Occurrence Details

Occurrence Number: 105D 210
Occurrence Name: Grafter
Occurrence Type: Hard-rock
Status: Deposit
Date printed: 12/15/2025 1:06:46 PM

General Information

Primary Commodities: copper, gold, silver
Aliases: Whitehorse Copper
Deposit Type(s): Skarn
Location(s): 60°40'13.85" N - -135°7'26.6" W
NTS Mapsheet(s): 105D11
Hand Samples Available: No
Last Reviewed:

Capsule

The Whitehorse Copper Belt is located west of Whitehorse and contains 30+ mines, deposits and showings. Many of the occurrences in the Copper Belt are skarns. The skarns form on or near the contact between the Whitehorse batholith and the Lewes River group. The Whitehorse batholith is commonly a grey coarse-grained hornblende granite and ranges from quartz monzonite to granodiorite to diorite. The Lewes River group contains numerous different rock types, most importantly of which is the limestone group, which is essential in the formation of skarns in the area. A small number of occurrences within the Copper Belt are vein and/or replacement and occur within the Whitehorse batholith granite.

The Grafter deposit and mine is located in close proximity to the Best Chance deposit and therefore the geology is assumed to be quite similar. The geological description for the Best Chance deposit is given below as reference:

The Best Chance deposit is exposed as a large outcrop of magnetite and skarn over a maximum length of 420 ft (128 m) to the north and widths up to 80 ft (24 m). The deposit is bounded by limestone on the west and granite on the east. The ore within the garnet-magnetite skarn consists of chalcopyrite, bornite and sections of massive magnetite. The major part of the copper mineralization is concentrated near the roof or around a large unreplaced lens of limestone within the skarn and the copper values are frequently found in massive magnetite.

Production at the Grafter mine was 1 800 tonnes at 7.0 % Cu between 1899 – 1907, and 10 400 tonnes at 6.0% Cu between 1915 – 1917. The ore also contains small amount of Au and Ag.

Work History

Date	Work Type	Comment
12/13/1990	Drilling	7 holes completed
12/13/1990	Ground Geophysics	
12/13/1990	Lab Work/Physical Studies	
12/13/1990	Geochemistry	
12/13/1973	Geology	
12/13/1973	Lab Work/Physical Studies	
12/13/1966	Studies	
12/13/1964	Drilling	

Assessment Reports that overlap occurrence

Report Number	Year	Title	Worktypes	Holes Drilled	Meters Drilled
092887	1990	Report on the 1990 Drill Program. Aurora Gold Ltd. Property, Whitehorse Copper Belt	Reverse Circulation - Drilling, Drill Cuttings - Geochemistry, Magnetics - Ground Geophysics, Petrographic - Lab Work/Physical Studies	7	849.78
062018	1973	Preliminary Report on Geological Control to Ore Distribution in the Whitehorse Copper Belt	Reverse Circulation - Drilling, Bedrock Mapping - Geology, Petrographic - Lab Work/Physical Studies	665	5555
062227	1966	An Evaluation of the New imperial Mines Ltd.	Feasibility - Studies		
091123	1964	Summary of assessment work for 316 claims	Diamond - Drilling	46	3652.57

Related References

Number	Title	Page(s)	Reference Type	Document Type

1984-1	The Whitehorse Copper Belt - A Compilation		Indian & Northern Affairs Canada/Department of Indian & Northern Development: Exploration & Geological Services Division	Open File (Geological - Bedrock)
ARMC004821	Map of Best Chance/Grafter		Property File Collection	Geoscience Map (Geological - Bedrock)
ARMC004892	Induced polarisation report on the Grafter and Best Chance deposit - Whitehorse Copper Belt		Property File Collection	Report
ARMC004822	Sketch map of Grafter mine		Property File Collection	Geoscience Map (General)