

Salmon River lead mine - Current Research

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The Salmon River Lead Mine on Cape Breton Island, operated by Yava Mines Ltd., is a sandstone-hosted lead deposit situated in fluvial clastics of Pennsylvanian age. The sediments consist of cyclical fining-upwards sequences of fluvial conglomerates, sandstones and shales. The section also contains abundant coal debris. The dominant and only economic sulphide present is galena, which occurs as bands and disseminations within the sandstone. Sphalerite, pyrite and marcasite occur locally.

Research will be directed to-

wards the following aspects:

1. The controls to the distribution of mineralization within the sedimentary units and in relation to the basement topography.
2. Investigation of the petrography and geochemistry of the host rocks and mineralization, with a view to ascertaining the age and conditions of mineralization, and possible sources for the mineral components.

This study commenced in the summer of 1980. A review of the research proposals will be made and some preliminary observations will be presented.