



WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION  
STATE OF WASHINGTON

M-9

Date 10-30-40 O.P. No. Zone 3

County King City Enumclaw Neg. 11769

Title Mineral Survey

Caption: WPA Mineral Survey crew strikes top of  
alunite at base of tree logged thirty years  
ago. The apparently worthless land is about to become  
the source from which millions of tons of alunite will  
be mined, to build an alunite industry that will  
employ some 400 men in the proposed reduction plant  
soon to be established.



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M-9

Date 10-30-40 O.P. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Zone 3

County King City Enumclaw Neg. 11771

Title Mineral Survey

Caption: This picture shows worker employed on the

WPA state-wide Mineral Survey project uncovering alunite near the surface where it can be picked like clay. Underneath it requires drilling and blasting. A new reduction process, discovered by an eastern concern, promises early utilization of deposits of this mineral in King and Pierce counties in the production of metallic aluminum.



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Date 10-30-40 O.P. No. 1 Zone 3

County King City Enumclaw Neg. 11772

Title Mineral Survey

Caption: The WPA Mineral Survey project workers

trenching up hill, reveal alunite beneath a shallow mantel of barren soil. Core drilling operations carried on by an eastern industrial organization developed the fact that millions of tons of alunite are available in King County near the Enumclaw-Yakima highway, six to twelve miles east of Enumclaw.



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Date 10-30-40 O.P. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Zone 3

County King City Enumclaw Neg. 11773

Title Mineral Survey

Caption: A Washington state mineral about to come  
into its own. The outcropping of alunite shows up literally "at the grass roots". Cheap power and the need by the War Department for aluminum, is attracting a large eastern concern which has developed a new reduction process which promises early utilization of deposits of this mineral in the production of aluminum.



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County King City Enumclaw Neg. 11774

Title Mineral Survey

Caption: Here, under this seemingly worthless logged-  
off land, lies buried millions of tons of  
valuable alunite deposits. Information as to the alunite occurrence and extent of deposit was made by the WPA state-wide Mineral Survey on public land near Enumclaw. Evidence that more than three million tons of alunite, containing up to 35 percent of alumina, is available in this district, was disclosed by the Kalunite Company of Altona, Illinois who have carried on an extensive core drilling program on leased private lands adjacent to County, State and Federal holdings.



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M-9

Date 10-30-40 O.P. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Zone 3  
County King City Enumclaw Neg. 11776  
Title Mineral Survey

Caption: Test pits and trenches dug by workers engaged  
in the WPA Mineral Survey project reveal the  
outlines of the alunite deposits. Stripped of its green  
forests, more than thirty years ago, these fire-  
scarred hills are about to become a new source of great  
wealth. The vast alunite deposits, from which aluminum  
a light metal used extensively in airplane manufacture,  
is made, have attracted large eastern concerns who,  
through newly discovered reduction methods and the cheap  
power available in Washington, are considering the  
building of a plant near Seattle that will employ up  
to 400 men.