

EXPLORATION HISTORY

Mid 1960's Pickands Mather

The first modern exploration of the district was completed by Pickands Mather in the mid 1960's. Stream sediment sampling was completed as part of a regional program. Several basemetal anomalies were identified but not followed up. No Au determinations were involved with the program.

1974 CRA Exploration

CRA completed Reconnaissance mapping and soil sampling over "Cambrian Tuffs and sericitic schists" in the south (Porter 1976). No significant basemetal mineralisation was identified. Again no gold determinations were involved with the program.

1978-1980 Alcoa

Alcoa commenced exploration on "EL2/1978 Granite Tor" with a remote sensing style exploration program involving photo-geological interpretation, aeromagnetic survey and some stream sediment sampling.

Follow-up exploration focused on Sn/W mineralisation around the Granite Tor batholith to the south of the EL boundary.

1981-1984 Shell

Shell completed a helicopter supported digital electromagnetic survey (DIGHEM) and several stream sediment surveys over the district. Ground follow up was mainly restricted to anomalies within the MRV although some follow up of anomalies in the Ordovician and Precambrian was completed at Ray's prospect and the Backwater Creek Prospect. Most DIGHEM anomalies were attributed to carbonaceous phyllites in the Precambrian.

Their work identified the Ten Mile Creek, Mt Swallow and Romulus East Au prospects and the Fury River Pb-Ba-As anomaly. A gossan in a silicified breccia at Romulus East returned a gold assay of 2.3 g/t.

1985-1992 CRA/Aberfoyle

CRA commenced exploration within the district in 1985 focusing on previously identified prospects from the Shell Exploration program. Targets selected for initial follow up included the Fury River Pb-Ba-As, Romulus East Au, Rays Prospect Pb, Sophia As-Ba, Mt Swallow Au and 10 Mile Creek Au-Hematite stock work.

Initial work included reconnaissance mapping and sampling of the 10 Mile Creek and Romulus East Prospects. Two anomalous rockchip samples (1.04g/t and 8.08g/t Au) were obtained from the 10 Mile Creek prospect and the hematite stock work mineralisation identified (Poltock, 1987 in Funnell and Von Storkirch, 1987).

Aberfoyle and CRA formed a joint venture in 1988 and subsequent gridding, soil sampling and mapping identified the approximately 2km long by 50-200m wide northeast

trending hematite-chlorite alteration zone within the Bonds Range porphyry (Henman, 1989).

Aberfoyle withdrew from the JV in 1991 and CRA drilled four short man portable drill holes (Newnham, 1992). Three of the holes tested the hematite stockwork with two stopped short due to hard ground conditions for the equipment being used. Low level gold was detected (0.05 – 0.5g/t Au). The fourth hole tested a copper anomalous zone in chloritic rocks further to the east. Minor chalcopyrite in quartz veining was identified in drill core with corresponding elevated copper levels.

Follow up of Romulus East downgraded the prospect after a further 24 rock chips returned a best result of 0.64 g/t Au from a high graded sample.

1991 Mineral Resources Tasmania

Mineral Resources Tasmania completed a regional mapping program as part of the Mt Read Volcanics Project in 1991. Their work is presented as MRVP Map 7 and the accompanying MRVP Geological Report 4 (Pemberton et al, 1991).