DMEA Form 9
Rev. 6/57

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

OFFICIAL DOCKET FILE Idm-E NO._____ DMEA NO. 4925

Application
- [X] Denied
- [ ] Withdrawn

Contract
- [ ] Terminated - Not Certified
- [ ] Terminated - Certified
- [ ] Cancelled
- [ ] Royalty Agreement

The records contained in this file are marked (x) and arranged in this order:

Folder No. 1:

Left Side

- [ ] Royalty Audits
- [ ] Certification of Discovery
- [ ] Closing Letter
- [ ] Cost Audits
- [ ] Termination Notice or Agreement
- [ ] Recision Notice
- [ ] Assignment of Contract
- [ ] Contract Amendments
- [ ] Contract with all exhibits and annexes
- [X] Owner's Consent to Lien and Subordination Agreement
- [X] Application and attachments

Right Side

- [ ] Project summary (final)
- [ ] Work Completed analysis (final)

All other material filed in chronological order including the following reports if checked:

- [ ] Field Team Semi-Annual Report for Certified Project
- [ ] Final Field Team Report (Tab)
- [ ] Operator's Final Report (Tab)
- [ ] Interim Field Team Reports
- [ ] Operator's monthly reports and all attachments
- [X] On-site Exam Report (Tab)
- [ ] Settlement Sheets
- [ ] Drill Logs

Additional Folders:

Left Side

Folders No._____: Reports
- [ ] Analysis of Semi-Annual Inspection Reports
- [ ] Project Summary (Interim) by DMEA Engineers

Right Side

- [ ] Field Team Semi-Annual Report for Certified Project
- [ ] Field Team Interim Reports
- [ ] Operator's Monthly Reports with transmittal, narrative and maps.

Folders No._____: Maps (Use pocket folder or envelope)

Folders No._____: Settlement Sheets

Folders No._____: Drill Logs

Folders No._____: Royalty material

MF-205
(Combines and supercedes MF-201 and MF-203)
June 1956

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator_____
Docket No. DMEA-_____
Contract No. Idm-E_____
Contract Date_____

RECEIVED
JAN 23 1958
D.M.E.A.

CONSENT TO LIEN
and
SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT 1/

To the United States of America:

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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;

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5. Undertakes and agrees (a) neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Agreement; and (b) to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Agreement to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, claim, or interest in or against the land, or any production therefrom furnishing the Government with two copies of such notice; and

6. Consents to all amendments (including an agreement of termination) and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and undertakes and agrees that this Agreement shall extend and apply thereto.

7. Added provision: _____ (State "None" or "See Annex No.____")

Dated this 11th day of January, 1958.

Geo. F. Ellis - Grace W. Ellis	[Seal]	3360 Hama Dr. N.E. Atlanta Ga.	[Address]
Paul F. Ellis Fern R. Ellis	[Seal]	38 acre Dover Ave. Asheville N.C.	[Address]
J. W. Gilbert - Katherine E. Gilbert	[Seal]	Spruce Pine N.C.	[Address]
- Lucille P. Ellis	[Seal]	_____	[Address]
Mildred E. Pitman	[Seal]	Spruce Pine, N.C.	[Address]
_____	[Seal]	_____	[Address]

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[Corporate Seal]

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Geo. F. Ellis - Grace W. Ellis	[Seal]	3360 Tama Dr, N.E. Atlanta, Ga.	[Address]
Paul F. Ellis Fern R. Ellis	[Seal]	38 Ace Dowls Ave. Asheville, N.C.	[Address]
J. Wilbur Kathryn E. Hilbert	[Seal]	Spruce Pine N.C.	[Address]
Lucille P. Ellis	[Seal]		[Address]
Mildred E. Pitman	[Seal]	Spruce Pine N.C.	[Address]
	[Seal]		[Address]

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Geo. F. Ellis - Grace W. Ellis	[Seal]	3360 Farm Dr., N.E., Atlanta, Ga.	[Address]
Paul J. Ellis - Fern R. Ellis	[Seal]	38 All Souls Cres. Asheville N.C.	[Address]
J. W. Hulbert - Katherine E. Hulbert	[Seal]	Spruce Pine N.C.	[Address]
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 13 POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
DMEA
RECEIVED JAN 23 1958
DATE | INITIALS | CODE

January 21, 1958

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Acting Executive Officer, DMEA - Region V - Knoxville

Subject: Application, - Charles Robinson Property, Yancey County, N.C.
B T and E Mining Co., c/o Burdette Thomas, Spruce Pine, N. C.
(mica)

Enclosed are the original and two copies of an application on the subject property with two copies of the mining lease, 5 copies of the Consent to Lien, 3 copies of a sketch map of the property and 2 copies of our letter acknowledging receipt of the application.

Exploration contract Idm-E646, Docket No. DMEA-3157 was completed on this property and certified several years ago. The money has been repaid in full.

V. J. Lynch

V. J. Lynch, Acting Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region V

Form MF–103
Revised Feb. 1957

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

Budget Bureau No. 42–R1035.3
Approval expires June 30, 1958

APPLICATION FOR AID IN AN EXPLORATION PROJECT

PURSUANT TO DMEA ORDER I, UNDER THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED

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

Hobert Burleson, F. E. Ellis and Burdette Thomas
Doing Business As
B T and E Mining Company
c/o Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, N. C.

RECEIVED JAN 23 1958

APPLICANT NOT TO USE THIS BLOCK

Docket Number: DMEA-4925
Date Received: 1-23-58
Government Participation %:
Region: V
Division Code: 600

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION (Check one)

- Individual [ ]
- Corporation [ ]
- Partnership [X]
- Other (Specify) [ ]

State in which firm is organized: N.C.

LIST CORPORATE OFFICERS OR PARTNERS HERE, IF APPLICABLE

Name	Address	Title

Mineral(s) for which you wish to explore: Mica

Estimated Cost of Project: $ 9,080.00

LOCATION OF PROPERTY

Name	County	State
Chas. Robinson Propty.	Yancey	N. C.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Before filling out this application, please read DMEA Order–I, Amended, "Government Aid in Defense Exploration Projects." 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 1, existing mine workings and geology in item 2, and the proposed exploration project in item 4. 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 2(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 Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest DMEA 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.

Jan. 10, 1958
Date

RECEIVED JAN 21 U.S. Geological Survey

(Hobert Burleson, F.E.Ellis, Burdette Thomas)
B T and E Mining Co.
BY (Signature)
Burdette Thomas
Partner
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. *Applicant's Property Rights:*

(a) 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 land adjacent to the proposed project area which you own or control. Describe any part of the project land or workings which should not be subject to Government lien for royalty payments. If the land consists of unpatented claims, state the book and page number for each recorded location notice, including amended locations, and the place where recorded (courthouse, recorder's office, county, and state).

(b) State all the names by which you know the property.

(c) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise. If you are not the owner, submit with this application one exact copy of the lease, contract, or other document (with address of owner) under which you control the property.

(d) Describe all liens, mortgages, or other encumbrances on the property.

2. *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 lands, including existing mine workings. Describe all production facilities.

(b) State your interest, if any, in operations stated in 2*(a)*.

(c) State, as far as 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 on the property giving quantities and grades and sampling methods used, supporting 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 may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

3. *Accessibility of Project:*

(a) To aid DMEA representatives who may be required to examine the property, state the name and address of the person who will meet the DMEA representative; give directions for reaching the property; and describe accessibility of the property including the mine workings.

(b) Name the shipping and supply points and places where employees reside and state the distances between them and the property.

4. *The Exploration Project:*

(a) Describe fully the proposed exploration project giving individual footages and sizes of openings *for each item of work.* Use narrative, maps, plans, and longitudinal and cross sections as necessary. Show the 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 *property boundaries* or to the closest identifiable corner.

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

(c) In the event that an exploration contract with DMEA is executed, how soon will the work start and how many months will be required to complete it? State your anticipated average daily or monthly rate of progress for each type of work.

5. *Experience:*

State your operating experience and background with relation to your ability to carry out this exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations.

6. *Estimate of Costs:*

Furnish detailed estimates of the costs *for each item of the work proposed in 4(a)* under the headings listed below with a total for each heading and the estimated total cost of the project. Costs for any work to be performed by an independent contractor should be shown separately under category *(a)* below. Costs for any work that is not to be performed by an independent contractor should be given in detail under categories *(b)* through *(g)*.

(a) Independent contracts. State the cost of any proposed independent contract for the performance of all or any part of the work, expressed in units of work, such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, 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. For necessary supervision, engineering and geological services, and labor, include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes, rates of wages, salaries or fees, and periods of employment. State whether these technicians and employees are available.

(c) Operating materials and supplies. List items of material and supplies with their cost. 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 operating equipment to be used giving specifications and indicating how each item is to be acquired – i.e., rented, purchased, or provided by the applicant. If it is rented or purchased, state the estimated rental or purchase price. If it is to be furnished by the applicant, give its present fair market value.

(e) Initial rehabilitation and repairs. Describe the type and the cost of necessary *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 on the exploration project.

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

(g) Miscellaneous. For the operating equipment listed in 6*(d)*, describe the type and estimate the cost of repairs and maintenance expected during project operations. Do not repeat initial repairs listed in 6*(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 – 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)* State whether you are prepared to furnish your share of the cost of the proposed project in accordance with the regulations on Government participation stated in Sec. 7 of DMEA Order–I, Amended.

(b) Explain to what extent you propose to furnish your share of the costs by providing money, by use of equipment owned by you, or otherwise.

* * * * *

INT.-DUP. SEC., WASH., D.C. 15539

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MF-103 Continuation Sheet.

1. (A) Legal description given on attached lease.
   (b) Charles Robinson Property.
   (c) Lessee.
   (d) No liens or other encumbrances on property.

2.
   (a) Previous operations and proposed work shown on ~~attached sketch map.~~
   (b) Present applicants did not do previous work.
   (c) Records of production on this mine are on file with DMEA. A loan was granted and fully repaid on the old mine on this property. We propose to lower shaft on same vein, some distance away.
   (d) See (c).
   (e) Map attached.
   (f) We believe mica exists along the same vein which produced such good quality ore in the old mine. We judge from out cropping of vein materials along this vein.

3. Property is accessible for examination. Mr. Burdette Thomas will accompany DMEA representative to site.

   All applicants live within few mile radius of mine. Supply and shipping points near.

4. (a) We propose to bulldoze away overburden for proposed shaft site, lower a shaft approximately 75 feet to reach vein, then drift or crosscut a distance of 150'.
   (b) No access road necessarry.
   (b) Work will begin immediately if contract is granted. Five to six months work should complete contract.

5. Each applicant is experienced in mining, having done extensive mining work in this area. Work will be supervised by Burdette Thomas, now supervising work on one such contract.

6. Estimate of costs:

Bulldoxing, 8 Hrs. @ $10.00 per hr.	$ 80.00
75' Shaft @ $50.00 per foot.	3750.00
150' Drift @ $35.00 per foot	5250.00
Total Estimated Cost	$ 9080.00

&. Applicants prepared to furnish their share of costs. Will furnish cash and equipment.

SCALE 1" = 150'

N

S

SOURWOOD

N 54° W 24 POLES 396.0'

S 36° W 34 POLES 561.0'

PROPOSED SHAFT 75'

150' DRIFTING AND OR CROSSCUTTING

SOURWOOD

CHESTNUT

N 45° W 12 POLES 198'

OLD SHAFT

S 36° W 34 POLES 561.0'

MAPLE

N 36° E 68 POLES 1122.0'

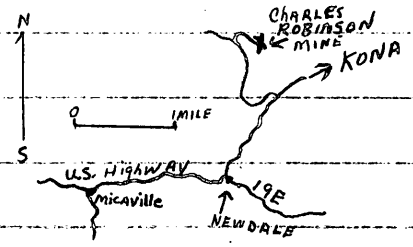
S 54° E 24 POLES 396.0'

DOGWOOD

CHARLES ROBINSON MINE #2

10 1/8 ACRES

LOCATION MAP



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DATE	INITIALS	CODE

MINING LEASE

State of North Carolina Yancey County:

This indenture made this 11th day of January, 1958,

between George F. Ellis, Grace W. Ellis, Paul J. Ellis, Fern R. Ellis, J. W. Gilbert, Katherine E. Gilbert, Lucille Ellis and Mildred E. Pitman of Mitchell County and State of North Carolina as party of the first part, and known as lessor, and Hobert Burleson, F. E. Ellis, and Burdette Thomas of Mitchell County and State of North Carolina, party of the second part and known as lessee.

WITNESSETH, That the part of the first part in consideration of One Dollar in hand received and hereby acknowledged by the lessor, and in consideration of the agreements hereinafter contained, on the part of the party of the second part to be performed, hereby bargains, leases and grants to the party of the second part, and his heirs and assigns, for the period of five years from the date of this agreement, the following described real property, for mining purposes, in the County and State first above written to wit:

BEGINNING on a Chestnut standing north 54 west 12 poles from the mine and runs south 36 west34 poles to a Maple on the lower bank of the road; thence south 54 east 24 poles to a Dogwood; thence north 36 east 68 poles to a Sourwood; thence north 54 west 24 poles to a Sourwood; thence south 36 west 34 poles to the beginning. Containing 10 and 1/8 acres.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lands to him, for mining purposes, the said lessee and his heirs and assigns for the aforesaid period of five years in compliance with the condition of this instrument, for the purpose and with the right to dig, quarry, search, explore for, obtain, and remove any kind of minerals, metals or fossils, and particularly mica, and to conduct the same to any extent the said party of the second part, the lessee, may desire. And it is hereby agreed between the parties to this agreement that the party of the second part is to have the use of any unoccupied buildings on said lands for mining purposes, and that he shall have the right to erect such buildings as he needs to carry on such mining operatins during the period of this lease, and that the party of the second part shall keep the same in as good condition as when received, unavoidable accidents excepted. And it is also agreed by the party of the second part that no unnecessary damage is to be done to the lands herein leased during the period of this lease and the continuance of said lease, but the said party of the second part shall have the right to take from said lands leased to the party of the second part any wood or timber the party of the second part may need to carry on said mining operations or which may be needed to carry on the addition to existing buildings or to erect new buildings or sheds on said lands. (Timber of high or special market value is excepted and shall not be used by the lessee.) And it is hereby agreed that the party of the second part, the lessee, is to have right-of-way of ingress and egress to said mines or land upon which exploration is being conducted.

AND IT IS FURTHER AGREED That the party of the second part, the lessee hereby agrees to pay to the said part of the first part, or his or their heirs or assigns, a rental royalty of One-Eighth Gross Sales on the minerals taken and sold from said mines which shall be for the use of the said lands for the aforesaid period of five years. The said amounts shall be payable on the computation of selling bills on the tenth day of each month covering sales made during the previous month. Any minerals other than those set forth above which may be taken and sold shall be paid for and at the usual royalty rate of the minerals taken.

AND IT IS FURTHER AGREED That the lessee, the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, shall have the option to renew this lease and to extend the period of its running for an additional five years from the date of its present termination. The option shall be exercised by giving formal written notice to the party of the first part or by the continuation of any mining operations then being conducted. The lessor reserve the right to use the land, or convey the same not conflicting with this lease, but under any conveyance the terms of this lease must be recognized by the grantee, purchaser, or assigns thereof. And it is agreed that the lessee may assign this mining lease or any part thereof and that he may sublease.

AND IT IS FURTHER AGREED That the lessee, the party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, is hereby given an option to purchase all the right, title and interest, legal and equitable to and in the real estate described and set forth in this lease for a total purchase price of _____, said purchase price to be paid in full within three years from the date of this instrument and it is agreed that all rental royalties paid to the party of the first part shall apply toward and be a part of the total purchase price above set forth, and that at such time that the total purchase price is paid in the form of royalties or a lump sum payment or a combination of both, the party of the first part will execute a special warranty deed to the party of the second part and that a tender of the remaining purchase price at any time within the next three years shall entitle the party of the second part to specific performance of this option contract.

BUT IT IS EXPRESSLY AGREED That unless mineral or fossil material of practical value for mining purposes shall be found within a period of two years from the date of this instrument, the lease may be terminated by the lessee at any time thereafter on thirty days notice to the lessor. The lessee agrees that during the period of this lease or the continuance of this lease work in said mines or exploration for new mines within the area leased shall not cease longer than ninety days at any one time, unavoidable accidents excepted.

WITNESS our hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Witness:

Tessa Burleson
(NOTARY PUBLIC)
My Comm. expires: 1-18-58

Geo. F. Ellis Grace W. Ellis (Seal)
Paul J. Ellis Fern R. Ellis (Seal)
J. W. Gilbert Katherine E. Gilbert (Seal)
Lucille P. Ellis
Mildred E. Pitman

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DATE	INITIALS	CODE

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

April 28, 1958

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4/30 Hunt 606

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: DMEA-4925(mica). B. T. & E. Mining Co., Spruce Pine, N.C. Charles Robinson mine, Yancey County, N. C.

Reference is made to your letter of April 25. Following are the answers to your questions:

1). There is no reason to assume that all production came from old workings on the 75-foot level. The map submitted with the report shows a large area between the 75-foot level and the DMEA-3157 drift, and shows that the DMEA-3157 drift extended to the southwest, where much of the production came from. The final report on DMEA-3157 states that about 1500 pounds of "mine-run" mica was obtained from the levels run from the bottom of the DMEA shaft.

2). The mica-rich shoots did project down the plunge from the old workings - enough so that the entire $11,223.00 spent on DMEA-3157 was repaid. As mica was obtained at the surface in the vicinity of the proposed shaft, it seems quite probable that the shoots also project up the plunge. Please note that these directions are plunges, not dips.

3). We fail to see why the steep or vertical position of the pegmatite would prevent an eastward projection of the shoots. The cross-section shows a projection in the plane of the pegmatite, and the shoots plunge down to the southwest in that plane, regardless of the dip of the plane.

4). The $4,559.24 worth of mica (more than 7.5 tons) came from underground work, reported to be on and above the DMEA-3157 level. There has been no recent bulldozing. The report (page 2, second paragraph) states that 1955 bulldozing produced about a ton of mica. This was sold with mica from the underground workings and was not recorded separately so we have no data as to its value.

It was reported to have been concentrated in an area 30 to 50 feet on either side of the proposed shaft, as shown on the map.

We reaffirm our opinion that there is a good chance of the occurrence of strategic mica in the block between the mine and the proposed shaft site. Whether such work is considered mining is a decision which must be made by the Washington staff.

Robert A. Laurence

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

V. J. Lynch

V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines

RECEIVED 30 1958
DATE

April 28, 1958

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville, Tennessee

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

V. J. Lynch, Member
Bureau of Mines

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April 28, 1958

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville, Tennessee

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Bureau of Mines

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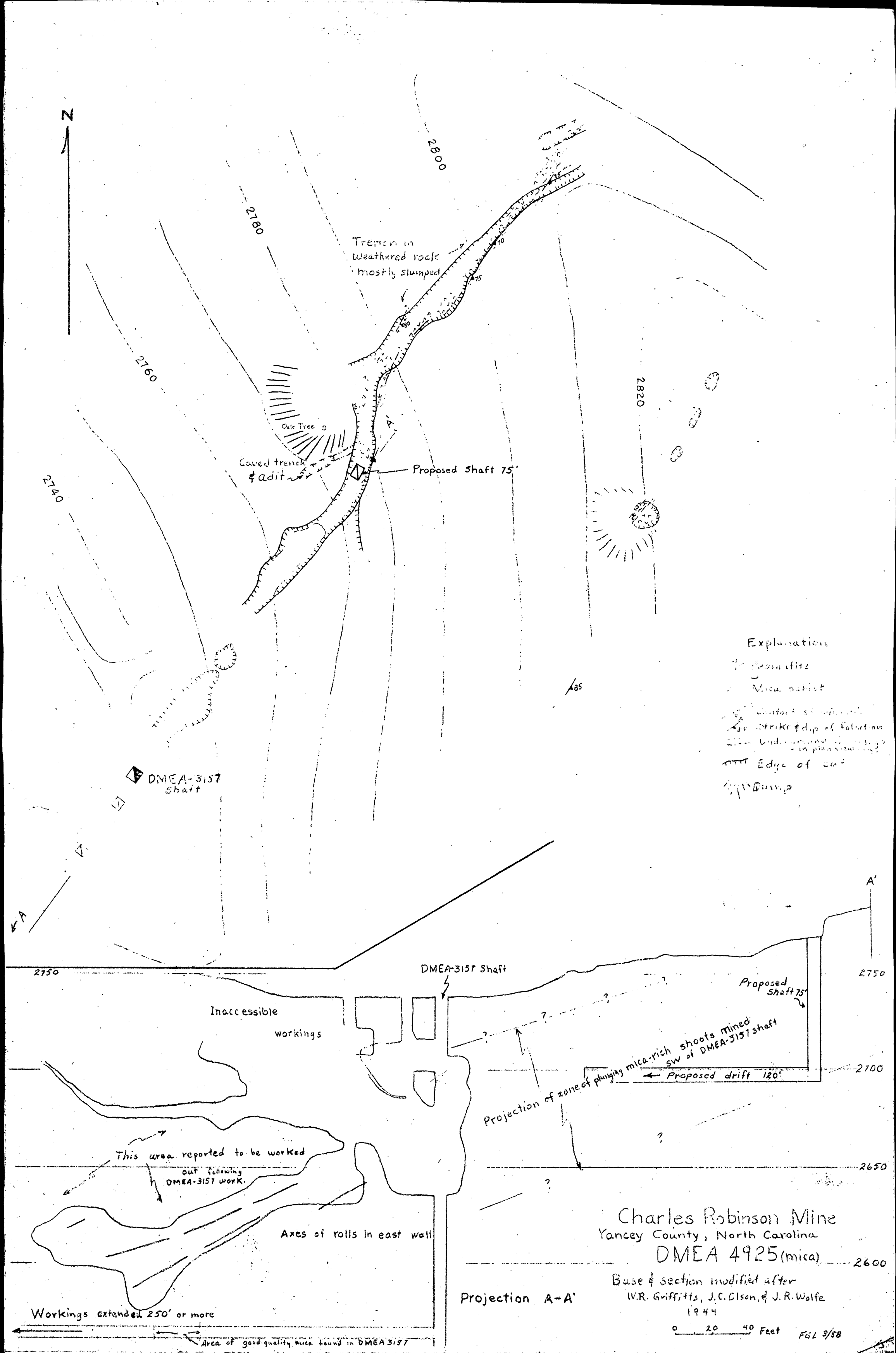
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Trenches in weathered rock mostly slumped
Oak Tree
Caved trench & adit
Proposed Shaft 75'
DMEA-3157 Shaft
Explanations
Pegmatite
Mica schist
Edge of cut
Dump
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Inaccessible workings
Proposed Shaft 75'
Projection of zone of plunging mica-rich shoots mined SW of DMEA-3157 shaft
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This area reported to be worked out following DMEA-3157 work.
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Charles Robinson Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
DMEA 4925 (mica)
2600
Base & section modified after W.R. Griffitts, J.C. Olson, & J.R. Wolfe 1944
Projection A-A'
Workings extended 250' or more
Area of good quality mica found in DMEA 3157
0 20 40 Feet
FGL 3/58

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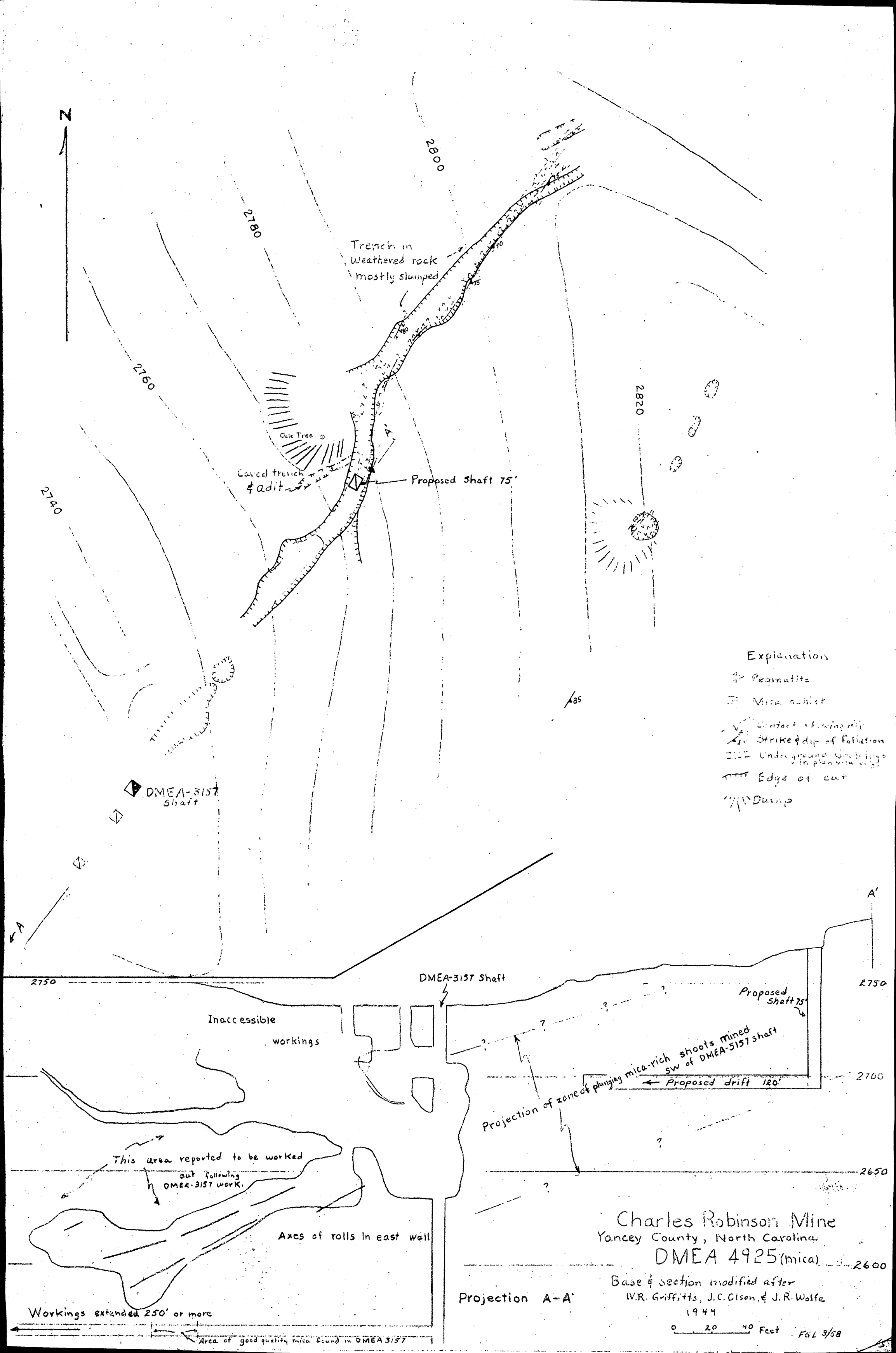
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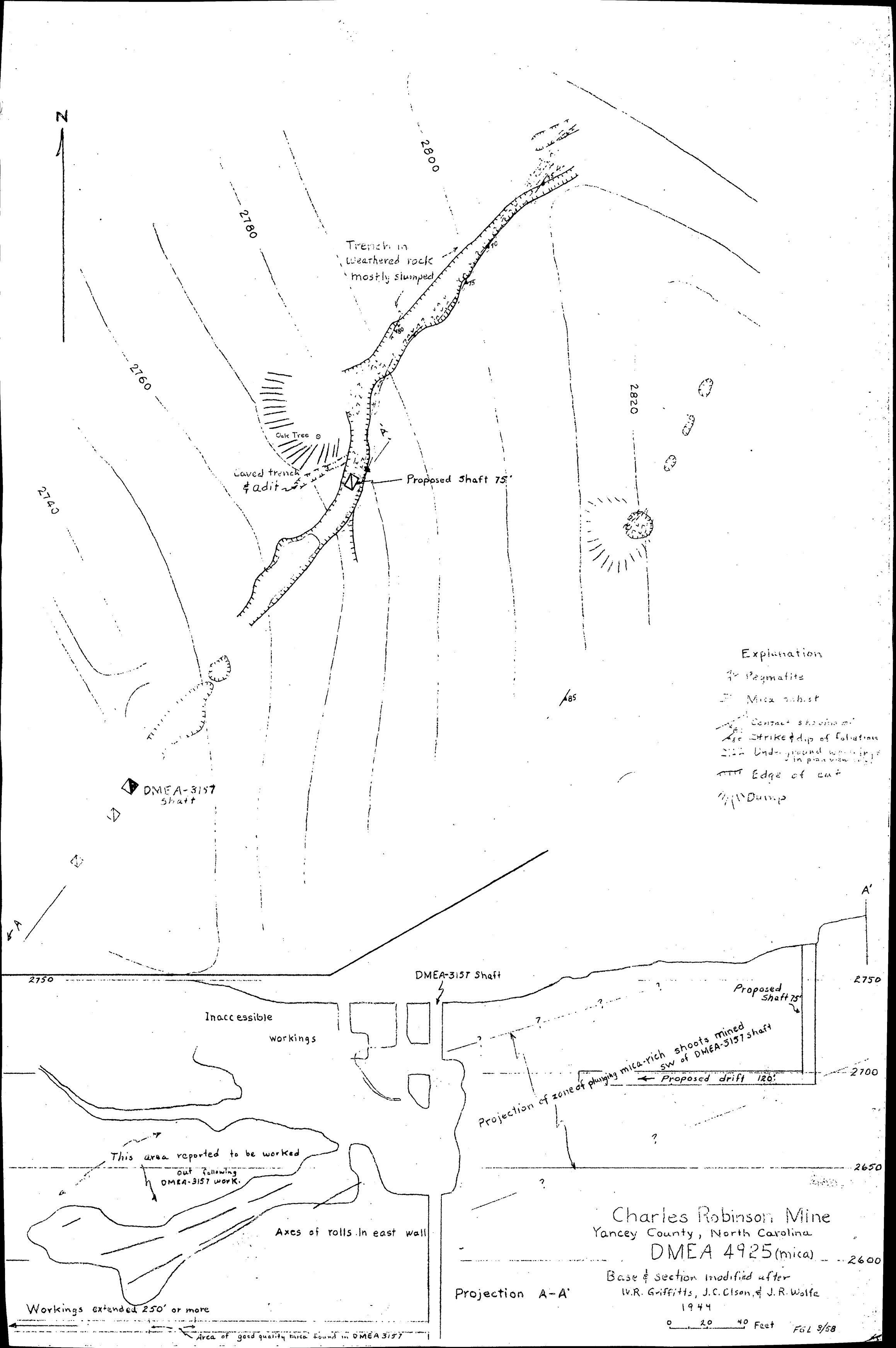
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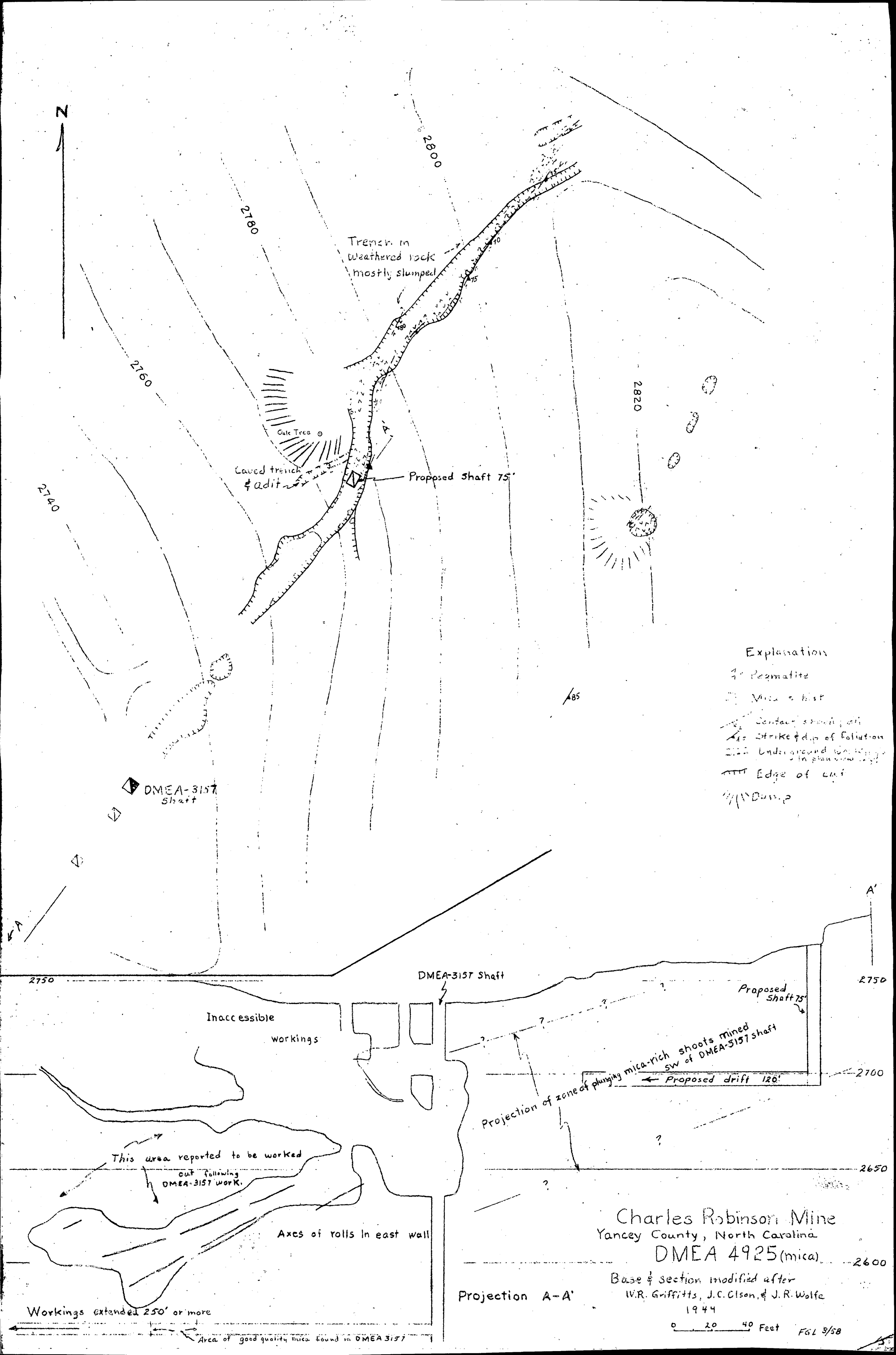
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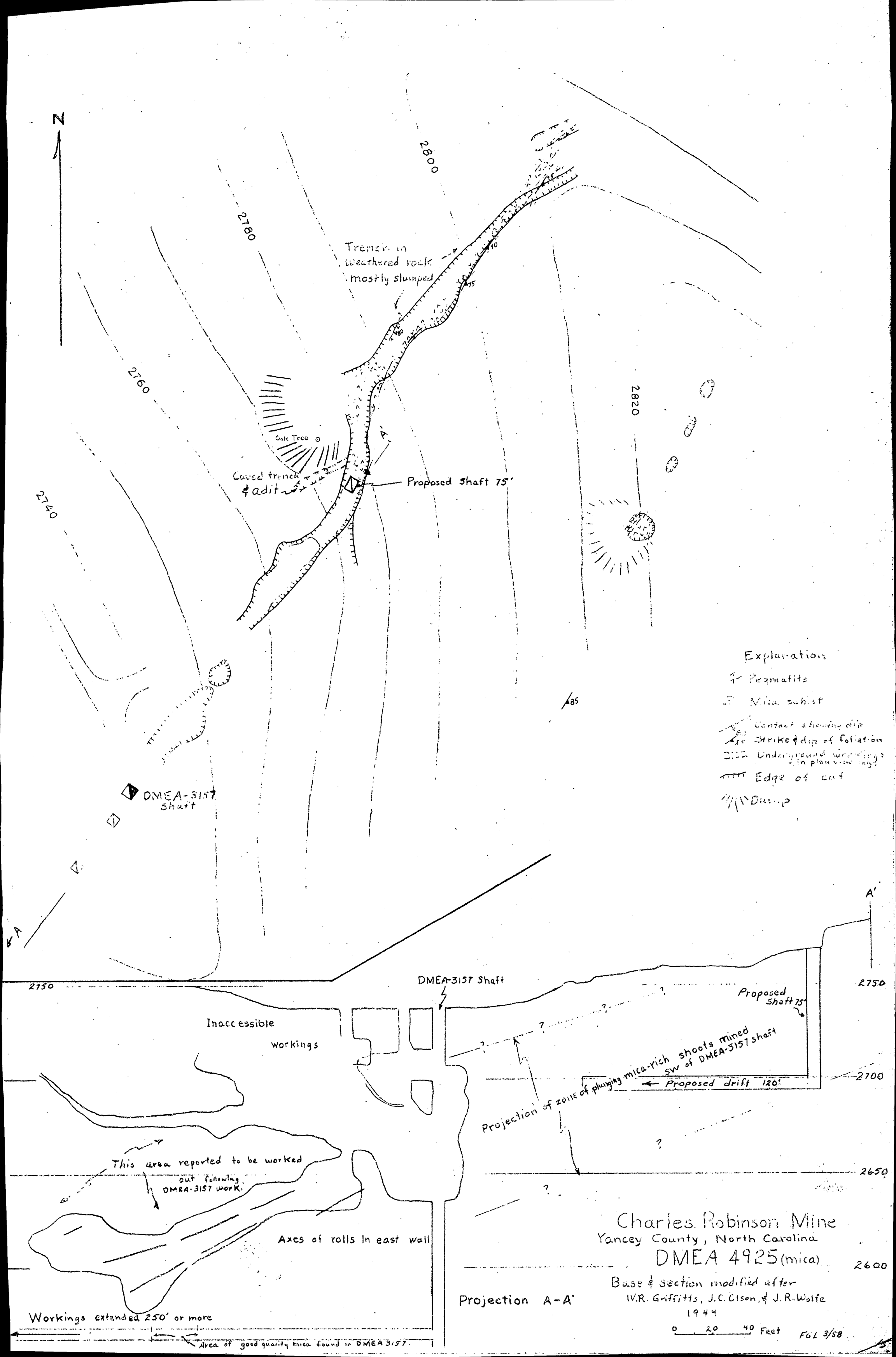
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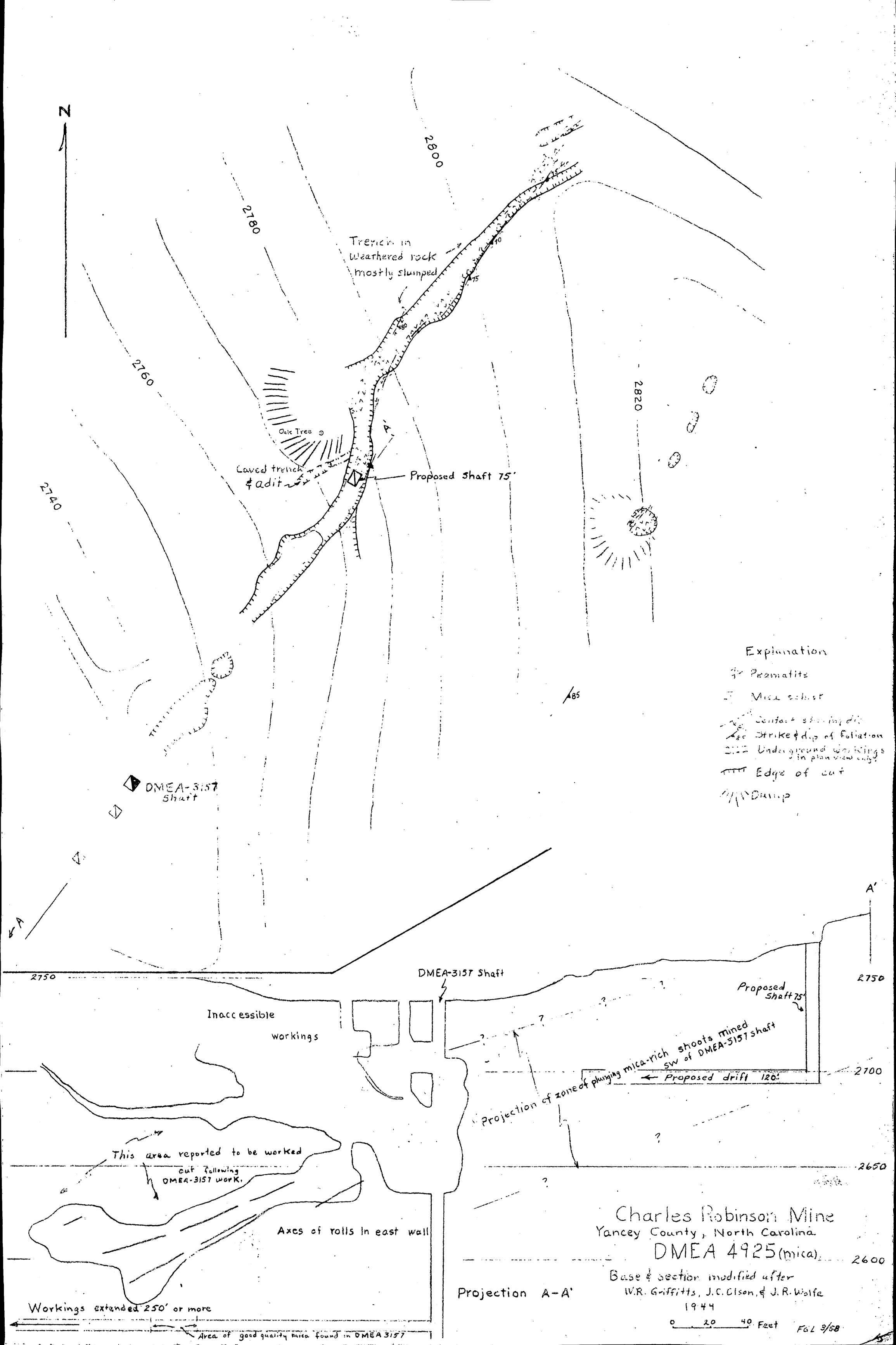
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Lancaster County
Planning Commission
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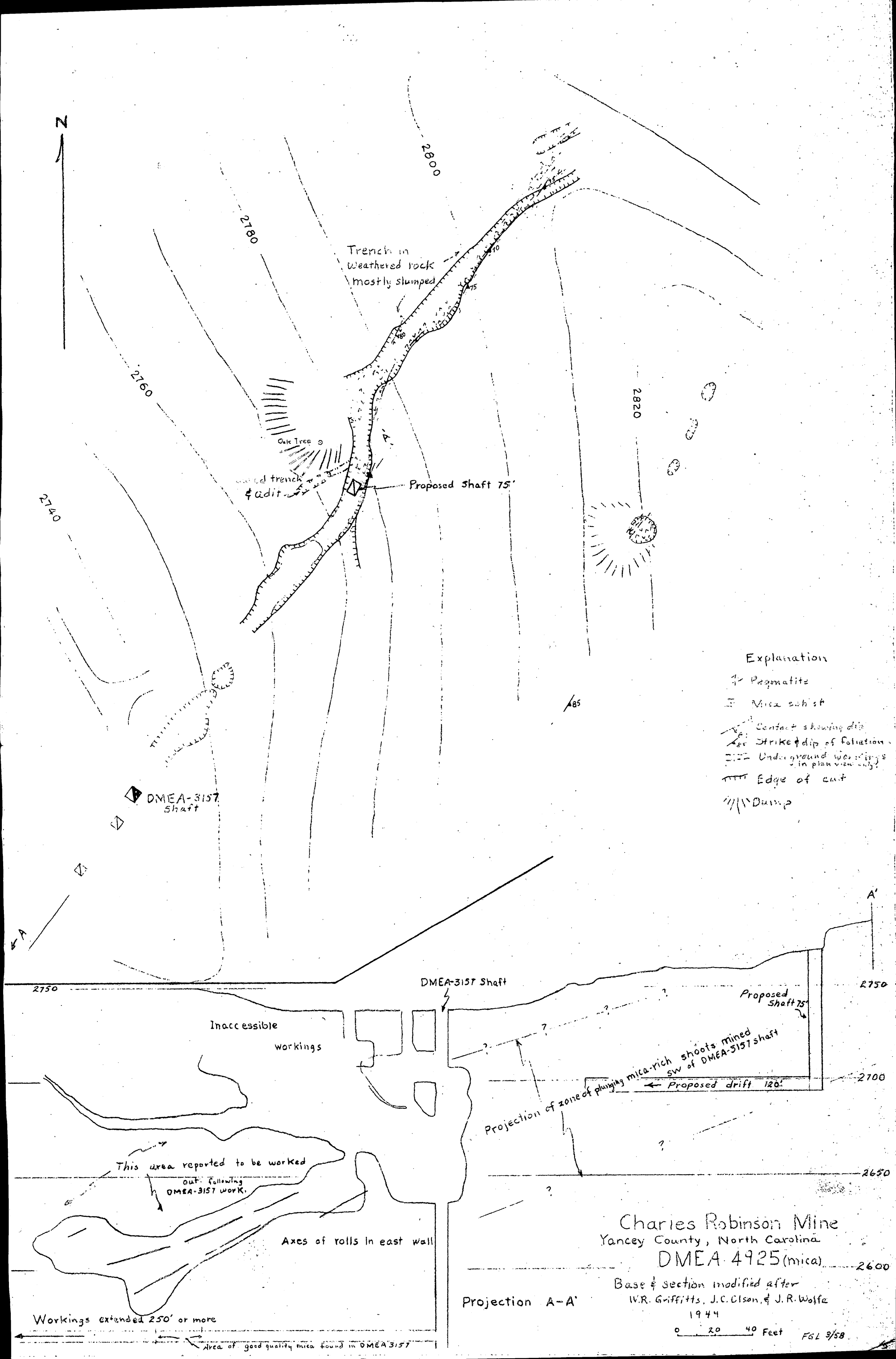
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Shaft 75'
Projection of zone of plunging mica-rich shoots mined
SW of DMEA-3157 shaft
Proposed drift 120'
2700
2650
2600
This area reported to be worked
out following
DMEA-3157 work.
Axes of rolls in east wall
Workings extended 250' or more
Area of good quality mica found in DMEA 3157
Projection A-A'
Charles Robinson Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
DMEA 4925 (mica)
Base & section modified after
W.R. Griffitts, J.C. Olson, & J.R. Wolfe
1944
0 20 40 Feet
FGL 3/58

EXTRA COPY
RECEIVED 11 1956
DATE CODE

RECEIVED 11 58
DATE CODE

DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
5/14	Selfridge	130
5/14	Lamb	1
5/14	Williams	130
"	Johnson	110
"	Mittendorf	100
		220

MAY 14 1958

B T and E Mining Company
c/o Mr. Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica
B T and E Mining Company
Charles Robinson Property
Yancey County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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

Your proposed program is directed toward gaining new access to a mica-bearing zone which the DMEA recently made accessible and explored at depth under docket DMEA-3197.

We believe that further Government participation to gain such access to a limited zone, exposed on the surface and by underground workings and occurring in close proximity to the original project shaft, is not justified, and we regret to inform you that your application is therefore denied.

Thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Exploration Program and for bringing your new work proposal to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

FLKnouse/FEJohnson/
GCSelfridge/COMittendorf-rsi/fw - 5/13/58
cc: Docket
Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Field Team, Reg. V
Mr. Houk
Mr. Knouse

8623

DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

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Date	Surname	Code
5/5	Knouse	600
5/5	Houk	600
		130
	Lamb	130
	Vellegand	130
		110
		100
		220

600 Noted:
Noted:

B T and E Mining Co.
c/o Mr. Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica
B T and E Mining Co.
Charles Robinson Property
Yancey County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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

Your proposed program is directed toward gaining access to the extension of a mica bearing zone after which the property would be ready for further production. We believe the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration assistance has already reasonably delineated this mica bearing zone and further participation is not justified. Therefore, we regret to advise that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

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

Sincerely yours,

Administrator

FLKnouse:rsi 4/23/58
Rewritten:
FEJ & FLK:rsi 5/5/58
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Houk
Mr. Knouse

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DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

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Date	Surname	Code
5/6	Knouse	600
		600
5/7	Selfridge	130
5/7	Dietrich	130
	Kiilsgaard	130
"	Johnson	110
		100
		220

600 Noted: 5/7
Noted 5/7

B T and L Mining Co.
c/o Mr. Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica
B T and L Mining Co.
Charles Robinson Property
Yancey County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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

Your proposed program is directed toward gaining new access to a mica-bearing zone which Defense Minerals Exploration Administration recently explored at depth. Therefore, we believe that further Government participation is not justified. Thus, we regret to inform you that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

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

Sincerely yours,

Administrator

FLKnouse:rsi 4/23/58
Rewritten:
FEJohnson/FLK:rsi 5/5/58
Rewritten:
GCSelfridge:rsi 5/6/58
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Houk
Mr. Knouse

8623

DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
4/22	Knouse	600
4/23	Houk	600
		130
	Lamb	130
	Kilsgaard	130
		110
		100
		220

600 Noted
Noted

B T and E Mining Company
c/o Mr. Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica
B T and E Mining Co.
Charles Robinson Property
Yancey County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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

A careful study of all our information, including the character of the mica mineralization, past production records and Government reports, shows that mica reserves occur on the subject property.

Your proposed program is directed toward gaining access ~~to these reserves~~ after ~~which the~~ property would be ready for ~~production~~ [illegible]. ~~The Defense Minerals Exploration Administration does not participate in work of this nature~~. Therefore, ~~under these circumstances~~, we regret to advise ~~you~~ that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

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

Sincerely yours,

Administrator

FLKnouse:rsi 4/23/58
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Houk
Mr. Knouse

8623

May 13, 1958

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica

A study of monthly production data from the Colonial Mica records shows that in the period May to September, 1945, the Charles Robinson produced $2,930.52 worth of mica with eleven (11) men for a productivity of $266.41 per man per month. The Charles Robinson was 93rd in 177 mines listed in the Colonial program for the entire United States. There is no breakdown on the amount of trimmed punch or the quality sold.

D. 5/14/58

DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
5/12	Mittendorf	100

May 13, 1958

Memorandum

To: Files

From: C. O. Mittendorf, Administrator

Subject: DMEA-4925 - Mica
B T and E Mining Co.

It is not the purpose of this memorandum to referee or arbitrate the different points of view expressed by those who have reviewed the proposed project. They range from denial on the basis of "no probability" or because the work may be considered as "development and mining" (of a sure-shot nature) to approval of an attractive exploration target.

I find some evidence in the dockets (DMEA-3157 and DMEA-4925) to support each of the widely differing points of view.

After a review of the dockets, I favor denial as a matter of policy and for reasons set forth in the proposed denial letter surnamed by Knouse, Selfridge, and Johnson. For purposes of the record, I will list the considerations which support my conclusions:

1) Two of the three named applicants were parties to the former contract (DMEA-3157). Hobert Burleson is the only new name joining Ellis and Thomas under DMEA-4925.

2) According to the Final Audit, dated January 6, 1955, covering the prior contract, the Government spent $11,223 (on a 90 percent basis) as contrasted to $1247 by the operators.

3) The Government contributed to the cost of unwatering and rehabilitating an old 104-foot shaft, sinking an additional 80 feet, and drifting southwest about 250 feet. Most of the value of this work was to make old and upper workings, now known to have contained mica-rich pegmatite, accessible for mining.

4) The shaft was strategically located in approximately the center of what now appears to be a strike length of about 450 feet of mica-bearing pegmatite, the entire length of which should have been adequately explored, developed, or mined before the equipment was dismantled and the property abandoned and allowed to again fill with water.

5) The project was completed in November 1954 and mining operations continued until the last half of 1957. The bulldozing to the northeast was done in 1955 - which allowed ample time for its evaluation and exploration before complete abandonment of operations. There also should have been ample opportunity for the Field Team to inspect the results of the bulldozing before March 4, 1958, when they found it caved, with the floor and contacts obscured.

6) It is unfortunate that no field men followed the progress of work in the stope northeast of the shaft to personally comment on the existence or nonexistence of mica-bearing pegmatite or the degree of hazard caused by the dangerous shaft overhang. The Field Team report dated October 13, 1954, makes no comment on ground conditions, but does state that results of the work "have eliminated the northeastern part of the area as containing mica-bearing pegmatite." From these remarks one may conclude that, sometime after 1954, the operators not only bulldozed the surface but also attempted underground mining from the shaft upslope to the northeast.

7) My first reaction was that the operators were imprudent for not exploring both targets (SW and NE) of the shaft when operations were intact. My second reaction is that they were perhaps "prudent" because they (a) now "consider the overhang too dangerous to allow driving a drift or low-angle raise from the deep shaft," and (b) they performed surface work and "neither the original pits nor the bulldozer trench disclosed profitable ore."

It seems they chose to cease operations, wait a few months, show up with a new face in the group, and then request approval of additional work estimated to cost $9080.

It appears that the purpose of the proposed project is partly to solve an operational problem and partly to support an obvious uneconomic mining situation.

8) The original project was certified February 18, 1955. Value of production sold was about $295,000, and the Government has been fully repaid for its contribution to the costs. Any future production won northeasterly from the shaft is covered by the certification and would, of course, be subject to royalty had not the original account been closed.

9) In conclusion, I do not believe that the Government should be expected to continue financial support by contributing 75 percent of the costs of additional work designed principally to gain access to an unmined triangular area, previously exposed at both limits, which lies in such close proximity to the locus of the original project site previously financed 90 percent by Government funds.

C O Mittendorf

Administrator

COMittendorf/fw-5/13/58

cc: Docket
Admr. Reading File

DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
4/25	Houck	600
4/25	[illegible]	130
"	Johnson	110
"	[illegible]	100
4/28	[illegible]	220
		600

APR 25 1958 600

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

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica
B T and E Mining Co.
Charles Robinson Property
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

We are inclined to deny the subject application because we do not believe a significant discovery will be made by the proposed work.

The map submitted with the application shows no stoping from the DMEA drift. May we conclude from this that all of the production came from the old workings on the 75 foot level? As the mica rich shoots were not projectable down dip why does the Field Team feel that they are projectable up dip? Does not the fact that the pegmatite in the shaft is vertical rule out the projection of the mica rich shoots eastward? How large an area was bulldozed by the Applicant to recover the $4,559.24 worth of mica recently recovered and reported in the latest Semi-Annual Report?

We will defer taking action until we receive your comments.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee (GCS)

Approved:

Frank D. Lamb (GCS)
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard (GCS)
Member, Geological Survey

LGHouk:gad 4/25/58
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

8623

Memorandum April 25, 1958

To: Mr. C. O. Mittendorf, Administrator

From: L. G. Houk, Director, Division of Nonmetallic Minerals

Subject: Justification for denial - Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica

As the Field Team points out a question of policy is involved here. No attempt will be made to resolve this point of policy, however, the following points are offered for justification for denial.

The original DMEA project had as its target the down dip extension of the old workings. The mica rich structure did not continue down dip. The up dip projection may be equally ~~unsuccessful~~ poor. The mica rich portion of this pegmatite seems to be associated with dip changes and the vertical [redacted] shape of the pegmatite in the shaft would seem to rule out the possibilities of projecting the shoots eastward. It would appear that the major production made recently from this mine was from a pillar that remained after the Colonial Mica work. The area to be explored was once made accessable by DMEA work. Had the target been inviting it is believed that the Colonial Mica Program would have conducted exploration in this direction.

The Griffith's map indicates that the upper portion of the east wall of the stope was mined. The proposed shaft and drift are poorly located.

In recent months we have had ~~five~~ 1 re-applications on certified projects; ~~four of which were fully repaid~~. ~~I do not feel that we should go into [illegible]~~ is this the bottom of the barrel or a second go round. Inasmuch as the Field Team have qualified their recommendations, it is not felt that writing them would add any information. I recommend denial of the subject application on the geologic improbability of making a significant discovery.

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION

97023

PRODUCTION EXPANSION DIVISION

PROCUREMENT APPLICATIONS

Name of Company and Address _____

Name of Mine and Location _____

Docket No. DMA - _____ Date received by P.E.D. _____

Metals or Minerals involved _____

Length of Contract (preproduction plus production) _____

Amount of Metals or Minerals in tons, units or pounds _____

Floor price or Guaranteed price and whether or not escalated _____

Maximum Government Commitment _____

Comments on Contract: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Date sent to Legal Division _____

Date of Recommendation to D.P.A. for Certification _____

Date Certification sent to G.S.A. by D.P.A. _____

Date signed into Contract by G.S.A. _____

Additional Remarks: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

NOTE: If application is denied, or if it is recommended for change into exploration, etc., please state under additional remarks.

Interior—Duplicating Section, Washington, D. C.

Signed _____

April 24, 1958

Mr. Selfridge:

Borderline case.

Exploratory aspects seem to outweigh development features. Pegmatite is indicated in shaft and surface trench, but reports indicate the pegmatite occurs in a series of lenses. Mica content where exposed in shaft and trench obviously is not economic.

We can't rightly contend that either pegmatite or mica shoots are continuous between two exposures.

Therefore, it seems that a small project (60 ' of shaft and 80 ' of drift) would be in order. Otherwise we should get better justification for denial and rewrite letter, since we have no report that states ore reserves exist in the area of the proposed work.

FEJ

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION

97023

PRODUCTION EXPANSION DIVISION

PROCUREMENT APPLICATIONS

Name of Company and Address _____

Name of Mine and Location _____

Docket No. DMA - _____ Date received by P.E.D. _____

Metals or Minerals involved _____

Length of Contract (preproduction plus production) _____

Amount of Metals or Minerals in tons, units or pounds _____

Floor price or Guaranteed price and whether or not escalated _____

Maximum Government Commitment _____

Comments on Contract: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Date sent to Legal Division _____

Date of Recommendation to D.P.A. for Certification _____

Date Certification sent to G.S.A. by D.P.A. _____

Date signed into Contract by G.S.A. _____

Additional Remarks: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

NOTE: If application is denied, or if it is recommended for change into exploration, etc., please state under additional remarks.

Interior—Duplicating Section, Washington, D. C.

Signed _____

DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Date	Surname	Code
	Lucas	600
4/23	[illegible]	600
		110
		100
		220

600

April 22, 1958

Summary of Proposed Project

Object: Denial of application for exploration aid.

Docket No. DMEA-4925

Commodity: Mica

Applicant: Hobert Burleson, F. E. Ellis, and Burdette Thomas
d/b/a B. T. & E. Mining Company
c/o Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Property: Known as The Charles Robinson Property, Charles Robinson Mica Mine, containing 10 1/8 acres, situated in Mitchell County, North Carolina. This property was explored under Docket No. DMEA-3157, Contract No. Idm-E646, and the total amount of the Government's participation was repaid on August 6, 1956, from royalties on production.

Property Rights: Applicant controls property by means of a "Mining Lease", dated January 11, 1958, for a period of five years from George F., Grace W., Paul J., Fern R., and Lucille Ellis; and Katherine Gilbert, and Mildred E. Pitman.

Application dated:	January 10, 1958
Application amount:	$9,080.00
Received in Division	January 23, 1958
Referred to Region V	February 6, 1958
Property examined:	March 9, 1958
F.T. Report rec'd in Div.	April 17, 1958

Work Proposed: Consists of sinking a 75 foot shaft and drifting 150 feet from the shaft bottom along a pegmatite that was explored under DMEA-3157. The proposed shaft site is approximately 200 feet northeast from the shaft that was reopened and deepened with DMEA aid, and the proposed drifting would be in a southwest direction toward the old mine workings.

Estimated Cost:

8 hrs. bulldozing @ $10.00/hr.	$80.00	
75 feet of shaft @ $50.00/ft.	3,750.00	
150 feet drifting @ $35.00/ft.	5,250.00	
Estimated total cost of the Project		$9,080.00
Government participation @ 75%		$6,810.00

Field Team Report dated April 9, 1958, by:
Frank G. Lesure, USGS and Stanley A. Feitler, USBM.
The Charles Robinson Mine workings follow a pegmatite on a

8623

series of disconnected pegmatite lenses along the same strike direction, enclosed in biotite gneiss. A 184 foot shaft and a southwest drift about 330 feet long from near the bottom of the shaft explored and developed the pegmatite. From the block of ground above the drift, there has been a production of 333,750 pounds of mica which sold for $294,929.00. Mining in this block was confined chiefly to a mica-rich shoot plunging about 20 degrees to the southwest.

A bulldozer trench cut northeast of the existing shaft along the indicated strike of the pegmatite, exposed a continuous pegmatite ranging in thickness from 4 feet near the proposed shaft site to 10 feet, 80 feet to the northeast. Earlier trenching northeast from the existing shaft, did not disclose profitable ore, but enough mica was recovered to pay for the trenching.

The pegmatite exposed by the recent trenching near the proposed shaft site and eastward contains green muscovite in books up to 6 by 8 inches, and the quality is good.

The only information available, concerning the existence of the pegmatite on the northeast side of the existing shaft, are the pegmatites similar along the northeast side of the shaft submitted with the Field Team Final Report, DMEA-3157.

We recommend that exploration assistance be granted to sink the proposed 75 foot shaft and drift west 120 feet to explore for the up-plunge extension of the mica-rich shoot mined on the southwest side of the shaft. We consider the potential reserves justify the expense of the work, whether the work is considered exploration or development, depends upon the point of view and is a matter of policy.

Commodity Members Comments:

USBM - Mr. W. F. Dietrich - dated April 17, 1958, "I concur with the Field Team that the proposed exploration work is justified".

USGS - Mr. T. H. Kiilsgaard - dated April 22, 1958, (See 2nd & 3rd paragraphs.)

Conclusions:

The program recommended by the Field Team is obviously designed to develop the northeast projection of the mica-rich shoot mined on the southwest side of the shaft. The map submitted with the Field Team Final Report for DMEA-3157, clearly shows the existence of pegmatite along the northeast wall of the shaft for a distance of 75 feet opposite the mica-rich shoot mined on the southwest side. It is not clear whether the bulldozer trench cut northeast from the shaft to the proposed shaft site exposed ~~from the shaft to the proposed shaft site exposed~~ pegmatite its full length, but the Field Team Report states that the proposed shaft site is on a 4 foot wide pegmatite that contains good grade mica. Also that the early trenching ~~recorded~~ recovered enough mica to pay the cost of trenching.

A projection of the mica-rich shoot shows it should crop out near the proposed shaft site and further to northeast,

and the Field Team reports the pegmatite is exposed in this area by the surface trench. Therefore, two sides of the projected pegmatite one shoot has been exposed, i.e., in the shaft and along the surface trench.

The Government contributed to the cost of re-opening this mine, which work resulted in the discovery and production described above. Since the discovery was made with Government aid, I feel it has done its part in exploring this ~~area~~ one shoot, and the additional cost of developing this ~~one~~ shoot should be the Applicant's problem. It is true that the production history of the mine indicates that the Government would be repaid the contribution recommended by the Field Team, but this condition does not qualify the recommended development as exploration. Therefore, the application should be denied.

F. L. Knouse
Division of Nonmetallic Minerals

FLKnouse:rsi 4/23/58
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk
Mr. Knouse

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
DMEA
RECEIVED APR 22 1958

DATE	INITIALS	CODE
4-22	FJK	600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

Memorandum

April 22, 1958

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

From: T. H. Kiilsgaard, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Examination Report, DMEA 4925, (mica), B. T. & E. Mining Company, Spruce Pine, N.C., Charles Robinson Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina.

Field Examiners recommend approval of a contract for the applicant. They base this recommendation on the fact that pegmatite has been explored northeast of existing mine workings by bulldozer trenching. As further justification, they state that DMEA work done under contract Docket 3157, on the same pegmatite, was helpful in finding an ore body which has produced 333,751 pounds of mica that sold for $294,929.00. This production has completely repaid Government expenditures in the previous DMEA contract.

The Field Examiners present a longitudinal section that clearly shows the rake of the mica ore shoot in the existing mine workings. This rake should project upward into the proposed target area. On paper, it would seem that this target area could be better explored by drifting in the pegmatite northeast from the existing shaft; however, the examiners report that the overhang of the brow above the shaft would make such work too dangerous to attempt. If this is so, then the shaft proposed by the examiners is probably a better venture and is one in which DMEA could participate.

I recommend that the application be approved. The proposed project has a better target than do most of the pegmatites explored in the Spruce Pine area explored under DMEA contract.

T. H. Kiilsgaard

T. H. Kiilsgaard

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

April 16, 1958

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
DMEA
RECEIVED APR 18 1958

DATE	INIT.	CODE
4/18	C	220
4/18	Hook	660
4/19	Hargrove	600

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Acting Executive Officer, DMEA - Region V - Knoxville

Subject: Field Examination Report - DMEA-4925-mica.
Charles Robinson Mine, Yancey County, N.C.
B. T. & E Mining Co., Spruce Pine, N.C.

Please refer to the subject report mailed your office April 10. On the cover sheet the commodity was incorrectly written "copper-zinc." Three corrected cover sheets are attached for replacement. Also, please change the commodity on page 1 heading of the report.

V. J. Lynch

V. J. Lynch, Acting
Executive Officer, DMEA
Region V

Z

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
D M
RECEIVED APR 18 1958

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

April 17, 1958

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-4925 (mica)

Applicant: B. T. & E. Mining Co.

Name and Location of Property: Charles Robinson Property, Yancey County, N. C.

Date of Field Team Report: 4/10/58

Date Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 4/15/58

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend exploration assistance be granted.

Comments:

1. Since 1954 mica valued at almost $300,000 has been produced (under DMEA 3157).
2. Because of possible mining hazards the NE. section of the prospect was not mined or explored.
3. Recent bulldozing work uncovered pegmatite showings to the NE. of the old mined section.
4. Geologically it is reasonable to believe that mica-rich shoots encountered in the old workings may be extended up-plunge in the pegmatite.
5. The potential target area is worthwhile.

Recommendation:

I concur with the field examiners that the proposed exploration work is justified.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

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

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
DMEA
RECEIVED APR 11 1958

DATE		CODE
4-11	C	220
4/16	NB	130
4/17	C	220
4/17	Hunch	600
4/17	[illegible]	600

April 10, 1958

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: DMEA Field Team, Region V - Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: Field Examination Report- DMEA-4925 (mica)
B. T. & E. Mining Co., Spruce Pine, N. C.
Charles Robinson Mine, Yancey County, N. C.

Enclosed are the original and two copies of the subject report and 8 extra copies of the map and section.

The first impression obtained from the longitudinal section is that the proposed work is cut off at both ends by the surface and an old stope..We have discussed this thoroughly, not only with the Examiners, but others of the local staff who are familiar with the area. The following items are considered significant:

1. No information is available on the inaccessible east wall of the stope, except that the Griffitts 1944 map shows it to be pegmatite.

2. Mica-rich structures may be projected up the plunge into the area of proposed work.

3. Thus a block of potential mica-rich structures 300 feet long and at least 80 feet high is present.

4. It is doubtful if any mine operator would consider mining this block solely on the basis of existing information without exploring it first.

We consider that the potential reserve justifies the expense of the work proposed. Whether it is considered as exploration or development depends upon the point of view and is a matter of policy rather than of observable fact.

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

Wm. A. Beck
Wm. A. Beck for V. J. Lynch
Member, Bureau of Mines

Reviewed by DMEA OPERATION COMMITTEE 4-16-58 (date)

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DMEA
RECEIVED APR 18 1958
DATE | REF. | CODE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FIELD EXAMINATION
REGION V

DMEA-4925, CHARLES ROBINSON PROPERTY-Mica
Yancey County, North Carolina

On-Site Exam Rpt

Frank G. Lesure, Geologist
Geological Survey

Stanley A. Feitler, Mining Engineer
Bureau of Mines (DMEA)

April 9, 1958

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DMEA
RECEIVED APR 11 1958

DATE		CODE
4/16	HB	130
		220

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
REGION V

DMEA-4925, CHARLES ROBINSON PROPERTY ~~Copper Zinc~~ Mica.
Yancey County, North Carolina

Frank G. Lesure, Geologist
Geological Survey

Stanley A. Feitler, Mining Engineer
Bureau of Mines

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
4-16-58
(date)

April 9, 1958

DMEA FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

DMEA-4925, CHARLES ROBINSON PROPERTY-Copper-Zinc.
Yancey County, North Carolina

Applicant: B. T. & E. Mining Company, Spruce Pine, N. C.
c/o Mr. Burdette Thomas

SUMMARY

The Charles Robinson Mine has had a production of 333,750.93 pounds of mica sold for $294,929.09 since 1954. Bull-dozing NE of the present shaft area indicates continuation of mica-bearing pegmatite. Mining in the area SW of the shaft was in mica-rich shoots plunging about 20°SW. Mining was not done NE of the shaft area underground because of a dangerous overhang. It is recommended that exploration assistance be granted in the form of a 75-foot shaft and 120 feet of drift to explore for the mica-rich shoots up-plunge from the old workings.

INTRODUCTION

Location: The Charles Robinson Mica Mine is on the northwest slope of a low ridge 1.38 miles N80°E of the intersection of N. C. Highway 80 and U. S. Highway 19 at Newdale, Yancey County, N. C., (Micaville, N.C. Quad., TVA 1:24,000) The mine is readily accessible at all times by a mile or so of gravel and dirt road leading off N. C. Highway 80, one mile north of Newdale.

Examination: The examination of the Charles Robinson Mine was made March 4, 1958, and lasted 3 hours. Messrs. H. Burleson, Jim Cox, R. C. Thomas and Burdette Thomas accompanied the Examiners.

Previous Operation: The Charles Robinson mine was first operated about 1900 and has had intermittent production since than. Following the completion of the DMEA-3157, Idm-E646 contract, mining was continued southwest of the shaft area along southwest plunging mica-rich shoots below the water hole on the 2680-level. The DMEA drift was extended 250 feet or more to the southwest. According to Wm. A. Beck, Mining Engineer, Bureau of Mines, total production of DMEA ore through July 1, 1957 was 333,750.93 pounds of mica sold for $294,929.09 (Semi-Annual Report of Certified Project, DMEA-3157, Idm-E646) Charles Robinson Mine, November 22, 1957).

All work in the mine was stopped in June 1957 and the mine is now flooded. No underground work was done northeast of the shaft area because of the dangerous overhang made before DMEA-3157 shown in the cross section.

In 1955 the Applicants bulldozed a large trench northeast of the shaft area where a series of small trenches is shown on the geologic map by Griffitts, Olson and Wolfe (Charles Robinson Mica Mine, Yancey County, N.C., U. S. Geol. Survey Strategic Minerals Inv. Prelim. Map, April 22, 1944). Neither the original pits nor the bulldozer trench disclosed profitable ore although about a ton of mica is reported to have been recovered. Applicants state that this mica trimmed and sold, the amount received paid for the bulldozing.

At the time of the examination the necessary buildings were on the property. No mining equipment was on the property. Water and electricity are readily available.

GEOLOGY

The general geology of the area and of the underground workings, now inaccessible, has been adequately described by Griffitts (The Charles Robinson Mine, Yancey County, N.C., unpublished U. S. Geol. Survey manuscript, May 8, 1944) and by Amos, Shirley and Teague (DMEA-3157, Charles Robinson Mine, Examination Report, October 6, 1953; Interim Reports, April 9 to September 9, 1954; and Final Report, December 10, 1954). The recent bulldozing northeast of the shaft area includes the site of the proposed exploration work. During this bulldozing a trench

five to 12 feet wide and 4 to 10 feet deep was dug along the hillside. This trench is in deeply weathered mica schist and pegmatite, but the walls have caved concealing much of the floor and much of the contacts. The Applicants report that pegmatite was continuous along the trench. Exposures of weathered pegmatite consisting of medium-to-coarse-grained plagioclase, quartz, and muscovite were observed at intervals along the trench. The pegmatite ranges in thickness from a reported 4 feet near the proposed shaft site to 10 feet about 80 feet to the northeast. At the crest of the hill the pegmatite is 3 feet or less thick. It is possible that the pegmatite is not as continuous as reported, especially at the far northeast end of the trench, and is actually a series of lenses similar to the lenses found in the deeper mine workings.

The pegmatite contains green muscovite in books up to 6" x 8". The quality of the mica in the old mine is good and the quality of that recovered during the bulldozing is reported to be good.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that exploration assistance be granted. The mining done southwest of the shaft area outlined mica shoots plunging about 20°SW. The area of proposed work would test the possible up-plunge extension of these mica-rich shoots. No available report from Griffitts (1944) to DMEA-3157 Final Report (1954) contains a description, evaluation or even mention of the

geology and mica possibilities to the northeast. The only information about the northeast side of the shaft is the pegmatite symbol along the face under the overhang as shown in the cross-section by Griffitts, Olson & Wolfe (1944).

Interim reports of DMEA-3157 do not mention the overhang but the Applicants consider the overhang too dangerous to allow driving a drift or low angle raise from the deep shaft. Apparently neither mining nor exploration of the area northeast of the present shaft was done from the existing workings because of this dangerous overhang.

The area of ground to be explored would be nearly as large as that previously mined and the possibilities of outlining additional reserves seem favorable. In the opinion of the Examiners the surface exploration that has been done does not adequately explore this up-plunge block of ground. On the basis of production from the down plunge area, the pegmatite to be explored offers a better than average target.

We recommend sinking a shaft 75 feet deep and drifting 120 feet southeast towards the old workings to explore for the continuation of the plunging mica shoots.

(Estimates on next page).

ESTIMATE OF COSTS

Sink 75 feet of 5' x 7', two-compartment shaft (50 shifts)

Equipment (rental)

1 - Compressor @ $150/Mo.	$375.00	
1 - Hoist @ $50/Mo.	125.00	
1 - Rock drill w/hose @ $40/Mo.	100.00	
1 - Sump pump @ $40/Mo.	100.00	
Total		$ 700.00

Labor:

1 - Foreman-Miner	$14/shift	
1 - Hoistman	12/ "	
1 - Laborer	8/ "	
Per 8 hour shift.....	$34	
Total labor - 50 shifts @ $34/shift		$1,700.00

Supplies, Tax & Insurance:

Gasoline and oil	168.75	
Explosives	281.25	
Drill Steel	135.00	
Timber, 3 M. b.f.	195.00	
Small tools and misc.	150.00	
Sales tax	28.00	
Social Sec. & Ins.	204.00	
Total.....		1,162.00

Total estimated cost of shaft..... $3,562.00

Est. cost/ft. $47.55.

Drift and/or crosscut 120 feet 5' x 7' in cross section (60 shifts).

Equipment (rental):

1 - Compressor @ $150/Mo.	450.00	
1 - Hoist @ $50/Mo.	150.00	
1 - Rock drill w/hose @ $40/Mo.	120.00	
1 - Sump pump @ $40/Mo.	120.00	
1 - Jackleg @ $25/Mo.	75.00	
		$ 915.00

Labor:

1 - Foreman-Miner	$14/shift
1 - Hoistman	12/shift
1 - Laborer	8/ "
Per 8 hour shift.....	$34

Total labor, 60 shifts @ $34/shift $2,040.00

Supplies, Tax & Insurance:

Gasoline & Oil	$270.00	
Explosives	450.00	
Drill steel	168.00	
Small tools & Misc.	240.00	
Sales Tax	34.00	
Social Sec. & Insurance	245.00	
Total.....		1,407.00

Total estimated cost of drift.... 4,362.00

Est. cost/ft of drift $36.35

Summary:

75 feet of shaft.....$3,562.00

120 feet of srift..... 4,362.00

Total estimated cost of project.... $7,924.00

Frank G. Lesure, Geologist
Geological Survey

Stanley A. Feitler, Mining Engineer
Bureau of Mines

April 9, 1958

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DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

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2/4	[illegible]	600
2/5	[illegible]	130
"	[illegible]	110
"	[illegible]	100
2/6	[illegible]	220
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FEB 6 1958

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

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-Mica
B T and E Mining Co.
Charles Robinson Property
Yancey 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 January 27 and 28, 1958, by Mr. N. E. Nelson, USGS, and Mr. W. F. Dietrich, USBM, respectively, relating to the project are enclosed. There is also enclosed a copy of the application for the use of the Field Team.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee (b/b)

Approved:

Frank D. Lamb (b/b)
Member, Bureau of Mines

N. E. Nelson (b/b)
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 5

LGHouk:gad 2/4/58
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

8623

DMEA Form 7
(12-56)

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Date	Surname	Code
2/4	Houk	600
2/5	Schindler	130
2/5	Lauck	130
2/5	Nelson	130
"	Johnson	110
"	Mittendorf	100
		220

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FEB 6 1958

B T and E Mining Co.
c/o Mr. Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4925-~~Nice~~
B T and E Mining Co.
Charles Robinson Property
Yancey County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

Your application for assistance in exploring the subject property has been reviewed by the Division of Nonmetallic Minerals of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and has been referred to Mr. Robert A. Laurence, 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 (for)

Administrator

LGHouk:gad 2/4/58
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

8623

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

January 28, 1958

DMEA
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Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-4925 (mica)

Applicant: B.T and E Mining Co. (Burdette Thomas)

Name and Location of Property: Charles Robinson Property, Yancey County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 1/23/58

Comments:

1. Applicants request assistance in reopening an old mine from which they state good quality mica was produced.

2. Exploration contract Idm-E 646, Docket No. DMEA-3157 was completed on this property and certified several years ago. The money has been repaid in full.

3. Although it would be desirable for the applicant to furnish more complete information, it appears that a visit by an examiner would furnish more useful data.

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
DMEA
RECEIVED JAN 28 1957

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

January 27, 1957
Re: DMEA 4925
BT & E Mining Co.
Chas. Robinson Mine
Yancey County, N. C.
$9, 080.00 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of application

The applicant, probably a partnership, requests assistance in exploring a pegmatite or series of pegmatites by shaft sinking and drifting.

The property is the site of $12,470.00 worth of assisted work done under DMEA 3157, contract Idm-E646, in 1954. The application says the present applicants did not do the previous work, but F. E. Ellis and a B. G. Thomas appear to have been members of the Cook Mining Company, Inc., which did the previous work.

As intimated by the Final Report, the results of the work were not particularly encouraging and the examiners advised that "no additional exploratory work is warranted". In the course of the work in the drift, 1,500 pounds of mine run mica was produced. However the then operators continued work and seem to have produced mica worth at least $224,460, as the $11,223.00 advance by DMEA has been liquidated.

Referral of the application to the Field Team is recommended.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

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

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
DMEA
RECEIVED JAN 23 1958

DATE		CODE

January 21, 1958

B T and E Mining Company
c/o Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Your application for exploration on the Charles Robinson Property, Yancey County, North Carolina has been received in this office, reviewed, and sent to our Washington office. The Washington office will notify us if a field examination is to be made, and you will be notified in advance when our men will call at the property.

We are returning an extra copy of the application, which you should keep for your files. The extra copy of the Consent and Subordindation Agreement should be given to the land owner.

Very truly yours,

V. J. Lynch, Acting Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region V

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM [illegible]
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

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

January 23, 1958

B T and B Mining Company
c/o Burdette Thomas
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

Subject: DMEA-4925

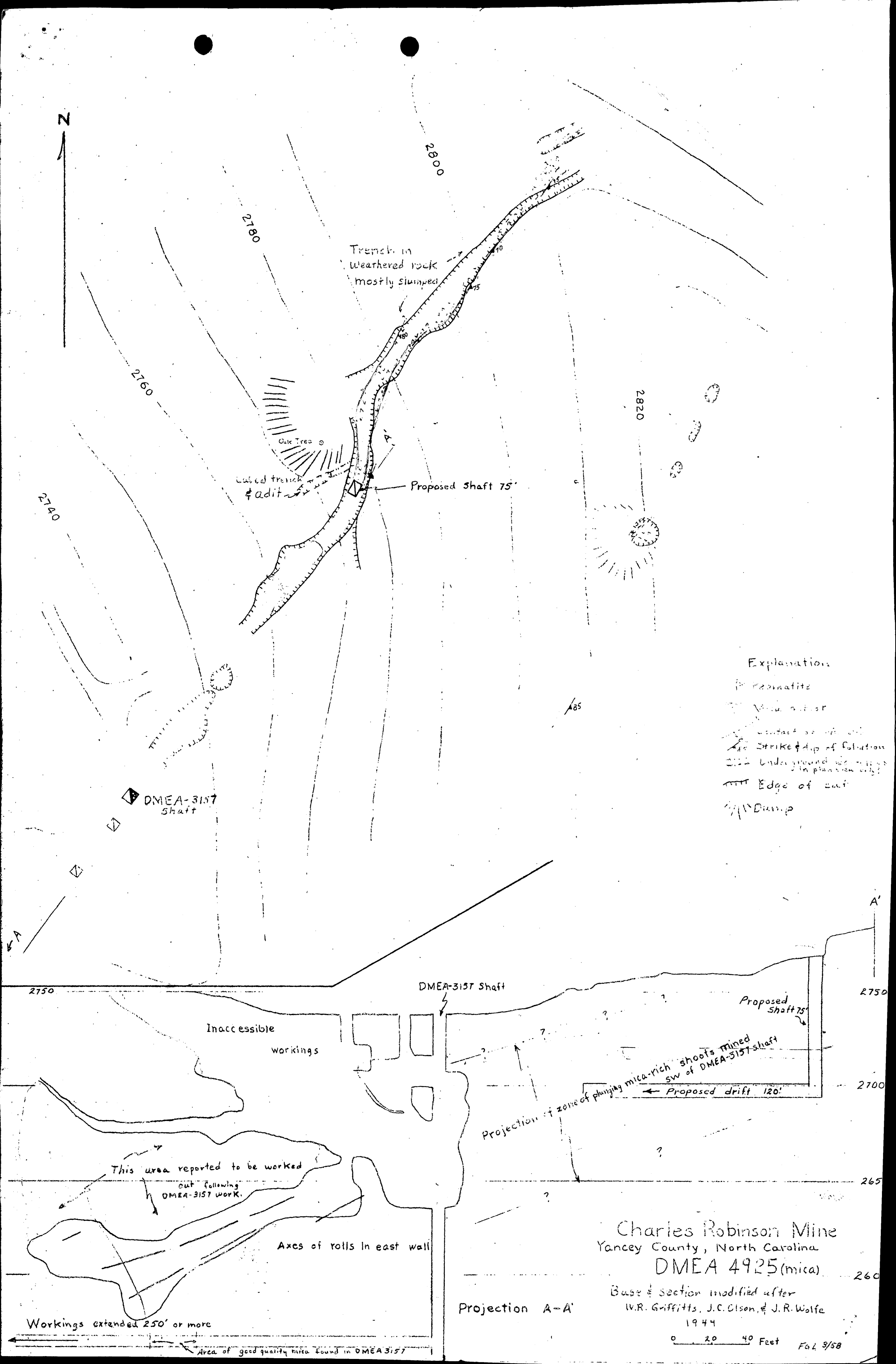
Your application for exploration assistance, dated January 10, 1958 submitted to our office at Knoxville, Tennessee has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-4925 and referred to the Nonmetallic Minerals Division in the Washington office. Kindly identify all future correspondence relating to your application by this Docket Number.

Sincerely yours,

Allen S. Dakan, Director
Operations Control and
Statistics Division

Copy to:

Region V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Trench in weathered rock mostly slumped
Oak Tree
Cased trench & adit
Proposed Shaft 75'
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DMEA-3157 Shaft
Explanation
Strike & dip of foliation
Edge of cut
Dump
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DMEA-3157 Shaft
Inaccessible workings
Proposed Shaft 75'
Projection of zone of plunging mica-rich shoots mined SW of DMEA-3157 shaft
Proposed drift 120'
2700
This area reported to be worked out following DMEA-3157 work.
265
Axes of rolls in east wall
260
Workings extended 250' or more
Area of good quality mica found in DMEA 3157
Projection A-A'
Charles Robinson Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina
DMEA 4925 (mica)
Base & section modified after
W.R. Griffitts, J.C. Olson, & J.R. Wolfe
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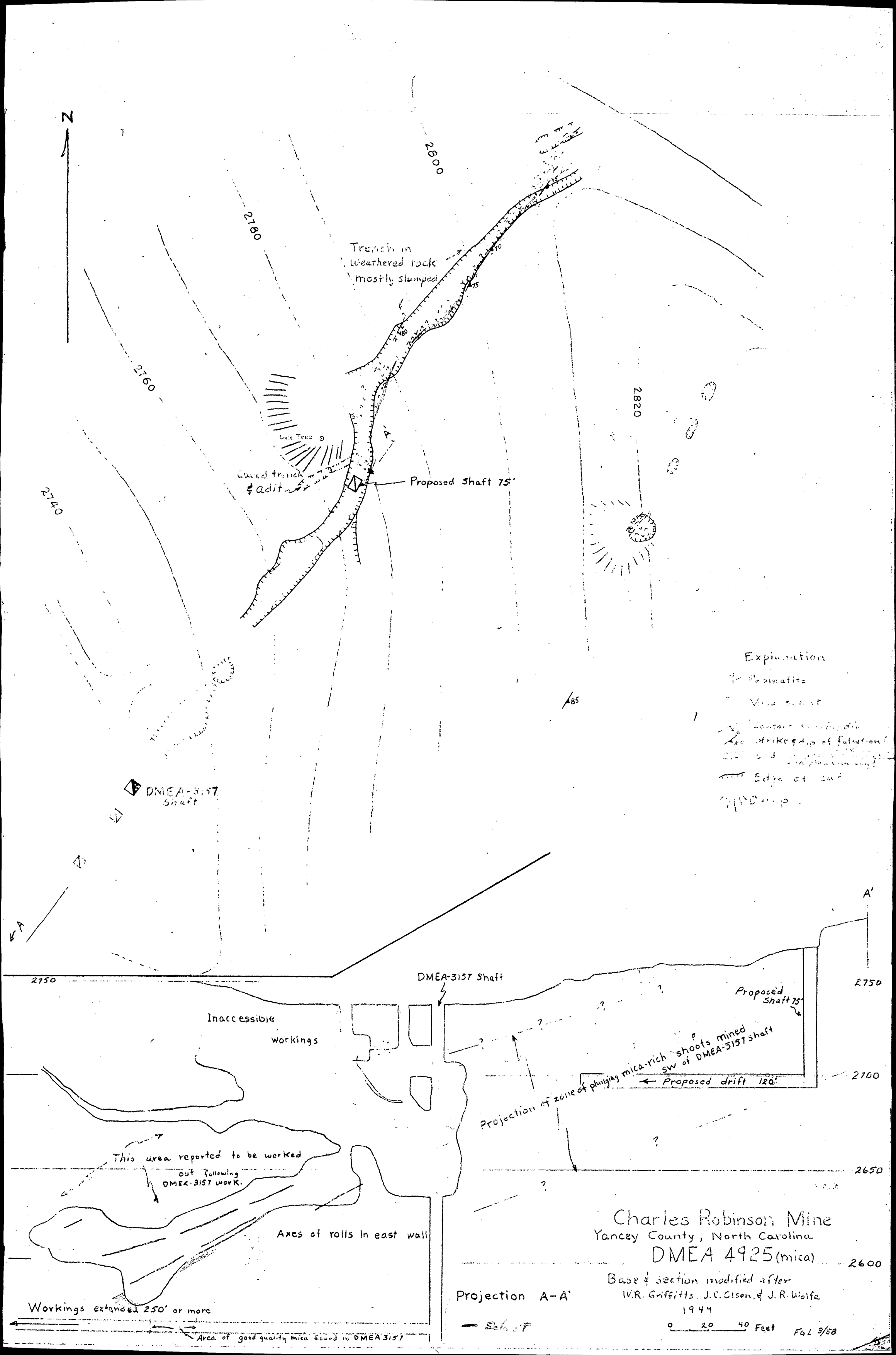
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DMEA-3157 Shaft
Explanation
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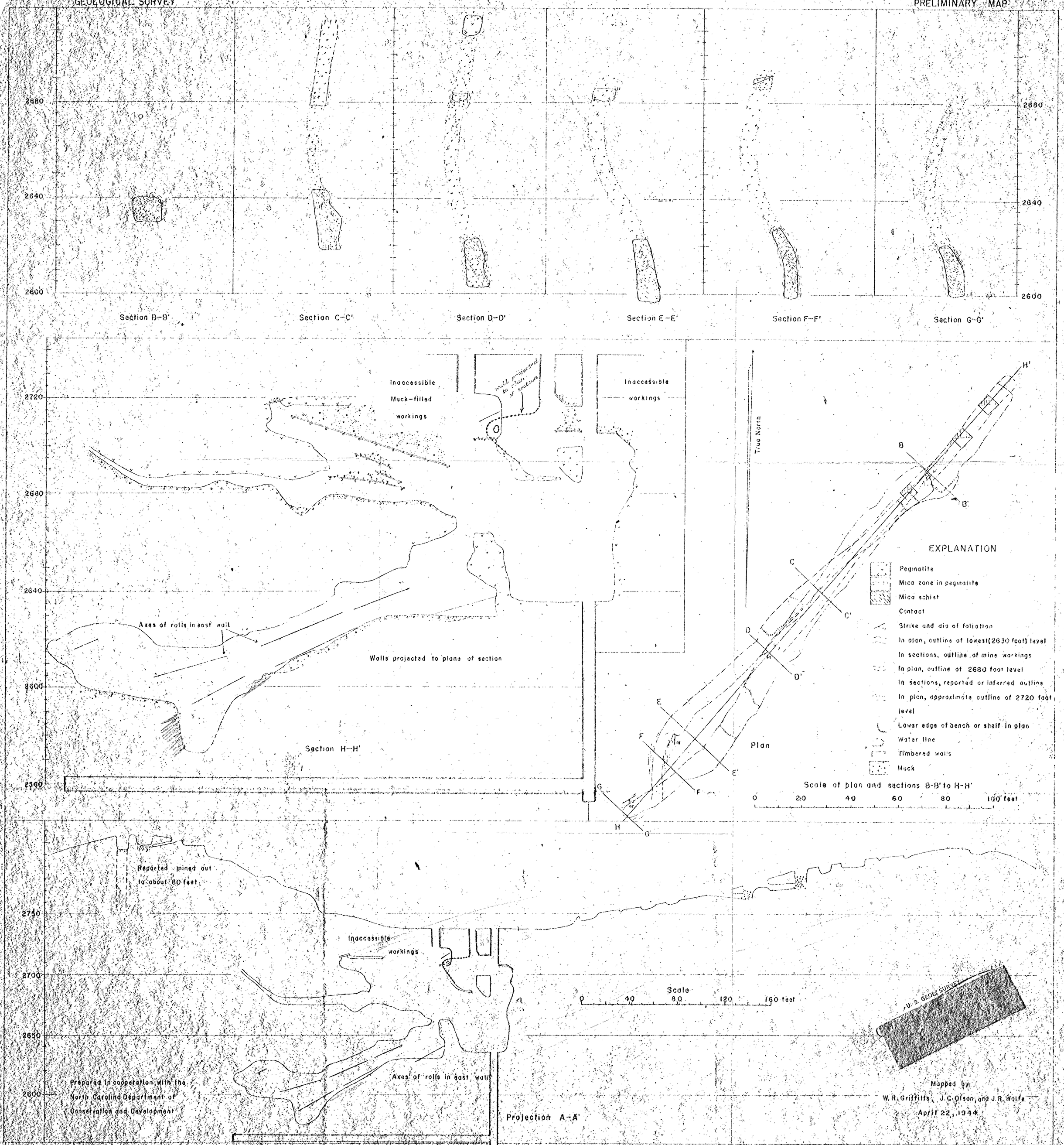
Yancey County, North Carolina
DMEA 4925 (mica)
Base of section modified after
W.R. Griffitts, J.C. Olson, & J.R. Wolfe
1944
Projection A-A'
0 20 40 Feet
FOL 3/58

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STRATEGIC MINERALS INVESTIGATIONS
PRELIMINARY MAP



Prepared in cooperation with the
North Carolina Department of
Conservation and Development

Mapped by
W. R. Griffitts, J. C. Olson, and J. R. Wolfe
April 22, 1944

CHARLES ROBINSON MICA MINE, YANCEY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

DMEA-3157 (Misc.)