

UNPUBLISHED REPORT 1964/17

## Pottery clay sample from King Island

*by G. B. Everard*

A small sample of pottery clay from King Island has been examined.

The sample is of a grey colour with a pinkish tinge. Many white and glassy grains up to about 1 mm across are clearly visible. The dark colour is due to fine organic matter, since it disappears on heating, leaving a creamy white coloured material.

Under the microscope the sample appears as a very fine grained, kaolin type clay stained brown by carbonaceous matter. Angular grains of quartz are plentiful together with a little zircon and rare tourmaline. Occasional fresh cleavage flakes of feldspar are also present.

Hence the deposit has probably been derived from granitic rocks. It has been leached free from iron and redeposited, since it does not contain visible micaceous fragments.

*[20 August 1964]*