



MACROFOSSILS FROM SW OF BULLS ROAD, WINKLEIGH AND  
PENTLANDS ROAD, NORTHERN TASMANIA.

by

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## Sample Localities

Samples from three localities in cleaved siltstones were collected by Mr K.C. Morrison (K.C. Morrison Pty Ltd) and passed to the author via Dr C. Calver (MRT). All of the localities are in an area previously mapped as Siluro-Devonian. The localities are as follows:

1. Ridge SW of Bulls Road at 486 970m E, 5 430 580m N
2. Near Winkleigh at 487 850m E, 5 428 630m N
3. Pentlands Road at 486 230m E, 5 430 180m N

## Sample Preparation

The fossil material from all localities is preserved as moulds. These were mechanically excavated by Mr H.M. Doyle (AGSO) using a compressed air powered vibrotool to make morphological features more clearly visible. In some cases, latex replicas were made where required.

## Interpretation

The fauna from these three localities are as follows:

1. Ridge SW of Bulls Road at 486 970m E, 5 430 580m N  
Simple orthoid brachiopod with short, rounded ventral muscle field and multicostellate external ornament.
2. Near Winkleigh at 487 850m E, 5 428 630m N  
Simple orthoid brachiopod with short, rounded ventral muscle field and multicostellate external ornament; possibly the same species as found at locality 1 above.
3. Pentlands Road at 486 230m E, 5 430 180m N  
*?Apheoorthis* sp. This species probably belongs to *Apheoorthis*, but it is unlike the only other previously recorded species from Tasmania (*A. humboldtensis* Laurie, 1980) in that it is considerably smaller and has a strong, long, dorsal median ridge.  
Aff. *Nanorthis* sp. This species is similar in most respects to *Nanorthis carinata* Laurie, 1980, previously recorded from southern Tasmania, but the poor preservation prevents a more definitive comparison being made.

The presence of specimens of early orthoid (including aff. *Nanorthis* sp.) indicate a probable Early Ordovician age. This is supported by the occurrence of *?Apheoorthis* sp from the locality along Pentland Road as this genus is only known from the latest Cambrian and earliest Ordovician. Furthermore, species belonging to the genera *Nanorthis* and *Apheoorthis* have been previously recorded from the Pontoon Hill Siltstone Member of the Florentine Valley Formation in southern Tasmania by Laurie (1980). The part of the unit from which these genera are recorded is probably of Lancefieldian (La 1.5 to La 2) age (Stait & Laurie, 1980; Rickards & Stait, 1984; Laurie, 1996a). A species of *Nanorthis* similar to that recorded by Laurie (1980) from southern Tasmania has previously been recorded from other localities along Bulls Road (Hills, 1982, Laurie, 1996a, b).

## References

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