

Gouler Goulch REE Prospect, Mountain Pass District

15.5N 14E Sec. 28 SBM

35.44280999980

-115.48974000000

The Gouler Goulch prospect is 8,850 feet south of Wheaton Wash on the west flank of Mineral Hill. The prospect is 7,900 feet southeast of the Molycorp REE Mine. It lies along the South Fault, just to the east of Evan's map of the Mescal Range 15 min. Quadrangle (Evans, 1971).

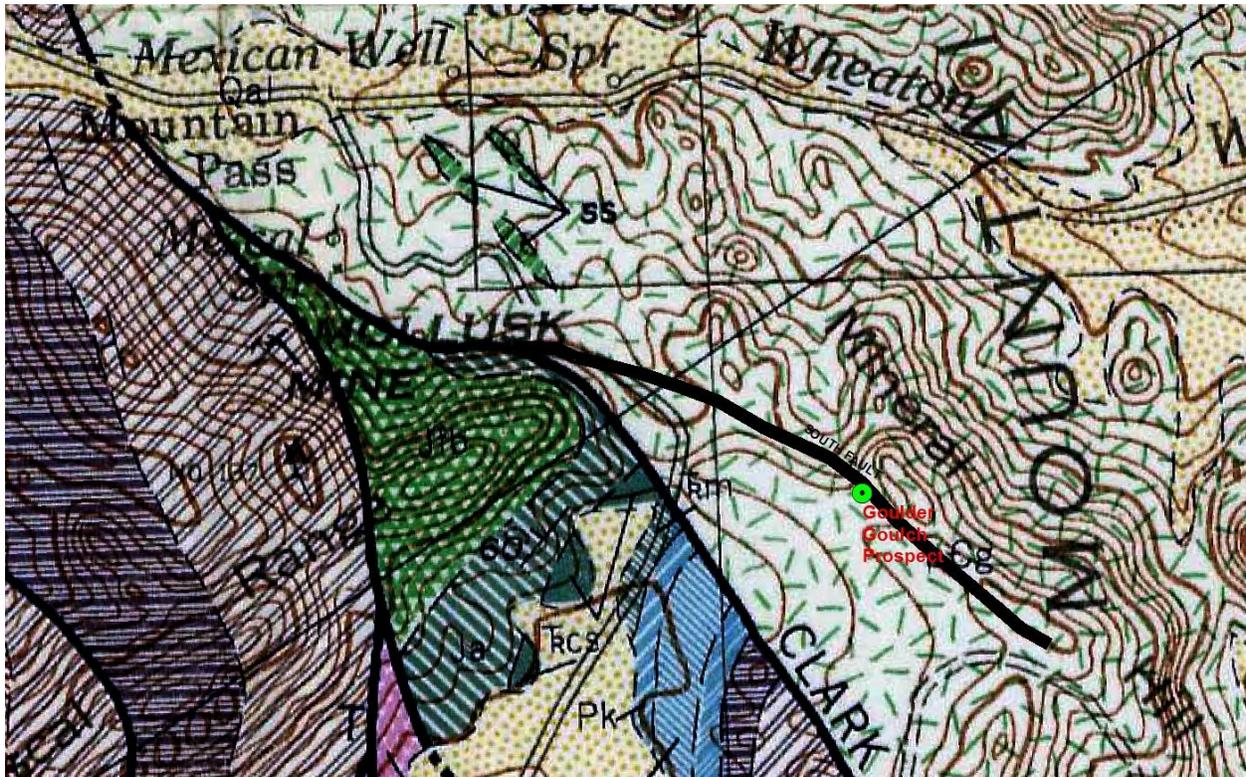


Figure 1. Geology of the Gouler Goulch Prospect and surrounding area. From Hewett, 1956, Plate 1. South Fault added by projection from Evans (1971).

At the Gouler Goulch prospect radioactive veins are exposed in six pits and trenches (see Hewett, 1956, pl. 13 reproduced in Doty Prospect report, this volume). The veins are in sheared and altered gneiss which contains abundant goethite and clay (?) minerals. Mafic gneiss is cut by pegmatitic granite gneiss just south of the veins. West and north of the veins are faults striking about N. 25° W., and west, respectively; both faults are expressed topographically by canyons. The west-striking cross fault offsets the shear zone in which the thorium deposits are found. The veins consist of carbonate material, some barite, quartz, and abundant hematite and goethite. Masses of radioactive material, crowded with fine-grained hematite, are probably thorite. Skeletons of older minerals that have been replaced by dusty aggregates or parallel streaks of hematite and goethite are seen in thin section. Some veins contain fragments of gneiss in which the quartz and microcline, as seen in thin section, are broken and milled. The gneiss has been replaced by carbonate, hematite, thorite (?), and late quartz containing minute needles that probably are rutile. Radioactivity of the veins is as much as 4.0 millirems per hour. (From Olson and others, 1954, p. 55)

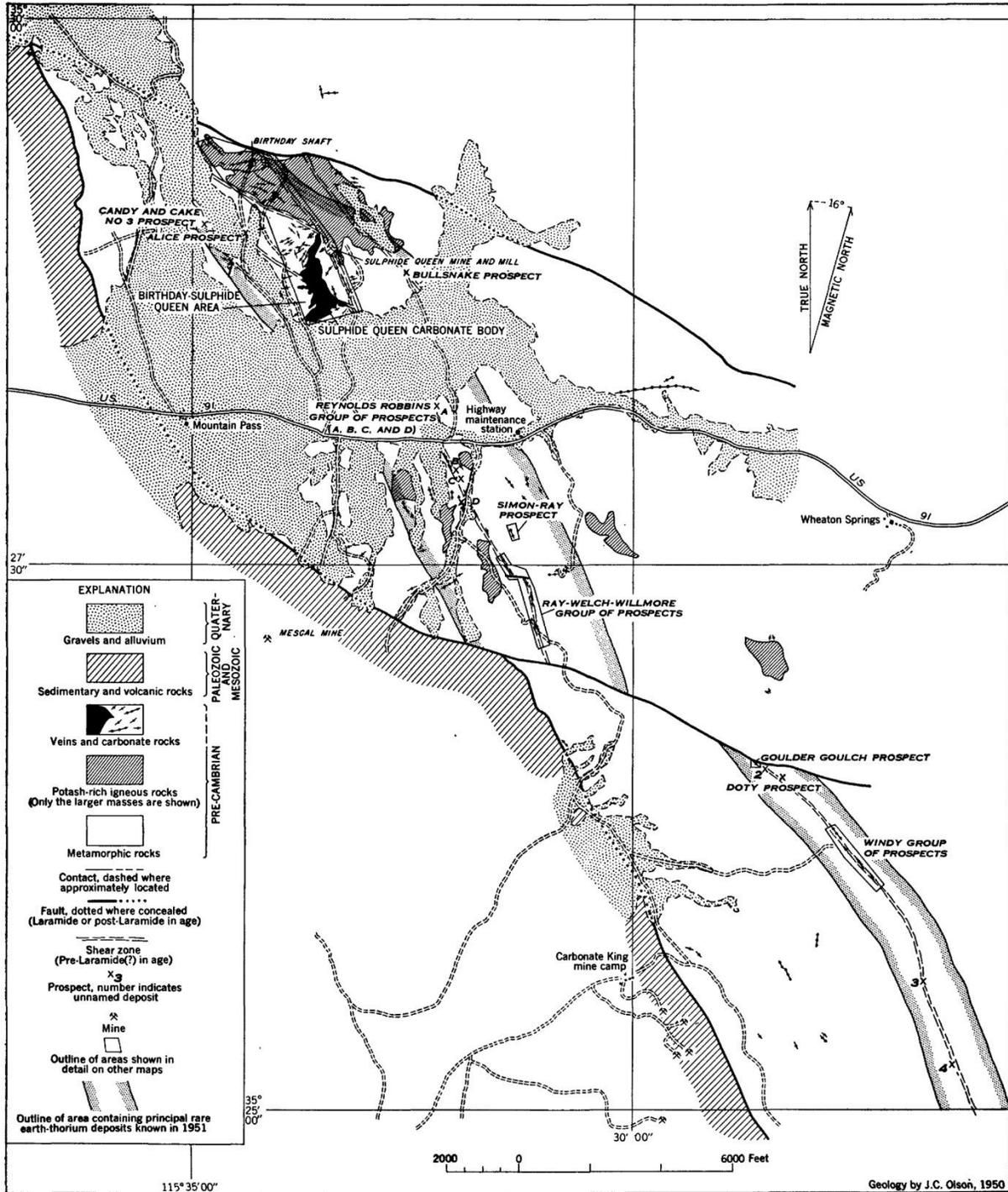


FIGURE 9.—Map of Mountain Pass district, showing distribution of veins and carbonate rocks.

Figure 2. Map of the Mountain Pass District showing the location of the Goulder Goulch, Doty and other REE prospects. From Olson and others, 1954, p. 31).