

UR 1957/249-250

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7th November, 1957

MEMORANDUMProspecting by D. Brown - GLADSTONE

As the result of a letter dated 30th September from Mr. D. Brown of Gladstone in which he refers to his prospecting for tin in the vicinity of Stinking Creek I visited the area with him on Tuesday 29th October.

Mr. Brown has systematically prospected a fairly large area of land along both banks of Stinking Creek from a point about a mile north from the Gladstone - Cape Portland road in a northerly direction towards the now abandoned 40 acre lease once held by H.L. Terry.

The area to the west of Stinking Creek has been tested by pits and by Spud Auger to depths of 15 feet.

At a point near the junction of the two main branches of the creek a small paddock of wash has been treated by gravel pump to depths of about six feet, allegedly with profitable results.

Mr. Brown's prospecting has revealed a bed of wash of about 2 feet in thickness occurring generally at a depth from surface of about 5 feet. Prospect holes were seen over some 200 yards of creek bank and I was assured that further holes had been completed towards the north.

Stinking Creek is in general a fairly wide, flat swampy creek the bed of which is about six feet below the surrounding country. It was stated by Mr. Brown that there is no body of tin ore in the creek bed so that it is obvious that the creek has cut its way down through at least the one occurrence of ore. Where prospecting has been continued to greater depths, reported maximum of 15 feet, only sands and clays occur below the wash band, but this band has been proved to extend for some distance on either side of the creek.

Only testing by prospect dish was carried out during this visit at selected sites. Several of the old pits were visited and the spoil tested but in one case the pit was unwatered and a sample taken from the wash.

7th November, 1957

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DIRECTOR OF MINES - HOBART

In all cases the grade was fairly high estimated by me to be well in excess of the 8 ozs. claimed by Mr. Brown. There is a high proportion of fine grained cassiterite which may be difficult to save without Jigs.

The pits have not been regularly placed and to make a fair estimate of grade some boring would be necessary.

In his letter Mr. Brown states that:-

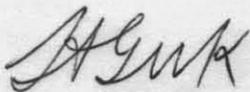
"since I commenced prospecting the area has been given to Rio Tinto".

Mr. Brown's only title was that granted by a Miners Right.

On returning to Hobart my investigation has shown that the area concerned lies within the limit of the area of 1750 ac ± exempt from the Mining Act 1929 from 13.1.38 and generally referred to as the Great Northern Plains Area part of which was bored by the Department of Mines.

The area bored lies about half a mile to the south of Brown's area and extends in a general north-westerly direction more or less parallel to Stinking Creek as far as Terry's lease.

The accompanying plan shows the relative positions of the Departmental boring and the operations of Mr. Brown.



(H.G.W. Keid)
CHIEF GEOLOGIST

The Director of Mines,
Department of Mines,
HOBART