

Old Mines on Zeehan Lodes.

Unworked and Partly Worked Siderite Lodes.

① Location and Access

- Ⓐ Town Group
- Ⓑ Austral Valley Group.

② History

③ Output and Profit.

④ Geologic Environment

- Ⓐ Country Rocks
- Ⓑ Position Relative to Regional Structural Pattern.
- Ⓒ The Fractures

⑤ The Lodes

- Ⓐ Number and Spacing
 - (i) Town Group
 - (ii) Austral Valley Group
- Ⓑ Proved length and width
 - (i) Town Group
 - (ii) Austral Valley Group.
- Ⓒ Orientation

⑥ The Ore

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⑦ Mine workings

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⑧ Discussion of Possibilities

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① Location and Access

① Town Group.

A group of five (5) lodes pass under Main Street between Fairfield's Butcher's shop and Reynolds baker's shop, just west of Zeehan Post Office.

In addition a virgin lode runs alongside the footpath on the west side of Fowler Street. This is 35 chains west of the Zeehan Post Office.

② Austral Valley Group.

A number of lodes in this valley are accessible from the Smelters Road via an old tramline formation. By this route the distance from the Zeehan Station is about 110 chains.

② History

The five lodes crossing Main Street were known to exist when Main Street and the building blocks facing it on both sides were resumed by the Government. Since then they have been unworkable within 50 feet of the surface. The New Mount Zeehan Company in 1898 intended to extend their workings to explore them below 50 feet from the surface, but never got that far.

The virgin lode in Fowler Street remained unworked because it was on two freehold building blocks and was the site of a home. The owner and occupier, a Mrs Delaney, had an anti-mine complex. Neither house nor Mrs Delaney is there now.

The lodes in the Austral Valley were worked by tributors or claim holders spasmodically up to 1904 since when they have been abandoned. There was never a mill in this valley. Neither was there a steam pumping plant.

③ Output and Profit.

There has been no output from the lodes in the Zeehan town.

No accurate records are available of production in the Austral Valley group. Probably about 1000 tons would cover the total output.

Profits are an unknown quantity. Numerous parties did quite well, although several small companies during the early days of Zeehan ceased operations because they failed to strike spectacular solid galena which was needed under the existing conditions to make profits.

④ Geologic Environment.

① Country Rocks.

The enclosing rocks are the same in both groups. They belong to the keratophytic tuffs and breccias. The Town Group are in the northern and the Austral Valley Group in the eastern limb of the "Sipod".

② Position Relative to Regional Structural Pattern.

The five lodes crossing Main Street are located between the Montana and Protunda Tear Faults. The lode in Fowler Street is just to the south of the Oorah Tear Fault.

The Austral Valley Group are embraced ^{within the} Balstrup-Nubeena-Bell-Spion Kop-North Austral Tear Faults. The exact relationship between the various lodes and the respective tear faults has yet to be studied and mapped.

③ The Fractures.

There is no evidence that these are other than the irregular tension cracks which seem to be the repositories of the siderite lodes.

⑤ The Lodes.

① Number and Spacing