

## **Descriptions of rocks collected in the Loddon range area, central Tasmania**

*by G. B. Everard*

The following descriptions are of rocks collected by geologist A. B. Gulline in the Loddon Range area of central Tasmania.

### **63-41 — *Surprise River***

The hand specimen is a fine grained grey carbonate rock, with irregular dark patches 2–3 mm across and much glassy secondary quartz which has replaced previous structures, possibly fossils. The weathered surface is very irregular due to quartz remaining after solution of carbonate.

In thin section the rock is a very fine mosaic of carbonate irregularly darkened by much finer grained opaque black carbonaceous material, which may be concentrated in the form of indefinite structures. Quartz occurs in patches of various indefinite shapes, as a mosaic.

The rock is a limestone or dolomite.

### **63-42 — *Carbonate Creek***

The hand specimen is a strongly sheared cream coloured rock, kaolinitic and with many irregular grains of quartz from 3 mm across down to the limits of visibility.

In thin section shearing is well shown irregular bands in which opaque kaolinitic material is transected by megacrysts of quartz and somewhat rounded and orientated fragments of quartzite and quartz-sericite.

The rock is a schist.

### **63-173 — *Franklin Hills***

The rock is a fine grained banded siltstone in hand specimen, stained an orange colour with iron oxides produced by weathering. Minute flakes of white mica are visible on fractured faces and current bedding on a small scale is well shown.

In thin section the rock consists of angular grains of quartz of silt grade in a finer grained sericitic matrix heavily stained by limonite. The texture is fairly uniform throughout the section.

The specimen is a siltstone.

### **63-174 — *Franklin Hills***

The specimen is a fine grained grey rock with a strong, somewhat irregular cleavage in one direction and showing minute flakes of white mica on cleavage faces.

In thin section the rock consists of quartz grains up to about 0.025 mm in a sericitic and carbonaceous matrix, with minor magnetite.

The rock is a siltstone or shale.

**63-176 — Surprise River**

The hand specimen is a fine grained siliceous rock consisting of dark coloured, roughly lenticular fragments up to 10 mm long and showing marked parallel arrangement, in a paler coloured matrix.

In thin section the matrix is a mosaic of recrystallised quartz having a grain size of about 0.055 mm. The dark coloured material is distinctly finer grained and consists of quartz with dark wispy carbonaceous material. Both the matrix and the fragments contain some carbonate.

The rock is a silicified limestone breccia which has been deformed under directed pressure.

**63-175 — Surprise River**

The hand specimen is a fine to medium grained sheared black rock containing elongated and lenticular rock particles and quartz grains up to 5 mm long.

In thin section the schistose nature of the rock is well shown by carbonaceous laminae, which curve round the lenticles of quartz, quartzite and mica schist. Some of the quartz fragments have a fibrous texture. Ferruginous material is also present and gives a red colouration when the rock is burnt.

The rock is a carbonaceous quartz-mica schist.

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