

UNPUBLISHED REPORT 1964/15

P.W.D. gravel pits – Beaconsfield

by A. J. Noldart

A site inspection of potential gravel deposits in the Beaconsfield–Flowery Gully area was carried out in company with P.W.D. Engineer Mr. I. Barranger on 21st July, 1964. The area investigated was on the eastern slopes of the Blue Peaked Hill, Flowery Gully.

Two localities were looked at, one on the north eastern slopes of the hill and the other on the south eastern corner.

The latter locality consisted of a soil/scree slope shed from Cambrian siltstones. The admixture of scree and fines was found to be too high in clay content and the area was discarded as a prospect.

The former locality was more representative of the Blue Peaked Hill as a whole consisting of an admixture of Ordovician sandstone/quartzite rubble and silica sand over a clay/scree base. The scree was examined on the lower slopes of the hill over a slope distance of approx. 8 chains.

On the lower slope a small pocket of suitable material up to 2 feet in depth was noted but where tested higher in the slope only 2–3 inches of sandy material occurred.

Where examined the deposits have no potential but it is believed that larger accumulations could exist on the eastern, northern and north-western flanks of the hill. A reasonably comprehensive sampling programme would be necessary to delineate any such occurrences with a good prospect of success.

The topography here is significantly different from that of the Blue Tier ridge where silica soil/scree has accumulated along a consistently even, steeply sloping face and extensive thick deposits such as occur on the western slope of the Blue Tier cannot be expected on Blue Peaked Hill.

[22 July 1964]