State in which incorporated or otherwise organized.

(*c*) If a corporation, add to above statement, titles, names and addresses of officers.

(*d*) If a partnership, add to the above statement the names and addresses of all partners.

2. *General.*—Read DMEA Order 1, "Government Aid in Defense Exploration Projects," before completing this application. Submit this application and all accompanying papers in quadruplicate (four copies), with your name and address on each sheet of the application and on all accompanying papers. Where sufficient space is not provided on the form for all required information, state it on an accompanying paper, with a reference in each case to the instruction to which it refers by number. Comply with all applicable instructions; or, if not applicable, so state. File the application with Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest field executive officer thereof.

3. *Applicant's property rights.*—(*a*) State the legal description of the land upon which you wish to explore, including all land which you possess or control that may be benefited by the exploration, and excluding any land or interest in land which is not to be included in the exploration project contract Adjoining and being surrounded by the lands of Frank I. Murray, S. H. Shepherd, E. O. Rickman, and L. McLews, and being all the lands described in a lease dated 1 Dec 1955, and recorded in Book H-6, Page 621, records of Macon County - See attached Forest Service Map entitled Alarka, N.C. (Geological Survey)

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. ~~Shepherd Mine~~ Sheep Knob Mine

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise lessee

(*d*) If you are not the owner, submit with this application a copy of the lease, contract, or other document under which you control the property. Attached

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it d. n. a.

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice.

4. *Physical description.*—(*a*) Describe in detail any mining or exploration operations which have been or now are being conducted upon the land, including existing mine workings and production facilities. State your interest, if any, in such operations. Also describe accessibility of mine workings for examination purposes.

(*b*) State past and current production, and ore reserves, if any, giving quantities and grades.

(*c*) Describe the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.), and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Send with your application (but not necessarily as a part of it) any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points.

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power.

RECEIVED
JUN 28 1956 16—66551-1
U. S. Geological Survey
Geologic Division
Knoxville, Tenn.

5. *The exploration project.*—(a) State the mineral or minerals for which you wish to explore Strategic Ruby Mica

(*b*) Describe fully the proposed work, including a map or sketch of the property showing a plan (and cross sections if needed) of any present mine workings, and the location of the proposed exploration work as related to such features as contacts, veins, ore-bearing beds, etc.

(*c*) The work will start within 30 days and be completed within 6 months from the date of an exploration project contract.

(*d*) State the operating experience and background of the applicant with relation to the ability to carry out such exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations.

6. *Estimate of costs.*—Furnish a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work (you will have to use a separate sheet), under the following headings. Add the totals under all headings to give the estimated total cost of the project:

(*a*) *Independent contracts.*—(Note.—If the applicant does not intend to let any of the work to contractors, write "none" after this item. To the extent that the work is to be contracted, do not repeat the cost of the contract-work in subsequent items.) State the cost of any proposed independent contracts for the performance of all or any part of the work, expressed in terms of units of work (such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, per cubic yard of material moved, etc.).

(*b*) *Labor, supervision, consultants.*—Include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes and rates of wages, salaries or fees for necessary labor, supervision and engineering and geological consultants.

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel.

(*d*) *Operating equipment.*—Furnish an itemized list of any operating equipment to be rented, purchased, or which is owned and will be furnished by the Operator, with the estimated rental, purchase price, or suggested use-allowance based on present value, as the case may be.

(*e*) *Rehabilitation and repairs.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary initial rehabilitation or repairs of existing buildings, installations, fixtures, and movable operating equipment, now owned by the Operator and which will be devoted to the exploration project.

(*f*) *New buildings, improvements, installations.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary buildings, fixed improvements, or installations to be purchased, installed or constructed for the benefit of the exploration project.

(*g*) *Miscellaneous.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of repairs to and maintenance of operating equipment (not including initial rehabilitation or repairs of the Operator's equipment), analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employers' liability insurance, and payroll taxes.

(*h*) *Contingencies.*—Give an estimate of any necessary allowances for contingencies not included in the costs stated above.

NOTE.—No items of general overhead, corporate management, interest, taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes), or any other indirect costs, or work performed or costs incurred before the date of the contract, should be included in the estimate of costs.

7. (*a*) Are you prepared to furnish your share of the cost of the proposed project in accordance with the regulations on Government participation (Sec. 7, DMEA No. 1)?

(*b*) How do you propose to furnish your share of the costs?

☐ Money ☒ Use of equipment owned by you ☒ Other

Explain in detail on acompanying paper. Labor & supervision

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.

Dated June 26th, 1956

H. H. Plemmons
(Applicant)

By H. H. Plemmons, Franklin, N. C.

Title 18, U. S. Code (Crimes), Section 1001, makes it a criminal offense to make a willfully false statement or representation to any department or agency of the United States as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—66551-1

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

Supplement to MF-103

June 26, 1956

H. H. Plemmons
Franklin, N. C.

4 (a) Some surface work has been done on this property over the years. In recent months the applicant has explored at the location designated by "A" on attached map to a depth of 60 feet. Deposits of mica were found from a depth of 25 feet to 60 feet. Due to stoping out the mica deposits, it became inadvisable to continue to a greater depth in this shaft and a new one was carried to a depth of 40 feet on the indicated drift of the vein. Indications in the original shaft were that the mica deposit was at a greater depth. All working are accessable for inspection.

4 (b) Considerable mica has been obtained from the above operations. The applicant sold $550. worth of high grade strategic ruby mica to the Government Depot at Spruce Pine, N. C. in recent months, obtained from original shaft mentioned above. No records are available on former sales.

4 (c) There are numerous outcroppings of mica, quartz and pegmatite which indicate deposits of mica. The mica is high grade ruby. It is the desire of the applicant to explore these indications of mica to sufficient depth to locate the deposits we believe to exist.

4 (d) Project is readily accessable to nearby roads.

4 (e) Ample manpower and all necessary materials are available nearby.

5 (b) Shafts with drifts as deemed necessary are proposed at points as designated by the letters A, B, and C on the attached section of the TVA quadrangle covering the area. The approximate location of the boundary lines of the property covered by the lease are also shown.

At point "A" it is proposed to enlarge a 5X5X40' shaft to 5X7 and install timber and manway and continue to a depth of 90' with two 25 foot drifts.

At point "B" a 65 foot shaft is proposed with two 25 foot drifts.

At point "C" an 85 foot shaft is proposed with two 25 foot drifts.

6. ESTIMATED COST

160 Days	
Engineering and Supervision	750.00
One man @ $1.50	1920.00
Three men @ $1.00	3840.00
Timber	800.00
Small Tools	150.00
Dynamite	200.00
Hoist Rental	1000.00
Team Hire	150.00
Nails	30.00
Contingencies	600.00
	9440.00

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT, Made and entered into this the 1st day of December, 1955, by and between JANE SHEPHERD, Widow, and FRANK SHEPHERD, Single, being the lawful heirs of James Shepherd, deceased, of Macon County, North Carolina, parties of the first part, and H. H. PLEMMONS, of said County and State, party of the second part;

WITNESSETH:

That subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth the said parties of the first part have let and leased unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, the exclusive right and privilege to mine, dig and remove all minerals now in, under or upon a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in Cowee Township, Macon County, North Carolina, adjoining the lands of F. I. Murray, S. H. Shepherd and others and known as the James Shepherd lands on Cowee Creek, containing 30 acres, more or less.

The terms and conditions of this lease are as follows:

1. Unless sooner terminated as herein provided, this lease shall exist and continue until the 1st day of December, 1965.

2. As rental or royalty, the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, shall pay to the parties of the first part, or their legal representative, a sum equal to twelve and one-half (12½%) per cent of all the sheet or pattern mica, One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents ($1.25) per ton for scrap mica, and Fifty (50¢) Cents per ton for all feldspar. That in the event

the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, shall in the course of conducting mining operations upon said property encounter any other metals or minerals not specifically set forth herein in merchantable quantities, said party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, shall recover same, use his or their best efforts to obtain a market therefor and pay the parties of the first part a royalty equal to that pervailing in the community for metals or minerals of like character.

3. That all royalties shall be paid between the first and tenth of each calendar month following production, sale and receipt of the sale price thereof.

4. Party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, shall keep a correct and itemized record of all operations and transactions relating to the sale of minerals from this property which shall be open to the inspection of the parties of the first part at any time upon reasonable request.

5. Party of the second part shall begin operation within ninety (90) days from December 1, 1955. If at any time said party of the second part shall cease operation for a period of ninety (90) days, unless otherwise agreed to by all parties hereto, said lease shall be void.

So long as this lease remains in force, the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, in connection therewith shall have and enjoy the following rights and privileges:

(a) The right to use the surface of said lands to the full extent that such use is reasonable, convenient or necessary in mining and removing the minerals from said lands and to use any portion of said surface for purpose of dumping mine refuse and tailings as may be reasonable necessary or convenient. In this connection, however, the party of the

second part agrees that no unnecessary damage shall be done to the property in the process of conducting mining operations thereon.

(b) The right to construct and place upon said lands buildings and machinery and to remove the same.

(c) The right to cut and use upon said lands for the purposes herein set out any standing timber thereon at the time of such use.

(d) The right to use any water upon said property as may be necessary in the course of said operations.

(e) The right to construct and maintain roads in such locations as the party of the second part may deem advisable and complete right of ingress and egress to and from any portions of said property that the said party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, may conduct mining operations thereon.

(f) The right and privilege of renewing this lease for an additional period of ten years at the option of the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, provided and in the event that said lease has not been previously cancelled.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

Jane Shepard (SEAL)

Frank Shepard (SEAL)

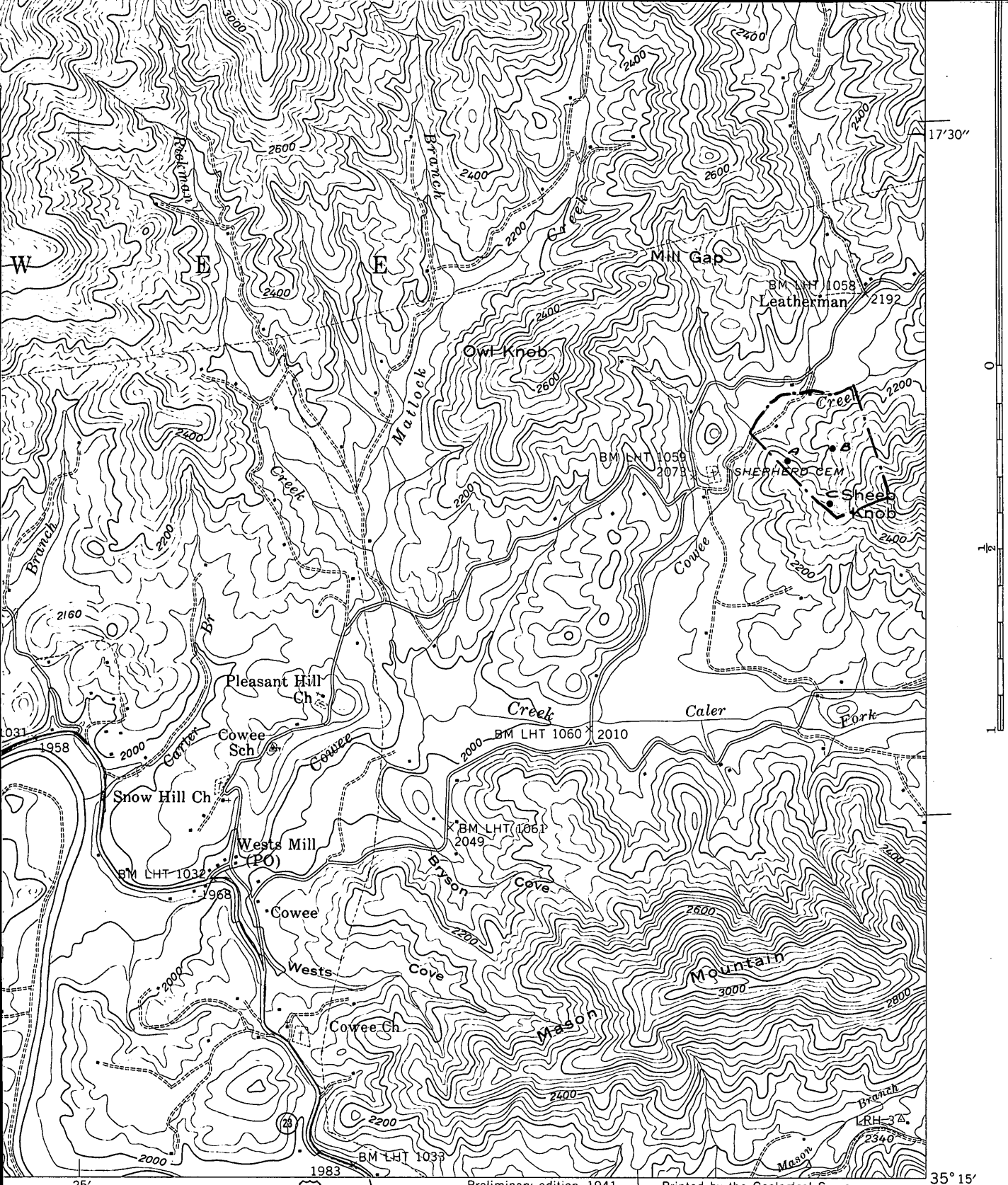
H. L. Clemmons (SEAL)

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

Personally appeared before me this day JANE SHEPHERD, Widow; FRANK SHEPHERD, Single; and H. H. PLEMMONS, who acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing lease agreement for the purposes therein expressed.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal, this 27th day of December, 1955.

Notary Public, Macon County, N.C.
57



Preliminary edition, 1941

Printed by the Geological Survey

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000 foot grid based on North Carolina
rectangular coordinate system

2 Miles

10000 Feet

Kilometers

ROUTES USUALLY TRAVELED

HARD IMPERVIOUS SURFACES

OTHER SURFACE IMPROVEMENTS

19 U. S. ROUTE

28 STATE ROUTE

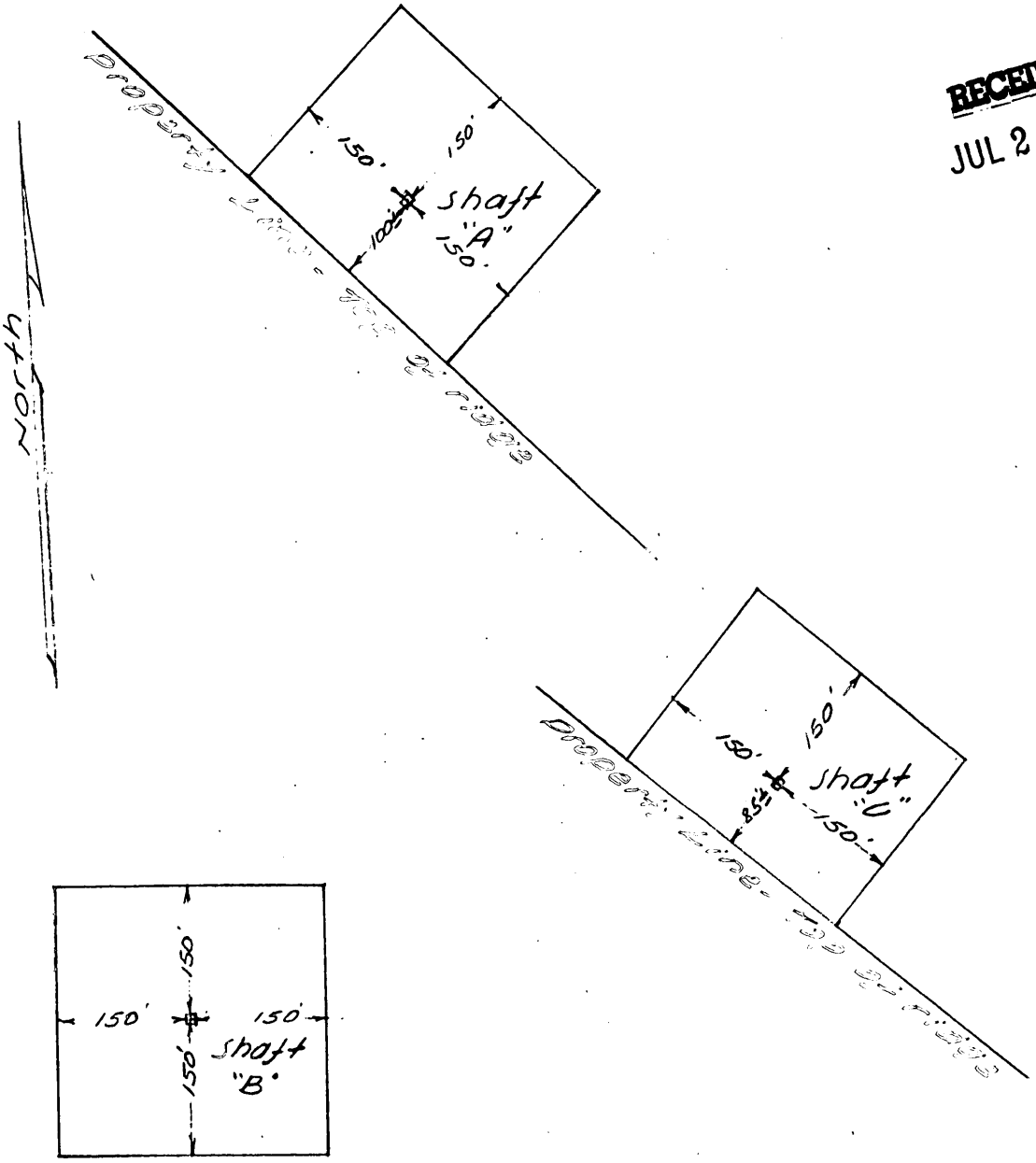
ALARKA, N. C.

166-SW

N 3515—W 8322.5/7.5

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956

RECEIVED
JUL 2 - 1956



AREAS TO BE COVERED
BY LIEN
SHEEP KNOB MINE
Scale 1" = 200'