

C O P Y.Department of Mines, Tasmania,
Hobart, 23rd April, 1948.MEMORANDUM:MONAZITE AT YELLOWBAND.

To commence the investigation into the Monazite resources of the Yellowband district I arrived at Waratah on the 12th November, 1947. An endeavour was made to hire six men to carry out the necessary boring with a hand operated boring plant. Difficulty was experienced in getting labour, and even after accepting engagement some men failed to complete their obligations. Difficulty was also experienced in hiring pack horses and saddles and a first attempt to pack the tools to the job resulted in damage to tools and saddle from an unsuitable horse. The tools were finally delivered on Saturday 22nd November but the labour available consisted only of two men besides my field assistant and myself. On arrival at Pine Creek it was found that a bridge, previously renewed by the track cutting party, had been washed away. A few days were spent in renewing the bridge and settling into camp. Some tools were damaged during transport and these were repaired.

Boring commenced on Thursday, December 4th, and was continued until December 20th when the party returned to Waratah. During the period 4th to 20th December 20 bores were put down with a total depth of 299 feet 6 inches. The grade of concentrate recovered from the bores was not high, and after analysis and correction of values the grade in terms of oz. per cubic yard of Monazite varied from a maximum of 9.9 ozs. to a minimum of 2.75 ozs. The average depth of the ground was 15 feet and the average grade of wash in terms of Monazite was 5.03 ozs. per cubic yard.

Boring operations were suspended for the Christmas vacation on December 20th and it was intended to resume operations on the 5th January. As labour was not available it was decided to transfer the tools and equipment to another area. For more than two months endeavours have been made to effect this purpose but pack horses were not made available until a highly increased price per day was agreed to. Even with the enhanced price offered the arrangements were such that only one horse could be obtained and several trips were necessary to transport the tools over what is admittedly a rough track from the Yellowband Creek to the main Corinna Road.

Accompanying this memorandum is a plan showing the positions of the bores and a copy of the analysis of the products from the individual bores.

(sgd.) H. G. W. Keid.

CHIEF GEOLOGIST.

Director of Mines.

1949

(20)

C O P Y.

Department of Mines Laboratory,

Launceston, 26th February, 1949.

REGD. NO'S 31 TO 43. MONAZITE CONCENTRATES.

The samples of monazite concentrates received from the Government Geologist on the 2nd instant and stated to be from Yellowband Creek have been assayed with the following results:

Note: Metallic Iron was removed from the samples before assaying, as requested by you and the amounts are quoted as percent weights of samples as received.

Regd. No.	Percent Iron Removed	Percent Rare Earths	Percent ThO ₂	Calculated % Monazite Approx.	% ThO ₂ in calculated Monazite.
31. A2.	10.6	28.6	2.1	41.0	5.1
32. A3.	8.7	22.4	1.7	32.0	5.3
33. A4.	5.4	23.6	1.7	34.0	5.0
34. A5.	6.4	33.4	2.3	48.0	4.8
35. A6.	11.4	32.6	2.4	47.0	5.2
36. A7.	5.1	27.9	2.0	40.0	5.0
37. A8.	8.4	26.6	1.9	38.0	5.0
38. A9, A10.	5.1	32.6	2.6	47.0	5.6
39. D5.	9.2	29.9	2.3	43.0	5.4
40. D7.	4.0	31.8	2.5	45.0	5.6
41. D9, D12	3.7	23.5	1.8	34.0	5.4
42. D10	5.8	24.0	1.8	34.0	5.3
43. D11	6.4	20.4	1.5	29.0	5.2

A composite of the above samples assayed Sn: 1.3%.

The composite sample was made up in proportion to the weight of each sample.

(sgd.) W. St. C. Manson.

CHIEF CHEMIST AND METALLURGIST.

Director of Mines,
HOBART.