Alteration Due to Mining Activities

Figures 16 and 17 show areas of probable surface alteration due to mining. Surface alteration here includes exploratory trenches, open cuts for mining along the vein, and shafts, all presently filled with rubble. Future surface alteration along the Rudisill lode should be made with caution since cave-in or settling of shallow workings are possible.

Not shown on figures 16 and 17 are areas where alluvial materials have been worked for placer gold. It is probably safe to assume that alluvial material in all streams in the area of the Rudisill lode have been worked extensively at one time or another. Leeds in 1854 refers to a stream from the mine to Bissels' Pond (probably the low area presently between Commerce and Penman Streets) being worked over two or three times.

Alteration Since Mining

Alterations to the ground surface along the Rudisill lode zone, since mining stopped, has primarily been a leveling process of grading down high area and filling in low areas as the City of Charlotte has grown outward (figures 16 and 17). Most changes have resulted from industrial and business development or road building. Small excavations for houses and small businesses will not be considered here.

The major change in the area of the Rudisill mine has been the excavation between Summit Avenue and Bland Streets removing much of the north and northwest sides of the original hill. The ground surface now approximately level with Mint Street is nearly 25 feet below the original summit.

At least one section of shallow mine tunnel was literally removed during that excavation.

