

5. Mining Lease 121M/69, Mathinna Plains

V.M. Threader

On 27 August 1970 I visited gold lease 121M/69 held by G.F. Cotton. This lease is situated on the Mathinna Plains adjacent to and on the west side of the Mathinna Plains road.

Mr Cotton showed me several areas in two gullies, which are tributaries of the Dorset River, in which Mathinna Beds are impregnated with fine quartz stringers. There was little evidence of veinlets coalescing to form larger bodies of quartz, and although there was evidence of shearing in the sediments there was no observable mineralisation.

The ironstone cap referred to by Mr Cotton is cemented hillwash consisting of clay and fragments of Mathinna Beds. It is not a gossan and has no economic significance.

Several parcels of stone have been submitted to our Launceston office for gold assay and traces of gold were recorded. Mr Cotton has referred to these samples as gold-bearing but it is important to realise that gold values less than 0.2 dwt/ton or 0.01 oz/ton (0.34 g/t) are recorded as traces. It can be seen therefore that the results are practically negative.

Mr Cotton has stated his intention of drilling and blasting the most promising looking outcrops and I have undertaken to revisit the area and inspect this work.