

TASMANIA DEPARTMENT OF MINES LIBRARY

RECORD No. 5

LITERATURE REVIEW OF THE GREAT PYRAMID TIN PROSPECT

BY D.J. Jennings

July, 1979

Lease and Licence History

The E.Z. Company Limited held an exploration licence (4 mls.<sup>2</sup>) over the Pyramid area which was relinquished in 1962. Lloyd Price then held S.P.L. 403 (2 mls.<sup>2</sup>) from April 1964 to October 1968, during which B.H.P. Exploration held an option to purchase for a year terminating in June 1965. Scamander Mineral Development N.L. held S.P.L. 38 (3 mls.<sup>2</sup>), adjacent to and east of S.P.L. 403, from May 1968 to November 1968. At the same time Texins Development took out a large exploration licence extending to N and W, which they held until 1974.

Both S.P.L.'s were relinquished and remained vacant through 1969 until Scamander Mining Corporation N.L. obtained S.P.L. 72 (consisting of the old Lloyd Price S.P.L. 403 and the old Scamander Mineral S.P.L. 38) which they held from November 1969 to May 1971, except that the Department of Mines gazetted the old Lloyd Price S.P.L. 403 (2 mls.<sup>2</sup>) as an area exempt from the Mining Act (Stat. Rule No. 31 of 1971) which they retained from February 1971 to July 1975. Cominco held a permit to prospect the eastern part of the gazetted area which expired in October 1973.

The area remained unclaimed from 1975 until late 1976 when the Department of Mines gazetted a 12 km<sup>2</sup> area as exempt from the Mining Act (Stat. Rule No. 236 of October 1976) currently in force.

A number of leases held priority in this area throughout changes in tenure of S.P. licences. Leases 23M/62 (10 acres); 33M/62 (18 acres); 31M/67 (20 acres) lay within the boundaries of subsequently defined S.P.L. 403 and were taken out by Lloyd Price and various associates in 1962 and 1967, and were held under option to purchase first by B.H.P. (1965) and later by Paringa (from late 1969). The leases were transferred to Paringa (Aberfoyle Management) in February 1971 and were cancelled in November 1973 and August 1974. Interpretation of boundary positions and lease shapes has varied widely throughout their tenure. Lease 101M/68 (5 acres) was taken out by Barber (1968) and transferred to Hardman (May 1972) and ultimately cancelled in September 1976.

Thus the Lloyd Price/Paringa and Barber/Hardman leases are all incorporated in current Exempt Area No. 236.

Lease 10M/67 (80 acres) was taken out by Reynolds and Tucker, transferred to Orieco Mineral Development Company and thence to Scamander Mining. Lease 28M/71 was taken out by Scamander Mining. Both these leases lay within the confines of expired S.P.L. 72, and both were transferred from Scamander Mining to Louisa Mining in January 1977. They remain current within gazetted area No. 236, though no mining activity is known.

Mining and exploration history - available reports

The Great Pyramid Tin Prospect has been subject to waves of exploration enthusiasm at infrequent intervals, and reports exist detailing most work.

(1) Twelvetrees, W.H. (1911)

The Scamander Mining District: Tasmanian Geological Survey Bulletin 9, pp. 31-44. This text describes the geology and development at an early stage and is accompanied by a lease plan, a sketched geological section, an assay plan of sampling of adits, much of the information derived from company plans and reports of the Great Pyramid Mining Company.

(2) Scott, J.B. (1928)

The Great Pyramid Mine, Upper Scamander: Tasmanian Geological Survey Unpublished Reports 1928 (1) pp. 79-86. After the original exploration the area fell quiet until Aulich installed a stamp battery and crusher and produced some ore. The results of his endeavours are recorded by J.B. Scott.

(3) Keid, H.G.W. and Gulline, A.B. (1958)

Check Sampling at the Great Pyramid Mine, Upper Scamander: Tasmanian Department of Mines Technical Report 2, pp. 62-65. This report documents a largely unsuccessful attempt to reproduce the encouraging assay results recorded in the original records of the Great Pyramid Mining Company.

(4) Jack, R. (1964)

Great Pyramid Tin Mine, Upper Scamander: Tasmanian Department of Mines Technical Report 8, pp. 25-45, consists largely of a review of previous activity and a source of historical detail and previous assay sites and values.

(5) Groves, D.I. (1972)

The Zoned Mineral Deposits of the Scamander-St. Helens District, Geological Survey Bulletin No. 53, pp. 24-26 (Great Pyramid Tin Mine: Pinnacles Tin Prospect). This report includes a brief summary of the geology and exploration history and is accompanied by a sketch map of geological information and borehole sites.

Some of the original plans produced to accompany these reports are retained as transparencies in the draughting room.

(6) Jennings, D.J. (1979)

Between September 1976 and May 1978 the Department of Mines drilled four diamond drill holes from sites at low and moderate heights on the south west aspect of Pyramid Hill. The site locations were surveyed and their positions marked on plan No. 4309 of Open File Report Q41 No. 46, as precisely as the original grid permits. The holes were angled at 60° to the horizontal at a bearing of 060°M. No down-the-hole surveys were carried out.

The core was split, cut or smashed and samples assayed over the whole depth of the hole. Assay results are tabulated in Department of Mines Unpublished Report 1979/19.

(7) Plans held in the Department of Mines Drawing Office. Copies of the four plans listed below have been reproduced in the microfiche edition of Open File Report. 41/46.

(a) Paringa M.E.C.L. Great Pyramid Plan No. 4309

Showing Percussion Drilling and Mineralisation.  
(from Open File Report 41/46)

(b) Paringa M.E.C.L. Great Pyramid Plan No. 4309C  
Cross section A.A.' G.P.Y. 1-6 D.D.H. with values.  
(from Open File Report 41/46)  
Poor Film from dyeline.

(c) Paringa M.E.C.L. Great Pyramid Plan No. 4310  
Soil Geochem. ppm Sn (from Open File Report 41/46)  
Film

(d) Paringa M.E.C.L. Great Pyramid Plan No. 4311  
Soil Geochem. ppm Cu (from Open File Report 41/46)  
Film

(8) Information on the Great Pyramid Tin Prospect held as Open File Reports

Report Number	Title and Author
41/9	Report on Pinnacles tin prospect, Upper Scamander - E. Tasmania, 1965. By W.S. Chesnut, June 1965 (B.H.P. Pty. Co. Ltd.) (Includes Assay sections of Percussion Drill Holes P.D.P.I. 1 to 6 as an appendix).
41/12	Ground magnetic survey, Great Pyramid tin prospect, Tasmania. By C.P. Taylor, August 1964 (B.H.P. Pty. Co. Ltd.)
41/13	Report on Great Pyramid tin prospect, Upper Scamander, East Tasmania, 1964-1965. By W.S. Chesnut, June 1965 (B.H.P. Pty. Co. Ltd.) (Includes Assay sections of Percussion Drill Holes P.D.U.S. 1 to 26 as an appendix).
41/18	<u>Mentioned in</u> Geology and mineral prospects of the Scamander district, north eastern Tasmania By Ian D. Neuss (Geophoto Resources, E.L. 6/68)
41/21	<u>Mentioned in</u> St. Helens - Scamander area, E.L. 6/68, north east Tasmania By J.H. Rattigan (Geophoto Minerals Report 1969/6(c))
41/34	Memorandum report on tin prospects in the Great Pyramid area, Upper Scamander E.L. 6/68 - N.E. Tasmania By R.M. Tucker 21 January, 1971 (Geophoto Minerals Report 1970/98)

41/35

Interim report on geological mapping and rock geo-chemistry in the Great Pyramid Mine area, N.E. Tasmania - E.L. 6/68.

By I. Mortimore, August 1971  
(Geophoto Minerals Report 1971/18)

41/43

Summary of geochemical data - various prospects, E.L. 6/68, N.E. Tasmania.

By I.R. Mortimore, February 1974.  
(Geophoto Minerals Report 1974/1)

41/44

Great Pyramid, Tasmania. Percussion drill hole records. Paringa Mining & Exploration Co. Ltd.  
(Aberfoyle, 1970. H86 and H125 not drilled?)

41/45

Great Pyramid, Tasmania. Diamond drill Hole logs. GPY-1 to GPY-5.

Paringa Mining & Exploration Co. Ltd.  
(Aberfoyle, 1970. Includes graphs of veins, fractures, bedding and mineralisation)

41/46

Progress report No. 1 on exploration at the Great Pyramid, N.E. Tasmania.

By R.J. Varley 14 August, 1970  
(Aberfoyle Management - Paringa. Includes plans as listed below)

Map index lists 45 plans.

4 only of these are available plus one unlisted item.

G.P.Y. 050	Geochemical Distribution Sn	) originals,
G.P.Y. 051	Geochemical Distribution Cu	) film
G.P.Y. 052	Drilling grid and mineralisation)	copies
G.P.Y. 054	Geological Surface interpretation)	original,
G.P.Y. ?	Section AA" of B.H. G.P.Y. 1-6	) dyeline copy
G.P.Y. 053	Geological Surface Fact	)
G.P.Y. 055	Geological Underground Fact	)
G.P.Y. 056)		)
)	Cross section Geological Fact	) copies not
G.P.Y. 073)		) available;
G.P.Y. 074)		) plans never
)	Cross section Assay Data	) held by
G.P.Y. 091)		) Department
G.P.Y. 092)		) of Mines
)	Cross section Ore Reserves	)
G.P.Y. 094)		)

41/47

Progress report No. 2 on exploration at the Great Pyramid, N.E. Tasmania

By J.A. Knight, 18 March, 1971  
(Aberfoyle Management - Paringa. No plans listed).

Progress report no. 3 on exploration at Great Pyramid,  
N.E. Tasmania

By G. Krummei

30 June, 1972

(Aberfoyle Management - Paringa). Map index list 24  
plans. Copies of 17 of these plans are held by the  
Department of Mines as listed below. Only 3 of these  
are amenable to copying

G.P.Y. 095)	Surface Geological Fact	) copies not available
G.P.Y. 101)		) originals/poor dye -
		) line copies of dye-
G.P.Y. 102)	Geochemical - Tin	) line copies,
G.P.Y. 108)		) not amenable to rep-
		) roduction
G.P.Y. 109)	Geochemical - Copper	) copies not available:
G.P.Y. 115)		) plans never held by
		) Department of Mines.
G.P.Y. 116	Surface Geology - Interpretation	) poor copies
G.P.Y. 117	Soil Geochemistry - Tin	) available
G.P.Y. 118	Soil Geochemistry - Copper	) from dyline
		) originals

Many of the above reports and plans on past exploration were obtained during  
the course of the recent investigation by the Department of Mines by courtesy of  
B.H.P. exploration: Cominco-Aberfoyle and Louisa Mining.

Progress report no. 3 on exploration at Great Pyramid,  
N.E. Tasmania

By G. Krummei

30 June, 1972

(Aberfoyle Management - Paringa). Map index list 24  
plans. Copies of 17 of these plans are held by the  
Department of Mines as listed below. Only 3 of these  
are amenable to copying

G.P.Y. 095)	Surface Geological Fact	) copies not available
G.P.Y. 101)		) originals/poor dye -
G.P.Y. 102)	Geochemical - Tin	) line copies of dye-
G.P.Y. 108)		) not amenable to rep-
		) roduction
G.P.Y. 109)	Geochemical - Copper	) copies not available:
G.P.Y. 115)		) plans never held by
		) Department of Mines.
G.P.Y. 116	Surface Geology - Interpretation	) poor copies
G.P.Y. 117	Soil Geochemistry - Tin	) available
G.P.Y. 118	Soil Geochemistry - Copper	) from dyline
		) originals

Many of the above reports and plans on past exploration were obtained during  
the course of the recent investigation by the Department of Mines by courtesy of  
B.H.P. exploration: Cominco-Aberfoyle and Louisa Mining.

Index to microfiche relating to the Great Pyramid Tin Prospect

The references referred to in this report are all included in the three fiche making up Library Record no. 5 except for the Open File Reports. The information has been presented in chronological order as cited in this report.

All the Open File Reports referred to, except 41/18 and 41/21, are available on microfiche, as listed below.

Open File Report No.	Number of Microfiche
41/ 9	3
41/12	2
41/13	8
41/34 and 41/35	2
41/43	4
41/44	3
41/45	1
41/46	2
41/47 and 41/48	4
Total	29