

## UNPUBLISHED REPORT 1968/12

# An inspection of the Cambria mine, Weldborough

by A. J. Noldart

Following a visit to the Cambria mine by Mining Engineer L. F. Egan on 1 February 1968, Mr Egan recommended further investigation of the prospect. The writer examined the area on 19 March 1968, accompanied by Messrs W. Grose and P. Grose.

The only previous information available is a brief description on the 'Cambria' and 'North Cambria' prospects in 1943 (Thomas, 1943). Although the accompanying plan of the 'Cambria' mine by Thomas fits Thomas' description of the 'North Cambria' mine, the name 'Cambria' will be used for convenience.

### Geology

The geology of the lease area consists essentially of coarse-grained granite, prevalent throughout the district generally, intersected by a number of greisenised zones trending northerly and northwesterly. The area is generally scree and soil covered with a basalt capping occurring close to the northernmost face of the workings.

Mineralisation occurs as cassiterite crystals and grains throughout the greisen zones but apparently not extending into the coarse-grained granite.

### Mining operations

Mining has been a combination of ground sluicing, hydraulic sluicing and extraction of the cassiterite bearing greisen zones, with the recovery of detrital tin by normal sluicing techniques and extraction of the tin from the greisen by crushing and tabling. Two exploration tunnels have been driven, one northerly along what appears to be the largest of the greisen zones, and a second easterly adit, cross-cutting the zones of greisenisation. Both adits are at present partially collapsed.

Extraction of the greisen zones has been effected to a depth of up to 10 feet in the weathered material, operations ceasing as the granite becomes harder a depth. Some effort appears to have been made to quarry higher density greisen zones and this, coupled with the sloping terrain, has resulted in a series of low (15 feet) benches.

### Recommendations

It was recommended to the lease holders that the ground below, above, and adjoining these benches be sluiced clean to facilitate examination and permit a sampling programme to be carried out. Some tin could be expected to be recovered during the sluicing operations. Should the sampling prove satisfactory small quarry benches could be opened for bulk testing.

Diamond drilling was not recommended at this stage.

### Reference

THOMAS, D. E. Tin deposits of the Blue Tier district. *Unpubl. Rep. Dep. Mines Tasm.* 1943:35-73.

[22 March 1968]