

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Poell, Richard

Richard Poell Photograph Collection, 1915-1917

PCA 157

Alaska - Juneau Gold Mining Company Mill Construction, 1915-1917

Introduction

These views of the construction of the mill on Mt. Roberts were taken by Richard Poell. No biographical information about Mr. Poell has been located.

The mill constructed at the Alaska-Juneau Gold Mine on Mt. Roberts from 1915-1917 was similar the 50-stamp mill constructed on Gastineau Channel in 1913-14. The A-J mill used ball mills to grind the ore, rather than the tube mills. The ball mills, designed for processing softer ore, resulted in a reduced capacity for the A-J mill, from a projected 8,000 tons/day to 1200. Even though the mill was remodeled, capacity remained below expectations and operated fourteen years without profit (except for a small one in 1924) until recovering in 1928. At its peak in the late 1930's, the mill operated 363 days per year and employed 1,000 men. The Alaska Juneau Mine closed in 1944 in support of the war effort and was sold to Alaska Electric Light & Power. [From: *Hard Rock Gold*, David and Brenda Stone, 1980.]

INVENTORY

- 1 Part of A.J. Gold Mining Company's old 50 stamp mill and site for new mill being dug down. [Mt. Roberts, South of Juneau]
- 2 A.J. Gold Mining Company. A small portion of hill side being dug down for mill site. September, 1915.
- 3 Old 50 stamp mill and new mill under construction. First construction work for concreting. A.J. Gold Mining Company. January, 1916.
- 4 View showing A.J. Gold Mining Company new mill site under construction. Equipment on dock in foreground.
- 5 First section of mill under construction; entrance to rock house. A.J. Gold Mining Company.
- 6 Putting up first steel work of mill. This section being ore bins and C.C.P. A.J. Gold Mining Company.
- 7 Civil engineers mill grade boss and first foreman. Men of the day. A.J. Gold Mining Company.
- 8 Mill under construction around first of March. This track runs back into the hill. There is a 85 ton electrical hoist. A.J. Gold Mining Company.
- 9-10 Mill under construction. Note the steel work. October 2, 1916. A.J. Gold Mining Company.
- 11 Concrete form under construction of A.J. Mining Company 8,000 ton Mill.
- 12 8,000 ton mill under construction. A.J. Gold Mine Company
- 13 A.J. Mining Company new 800 ton mill under construction, September 1, 1916.
- 14 A.J. Gold Mining Company upper part of 8,000 ton mill under construction and the building of concrete forms and pillars for the steel.
- 15 A.J. Gold Mining Company mill under construction and showing part of track into mill.
- 16 A.J. Gold Mining Company mill now being finished for its coating and painting.
- 17 A.J. Gold Mining Company subway for feeder cables from powerhouse to mill and main way passage to mill.

- 18 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Looking down from the last bench of mill site. The rock is being scraped down further. 482 feet from street to top part of mill. Steepest mill site in the world.
- 19 Part of A.J. Gold Mining Company mill and right wing trusel [trestle] looking almost straight up.
- 20 A.J. Gold Mining Co. steel trissel [trestle] right wing for new mill under construction.
- 21 Property of A.J. Gold Mining Company. December morn. Alaska, the land of ice and snow. February, 1917.
- 22 Cleaning the track of the A.J. Gold Mining Company Basin, Juneau, Alaska. January 14, 1917.
- 23 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Grading down power house sight [site] under hydro pressure. October, 1915.
- 24 A.J. Mining Company power house sight [site] excavation. October, 1915.
- 25 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Power house sight [site] excavation. These holes are pits for pumps and turbine condensers. October, 1915.
- 26 A.J. Gold Mining Company power houses under construction. July, 1916.
- 27 Power house of A.J. Gold Mining Company.
- 28 A.J. Gold Mining Company oil tanks under construction for power house.
- 29 A.J. Mining Company oil tanks nearly completed. February 18, 1917.
- 30 Tube mills of A.J. Gold Mining Company. December, 1916.
- 31 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Installation of ball mills and motor? floor for same. December, 1916.
- 32 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Tube mills and 50 ton traveling electrical crane and showing motors at right. Note overhead bridges and stairways.
- 33 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Table floor of mill. 182 tables are to be replaced on here.

- 34 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Ball mills and switch boards for ball mill motors at right covered up.
- 35 A.J. Gold Mining Company. A small portion of roof cave-in caused by snowslide from upper portion of mill. February, 1917.
- 36 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Revolving ore car dumpers. 4 at a time. There are 2 of these.
- 37 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Part of gyratory crusher being hoisted up to be installed.
- 38 Motors for ball mills, each 225 horse power, 2200 volts. 12 of these. A.J. Gold Mining Company.
- 39 A.J. Gold Mining Company. Installation of jaw crusher showing 375- horsepower line, 2200 v. motor.