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REPORT ON THE PROPERTY OF THE KILMAR MINE

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PROPERTY INSPECTION REPORT FOR 1957

ON THE

KILMAR MINE

GRENVILLE TOWNSHIP

ARGENTEUIL COUNTY

Ref: F.F. Osborne, Magnesitic-Dolomite Depcsits, Grenville Township: Annual Report of the Quebec Bureau of Mines for 1936, 1938, p. 63.
The Mining Industry of the Province of Quebec in 1953, 1955, p. 47.

Canadian Refractories Limited owns and operates the Kilmar mine, a producer of magnesite and magnesitic-dolomite. This mine is located on lot 15, range IX, and on lot 15, range X of Grenville township, Argenteuil county. The property is about sixty miles west of Montreal and is easily accessible by a paved road. The Montreal-Ottawa branches of the C.P.R. and C.N.R. are only ten miles south of the mine.

The magnesitic-dolomite deposits of Kilmar are located in the Grenville subprovince of the Precambrian shield. Near the mine, the rocks consist of three sedimentary members of the Grenville Series; a shaly, a carbonate and a quartzite member. These sedimentary rocks strike north-south and dip steeply from 70 to 90 degrees to the west. They have been

highly metamorphosed and intruded by the Trembling Mountain gneisses on the west and by the Morin granites on the east.

The sedimentary rocks have been more deeply eroded than the intruding granites and gneisses and now occupy a north-south trending valley. At the Kilmar mine, the carbonate member is in the middle of the sedimentary sequence. The argillaceous or shaly member is east of the carbonate member, or on the foot-wall side, whereas the quartzite member is on the west, or on the hanging-wall side.

The original limestone of the sedimentary sequence has been replaced here and there to form magnesite and magnesitic-dolomite. The argillaceous member has been changed to garnet-sillimanite and mica-hornblende gneisses, and the quartzite member has been fractured and metamorphosed first to diopside and then to serpentine. The magnesitic-dolomite occurs as lenses in the carbonate member. It is found over a length of about two miles and is concentrated in two main zones. The north zone holds five lenses and the south zone holds 6 lenticular masses.

Two shafts, No. 1 and No. 2 located respectively on the south and on the north zone, have been sunk. The No. 1 shaft was deepened in 1953 from 720 feet to a depth of 1,028 feet. The No. 2 shaft, located on the north zone 6,200 feet north of No. 1 shaft, was started in 1953 and completed in 1957 to a depth of 850 feet.

The company is now completing, on the 850 foot level, a drive some 6,200 feet long to connect the two shafts. 4,700 feet, or about 75 per cent of the drive, had been cut at the time of the writer's visit. Ore mined from the No. 2 shaft is brought up to the surface and trucked to the No. 1 shaft where it is dumped to the crushing station on the 850 foot level. Once the drive on the 850 foot horizon is completed, greater efficiency will be achieved as the ore from the north zone will be carried to the crusher of the south zone on the 850 foot level rather than on the surface.

In the summer of 1957, a program of geologic mapping was conducted in an attempt discover in the vicinity any other favourable areas of mineralization. Mapping on a scale of half a mile to one inch covered an area extending from the village of Calumet into Harrington township and failed to discover new deposits. The company also carried out a surface diamond drilling program during 1956.

Mining from 1915 to 1936 was mostly by open pit methods, but since 1936 mining has been underground. Shrinkage stoping methods were used in the beginning, but have now been replaced by blast hole methods. The daily production varies from 300 to 350 tons of ore.

Wm. T. Bray is the mine manager and Phil Bate is the resident geologist in charge.

André Deland

André Deland,
Resident Geologist,
Montreal District.

April 3, 1958