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The McCormick-Miller nickel prospect at Heazlewood

by R. Jack

Some additional investigation of the mine is necessary before specific diamond drill sites can be determined. This investigation should consist of:

- 1. Surface sampling of all existing surface costeans.
- 2. Two or more additional long costeans in a NNE-SSW direction across the major shear direction and then sampling.
- 3. A survey of all underground workings.
- 4. Channel sampling at a regular interval of all the underground workings. A channel should be 4"-6" wide and 1"-2" deep, starting and finishing at floor level and going up the walls and across the back. These should be at intervals of 25'-50'.

The above sampling would give a guide to the grade of Ni mineralisation present in the vicinity of the workings. Drilling would be necessary to extend this area both laterally and vertically.

Angle diamond drill holes are necessary as vertical drilling is not suitable. The mineralised shears are dipping at a high angle — generally 80°–90° and many of these would not be intersected in vertical holes.

It is suggested that short flat holes be drilled, at 45° or less if possible so as to cover as much of the mineralised area as is possible. It is probable that some 10 diamond drill holes, each 130'-150' long, would be required to prove a block 1000×400 feet to a depth of 100 feet.

To prove ore bodies at greater depth deeper holes would be necessary, or declined holes drilled from the adit may be advantageous.

It is unlikely that angle holes as suggested could be drilled with a wagon drill.

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