

The possession of this certificate entitles the holder to enter on all unoccupied lands of the Crown, or on other lands on which the right to so enter is not reserved, and prospect for minerals, locate claims and mine.

A free miner can only hold, by location, one mineral claim on the same vein or lode, but may acquire others by purchase. In the case of placer claims only one can be held by location on each creek, ravine, or hill, and not more than two in the same locality, only one of which shall be a 'creek' claim.

In the event of a free miner allowing his certificate to lapse his mining property (if not Crown-granted) reverts to the Crown, but where other free miners are interested as partners or co-owners the interest of the defaulter becomes vested in the continuing co-owners or partners, pro rata, according to their interests.

It is not necessary for a shareholder, as such, in an incorporated mining company, to be the holder of a certificate.

Mineral Claims.

Mineral claims are located and held under the provisions of the 'Mineral Act.'

A mineral claim is a rectangular piece of ground not exceeding 1,500 feet square. The angles must all be right angles unless the boundaries, or one of them, are the same as those of a previously surveyed claim.

A mineral claim is located by erecting three legal posts, which are stakes having a height of not less than four feet above ground and squared for four inches at least on each face for not less than a foot from the top. A tree stump so cut and squared also constitutes a legal post.

The 'discovery post' is placed at the point where mineral in place is discovered.

Nos. 1 and 2 posts are placed as near as possible on the line of the ledge or vein, shown by the discovery post, and mark the boundaries of the claim. Upon each of these three posts must be written the name of the claim, the name of the locator and the date of location. On No. 1 post, in addition, the following must be written:—'Initial post. Direction of post No. 2 (*giving approximate compass bearing*); — feet of this claim lie on the right, and — feet on the left of the line from No. 1 to No. 2 posts.'

The location line, between Nos. 1 and 2 posts, must be distinctly marked—in a timbered locality by blazing trees and cutting underbrush, and in bare country by monuments of earth or rock not less than two feet in diameter at the base, and at least two feet high—so that the line can be distinctly seen.

Mineral claims must be recorded in the Mining Recorder's Office for the mining division in which they are situated within fifteen days from the date of location, one day extra being allowed for each ten miles of distance from the recording office after the first ten miles. If a claim is not recorded in time it is deemed abandoned and open for re-location, but if the original locator wishes to re-locate he can only do so by permission of the Gold Commissioner of the district and upon payment of a fee of \$10. This applies also to a claim abandoned for any reason whatever.

Mineral claims are, until the Crown grant is issued, held practically on a yearly lease, the condition of which is that assessment work be performed