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10th September, 1957

MEMORANDUM

Brick-making Material at Knocklofty:

Some years ago the Hobart Brick Company obtained brick-making shales from a series of small quarries near Poets Road, Knocklofty in the suburb of West Hobart. The amount of overburden, the poor quality of some of the shale beds and blasting difficulties caused the abandonment of this source of materials. Lately the Company has become interested in an area to the north of these quarries and along the north eastern face of Knocklofty.

In the principal quarry a good cross section of the strata is exposed. The beds are striking at 310° and dipping to the south west at 8° . Shale beds, fifteen feet in width provided good brick making material; below these are sandy shales which could be used when mixed with clay shales, and above is an overburden of sandstone, perhaps 20 to 30 feet in thickness.

The strike of the rocks takes the suitable shales in a band along the face of Knocklofty and they can be seen from place to place in outcrop. However much of the material has been removed by -

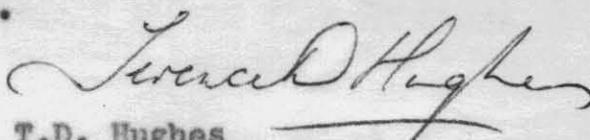
1. Normal erosion; as these shales weather quicker than the sandy material
2. Small pits and excavations which have been put in at intervals.

It is not, therefore, recommended that these shale beds be further investigated as -

1. The beds are the same as exposed in the quarry and these were found to be uneconomical to work
2. Much of these beds have been removed at the outcrop
3. As the dip is in to the hill the overburden of sandstone will increase as any possible quarry grows.

Thirty feet vertically and about 100 feet in distance above the quarry are higher shale beds which in outcrop appear to offer some, though slight, possibilities. These are about 20 feet in thickness and consist of good brickmaking shales interbedded with more sandy shales. It is just possible that there is sufficient of the better shales to allow of the whole to be used. This can only be determined by taking a sample across the beds and testing it in the kiln. To take this sample, a little surface clearing will be necessary. If the Company decide to do this they will contact me and I shall supervise the taking of such a sample.

The Director of Mines,
HOBART


T.D. Hughes
SENIOR GEOLOGIST