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# The Mount Claude Bedded Iron Ore Deposit

## by K. L. Burns

**Location.**

The orebody is located 15 feet west of the Old Lorinna Road where it crosses the summit of Mt. Claude (89095N, 41550E).

Easiest access is by a timber track which leaves Claude Road at the creek at 8922N 4154E, 4/10 of a mile from Cethana. This track commences at 130° magnetic, but heads generally at 160° to the top of the Cambrian conglomerate at 8914N 4156E. From there it is about 150 yards at 140° to the Old Lorinna Road.

**References.**

A. M. Reid, in Bulletin 29 (1919), p. 171, states that the deposit is a ferromanganese ore associated with haematite and carrying gold, about three to four feet wide and five chains long. He considers it a replacement of a shale bed.

**The Orebody.**

The country rock is Ordovician quartzite conglomerate with interbedded sandstones, dipping at 45° to 190°.

The orebody is bedded, 4 feet thick, dipping conformably with the sandstone bands in the overlying conglomerate and with laminations in the underlying ferruginous sandstone. No unconformity was seen. The strike length is 30 feet, with a small pit sunk through the footwall next to the orebody. This exposes 4 feet down dip. Ore in sight is thus only 18 yards, of haematite and specularite.

A chip sample across the full width of the orebody has been analysed with the following result:— Registered number, 1614; Date, 3rd January, 1958; Composition, Fe 48.8%; Mn Trace; Au, Ag, Pb, Sn Nil.

**Origin.**

The ore is interbedded with the country rock and has inherited sedimentary banding. It is considered a bedding replacement.

Minor structures in the orebody are similar to those of the country rock. Two small faults, common to both orebody and country rock, were noted. The time of replacement is therefore Devonian or earlier.

**Conclusions.**

The deposit is quite uneconomic. However, it is of interest as a pointer to the origin and structure of larger iron deposits in the district.