

trip into the district from Skagway over the White pass, and travelled thence by way of Fitch lake and river along Faku arm and tributary Fetalan inlet, to Athin lake and the creeks running into the east, and in this prospectors made the journey with dog sleds during the most severe part of the winter, a time almost inevitable for prospecting, it would appear very probable that gold was previously known to occur in the district, and this supposition is supported by the statement of miner and prospectors along the Alaskan coast. Therefore, however no evidence to show that, as is commonly supposed, gold was previously mined from the gulches of the Athin creeks, a small amount of prospecting may have been done, but nothing more.

The gold production in 1898 was about \$75,000, but in the following year it amounted to \$500,000. From 1899 to 1907, inclusive, there was a somewhat uniform production, the average for these years being about \$144,000. The production in the year 1908 was \$203,000, and in 1909 it was \$200,000.

Several different routes were followed by travellers to and from Athin camp in its early days, among which the most important are the Funtail route, the Faku route, and Telegraph-Teshu trail route. The Funtail route was a short trail for dog sleds from Skagway over the White pass, whence, following in a westerly direction, it continued down a long, wide depression to Funtail¹, and thence across Faku arm to Athin lake. The Faku route led from Junction up Faku river and Nakma river to the mouth of Silver Salmon river, thence up Silver Salmon valley and over a low divide at Pike lake to Athin lake. The Telegraph-Teshu trail route was all overland and followed the Telegraph-Teshu trail from Chena to Teshu lake, thence across the ranges westward to Athin lake.

Bibliography

The bulk of the literature concerning Athin district is to be found in the reports of the Minister of Mines of British Columbia. Each of these, from the 1898 volume to the volume last issued, contains the report of the Gold Commissioner at Athin for the year.

¹These figures are taken from the reports of the Minister of Mines of British Columbia.