

REPORT ON POSSIBILITIES OF OBTAINING UNDERGROUND WATER  
SUPPLIES ON BALLOCHMYLE PROPERTY, TUNBRIDGE.

The Ballochmyle property is owned by Mr. A.R. Cumming and is situated approximately two miles north-east of the township of Tunbridge.

The property is occupied almost wholly by sandstones of the Ross series of the Triassic System. The low hills north of the homestead are capped by a flow of Tertiary basalt ranging in thickness up to 50 feet. Basalt also occurs near the southern boundary of the property. Diabase of Mesozoic age occurs near and outside the south-western part of the property. Recent alluvium occurs along the York Rivulet and in the marshy flat near the southern boundary.

Of the above rocks, the diabase and basalt can be regarded as being practically non water-bearing series, although in some cases supplies can be obtained from them.

Sandstones are amongst the most porous of rocks and are one of the most important of the water bearing rocks.

Supplies of underground water should be obtainable from these rocks on Ballochmyle.

Two sites were inspected on the property. One is situated near the southern edge of the marshy flat in the southern part of the property. The bedrock here is sandstones with basalt and possible diabase some distance to the south. The sandstones at this site should yield supplies of underground water.

The other site is situated at the eastern end of the basalt hills near the northern boundary of the property. At the site required some 20 to 30 feet of basalt overlies the sandstones. I would recommend that the boring should commence in the sandstones immediately below the basalt unless otherwise wished by the owner. The sandstones should yield supplies of water at this site.

It is, of course, impossible to state what the quantity and quality of the water is likely to be. The quantity should be at least equal to, if not greater than, that obtained at the Township Lagoon bore in Tunbridge (200 gallons per hour). The quality should be similar also, except that the northern bore might contain more dissolved mineral substances (sodium chloride, etc.) owing to the sandstones near here being apparently saliferous. The Township Lagoon bore water was satisfactory for the purpose of watering stock.

I would suggest that the southern bore be the first one to be put down.

Sgd. P. B. Nye.  
GOVERNMENT GEOLOGIST.

Mines Department,  
HOBART.

1/7/29