

TITLE: Harlan Herner collection

DATE RANGE: 1927-1948

CALL NUMBER: MS 1034

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 linear ft. (2 boxes)

PROVENANCE: Donated by Harlan's son Charles Herner on June 13, 1984.

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CREDIT LINE: Harlan Herner collection, MS 1034, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson

PROCESSED BY: Charles Herner under the supervision of Adelaide Elm in February 1991; Finding aid transcribed by Nancy Siner, September 2015.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Born in Fort Collins, Colorado in 1895, Harlan Reuben Herner moved to Juneau, Alaska in 1911. Eleven years later he returned to the States and spent the remainder of his life working primarily as a metallurgist in various mining camps in Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, California and northern Mexico. He was employed as superintendent of the concentrator of the Moctezuma Copper Company, a subsidiary of the Phelps Dodge Corporation, at Nacozari, Sonora, Mexico from 1942 to 1945. During this time, Herner became interested in and acquired a great deal of information regarding the mineral deposits and mining activity in the vicinity of Nacozari, Cumpas, Moctezuma and Cananea., that he systematically acquired all the available information concerning one mine, Oposura, and later actively promoted it. Herner died in 1963 in Douglas, Arizona.

HISTORICAL NOTE: In 1927, Louis Ricketts, Alfred Paul and John F. Bankerd formed the Oposura Syndicate to acquire the Santa Maria Development Company, S.A. and La Comania Minera Dos Republicas, S.A. Both of these companies had clear title to several prospects tapping the desired Oposura ore body: the Don Genaro, Creston de Plomo and Monstruo de Plomo. Development work started immediately and continued until 1930, when collapsing metal prices caused the mine to close. After the Second World War ended, Harlan Herner, J.H. Byrd and other again unsuccessfully attempted to arouse interested in the Oposura.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: The bulk of this collection consists of correspondence tracing the efforts of Louis D. Ricketts and others to develop the Oposura Mine 12 miles southwest of Moctezuma, Sonora, Mexico. There is also a small amount of information on the Carlson-Sandburg Mining Company and other mines in Arizona, New Mexico and California. There are four series, and folders are arranged alphabetically within.

Series I: Correspondence, 1927-1948 - contains incoming and outgoing correspondence dealing with the formation and activities of the Oposura Syndicate and subsequent efforts to develop the Oposura Mine after the Second World War. Managers' weekly and monthly reports were treated as correspondence and included in this series. There is also some information on the

Carlson Sandburg Mining Company of Lordsburg, New Mexico, and a few miscellaneous items. Six letters of a sensitive nature were removed from this series.

Series II: Reports, 1929-1934 - Contains assay reports of the Oposura Mine filed in chronological order and miscellaneous reports on other mines.

Series III: Financial Documents, 1929-1931 - Contains financial matters relating to the Oposura Syndicate filed chronologically

Series IV: Notebooks, 1930-1943 - Contains the personal work-related notebooks belonging to Harlan Herner at Virginia City, Nevada and Clarkdale, Arizona. These notebooks contain many names regarding mines and concentrators operating in the United States and northern Mexico in the 1930s.

Series V: Maps - Contains two geological/mineral maps of the Oposura Mine filed as oversize (housed in Case 5, Drawer 4, Map Collection)

CONTAINER LIST:

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
1	1	Series I: Correspondence - Carlson Sandburg Mining Company	1947
	2	Miscellaneous	1930-1950
	3	Oposura Mine	1946
	4	Oposura Mine	1911
	5	Oposura Mine	1934
	6	Oposura Mine	1948
	7	Oposura Syndicate	1927-1948
	8	Oposura Syndicate	January-April 1929
	9	Oposura Syndicate	May-August 1929
	10	Oposura Syndicate	September-December 1929
	11	Oposura Syndicate	January-March 1930
2	12	Oposura Syndicate	April-May 1930
	13	Oposura Syndicate	June-December 1930
	14	Oposura Syndicate	1931-1932
	15	Series II: Reports - Miscellaneous	undated
	16	Oposura Syndicate	1929-1931
	17	Series III: Financial - Oposura Syndicate	1929-1934
	18	Series IV: Notebooks - Personal mining notebooks	1930-1943
		Series V: Maps	
	Item 19	Geologic sections, Cia Minera Dos Republicas, Mina Oposura.	undated
	Item 20	Plan and section tunnel D, Cia Minera Dos Republicas, Mina Oposura.	undated