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THE MURCHISON MINE COMPANY OF AUSTRALASIA LIMITED
West Coast Department

GEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

First Report

on

THE MURCHISON MINE

Silver-lead-zinc

Mount Farrell

Graham F. Whitten

October, 1947

Number 4

File P.5

000

539002

THE ELECTROLYTIC ZINC COMPANY OF AUSTRALASIA, LIMITED.
West Coast Department

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. F. G. Burns,
Superintendent,
ROSEBERY.

THE MURCHISON MINE

Silver-Lead-Zinc

Mount Farrell.

Attached please find First Report on above.

Copies have been made for: The Managing-Director and File (2).

Rosebery, 20.10.47.

AMG REFERENCE POINTS ADDED

001

ELECTROLYTIC ZINC COMPANY OF AUSTRALASIA, LIMITED.
West Coast Department

THE MURCHISON MINE : SILVER-LEAD-ZINC.

S U M M A R Y

The Tullah District was visited on the 20th and 22nd August, the Murchison Mine being inspected on 21st August.

Access was by Mt. Farrell Mining Company's tram (2' gge.) from Farrell Siding to Tullah (6 miles), thence by foot along the formation of the old Sterling Valley tram and, finally, along a formed track to the Mine. The track is suitable for sledging. These tracks are well graded but a small amount of clearing will be necessary.

A preliminary compass and tape survey and geological examination were made.

Results indicate a 135' x 11' lens of lead-zinc ore has been worked to shallow depth, only the hangingwall portion of which has been stoped.

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Rosebery, 14.10.47.

GW:HCP

002

539001

Locality Map

MURCHISON MINE

Scale 4 miles = 1"

True North



AMG REFERENCE POINTS ADDED

T I T L E.

The Murchison Mine area is covered by a Special Prospector's Licence, issued in the name of G. Hall, of The Electrolytic Zinc Co. of Australasia, Limited, Rosebery, in respect of 7,300 acres (more or less) of land, County of Montagu, vicinity of Tullah, which licence will be in force until the 2nd day of March, 1948.

A copy of the Licence appears on the following page.

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Rosebery, 14.10.47.

GW:HCP.

004

SPECIAL PROSPECTOR'S LICENCE UNDER SECTION 15 (3)
OF THE MINING ACT, 1929.

175.

ISSUED to Graham Hall
 of C/- Electrolytic Zinc Coy., Rosebery.
 in respect of 7,300 acres (more or less) of land County of Montagu
vicinity of Tullah as per description on back hereof.
 To be in force until the 2nd day of March, 1948

Date 4th September, 1947. (Sgd.) ERIC REECE
 For MINISTER FOR MINES.

NOT TRANSFERABLE.

This Licence is issued subject to the following conditions:-

1. That the licensee shall commence and continue investigational work on the claim during the full period of six months as from the date of this licence, the minimum number of men to be employed in track-cutting, prospecting and sampling being two.
2. That a diamond drilling plant be employed.
3. That a Statement of Expenditure verified by statutory declaration and accompanied by details of the results of boring and a full report of prospecting operations shall be lodged with the Director of Mines for each monthly period as from the date of this licence.

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SPECIAL PROSPECTOR'S LICENCE
 7,300 acres (more or less)
 Graham Hall.

Commencing at the north-west corner of lease 11257/M -
 20 acres - Farrell Mining Company Limited thence west 95 chains;
 thence six miles south; thence two miles east; thence six miles
 north; thence 65 chains west passing along the northern boundary
 of lease 11257/M aforesaid to the point of commencement.

The area embraced by this licence is exclusive of mineral
 leases 11292/M - 20 acres, 11257/M - 20 acres, 11065/M - 80 acres,
 7191/M - 183 acres, and licences Nos. 701/W, 2804/W 705/W, 955/W,
 2219/W held by the Farrell Mining Company Limited; former lease
 9775/M (40 acres) reserved from occupation under the Mining Act,
 1929; all private land and municipal and public reservations
 and roadways.

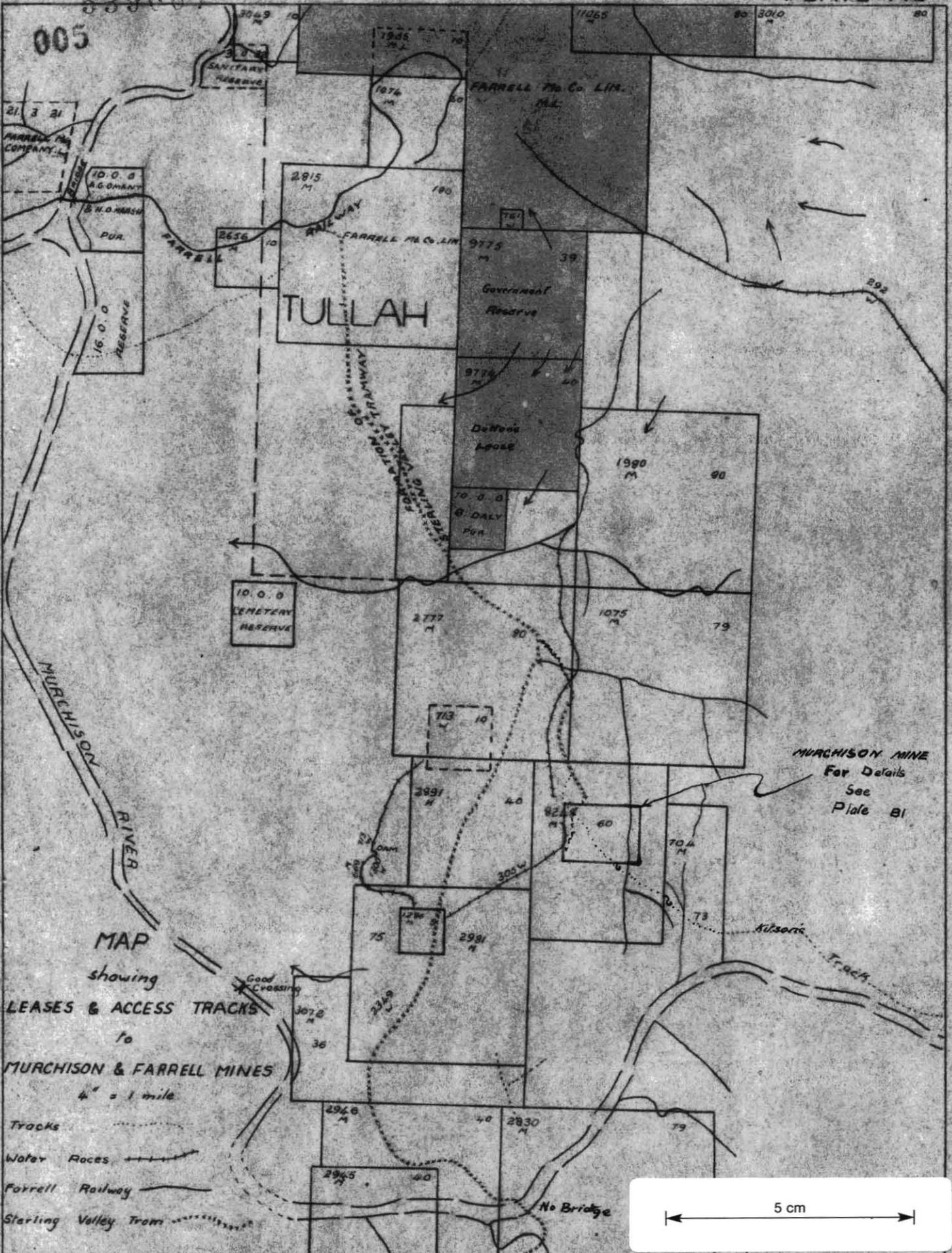
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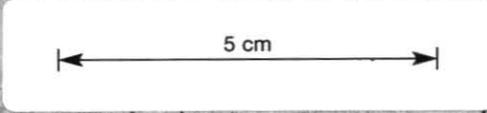
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MAP showing LEASES & ACCESS TRACKS to MURCHISON & FARRELL MINES
 4" = 1 mile

MURCHISON MINE For Details See Plate B1



006

A C C E S S

The Murchison Mine is situated $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles southerly from Tullah, which township is 6 miles from the Emu Bay Railway Company's Farrell Siding.

Transport from Farrell Siding to Tullah is by the Mt. Farrell Mining Company's 2' gauge steam train which is suitable and available for the transport of equipment.

From Tullah a wooden tram, running as far as the Sterling Mine, was used till 1929 when the Sterling Mine was worked last. Since then the rails and sleepers have been removed and the bridge over the Murchison River washed away.

The Murchison Mine is reached by following the bed of the Sterling Valley tram for 1 mile and then a formed track as far as the Mine.

From No. 3 adit a tramline formerly ran south-westerly to the mill site, 20 chains away, across a button-grass plain. Only the bed remains.

Comparatively little work is necessary to clear the track from Tullah to the Mine.

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Rosebery, 14.10.47

GW:HCP.

M I N E W O R K I N G S

See Plates A3, A4, B1.

The Murchison Mine was visited on 21st August to ascertain if the mineralised zone warranted further testing. An opencut, three adits and some trenches on the surface were found. Only No. 1 adit was accessible.

Opencut: An opencut, approximately 90' long by 10' to 25' wide and approximately 20' deep, has been worked on the southern end of the main outcrop. Remnants indicate that the outcrop consisted of cellular limonite gossan which quickly gave way to sulphides at a depth of several feet.

No. 1 Level: No. 1 Level, lying approximately 6' below the bottom of the opencut, consists of an adit from which north and south drives on ore and two south drives on narrow prongs to the east of the main ore-body have been driven. Lead ore apparently has been stoped up to the surface from the h.w. portion of the lode, but on the f.w. side 3' to 3' of mixed sulphides, chiefly sphalerite and pyrite, have been left, including some very high grade portions.

The massive sulphides on the elevation of the opencut and No. 1 Level occur in a body that must have been at least 135' long and averaging 11' wide.

No. 2 Level: No. 2 Level lies approximately 40' below No. 1 Level. The ore above the level is believed to have been stoped out. It was not accessible, due to accumulation of debris and damming back of water at the adit mouth.

No. 3 Level: No. 3 Level starts from just above the level of the buttongrass plain and lies approximately 114' below No. 1 Level. It also was not accessible, due to the dangerous condition of the adit mouth.

The following information about No. 3 Level has been abstracted from L.K. Ward's "Report on Mt. Farrell Mining Field", published in the Report of the Secretary for Mines, 1908: "From an adit North and South drives were put in exposing a (lead) ore body 133' long and from 4' to 7' wide. At the south end of the ore shoot a winze 56' deep was put down in ore and a drive 20' long put in northwards in ore." It is proposed to test the downward continuation of this ore shoot by a diamond-drill hole.

Workings to the east of the main ore body on No. 3 Level exposed a narrow seam of ore.

No. 3 Level plan has been built up from Ward's description but will be verified when the adit is accessible.

The structure revealed by these workings is, as follows:-
 A 70' wide (approximately) band of "tuff" enclosed between slate walls, strikes north and south and dips west at 70°. The lode is confined to a shatter zone striking 15° and dipping nearly vertically. Although the shatter zone continues through both formations, better values observed to date are confined to the "tuff". The slate zones, however, have not been adequately tested. Evidence supporting the favourable nature of the tuff is found to N.W. and S.E. of the opencut, where mineralised zones occur "stepped over" in the tuff. These occurrences have yet to be examined.



The effect of the steeply dipping fissure passing through the favourable band of flatter dipping rocks (tuff) has produced a lode with a dominant south pitch. See plate. A4.

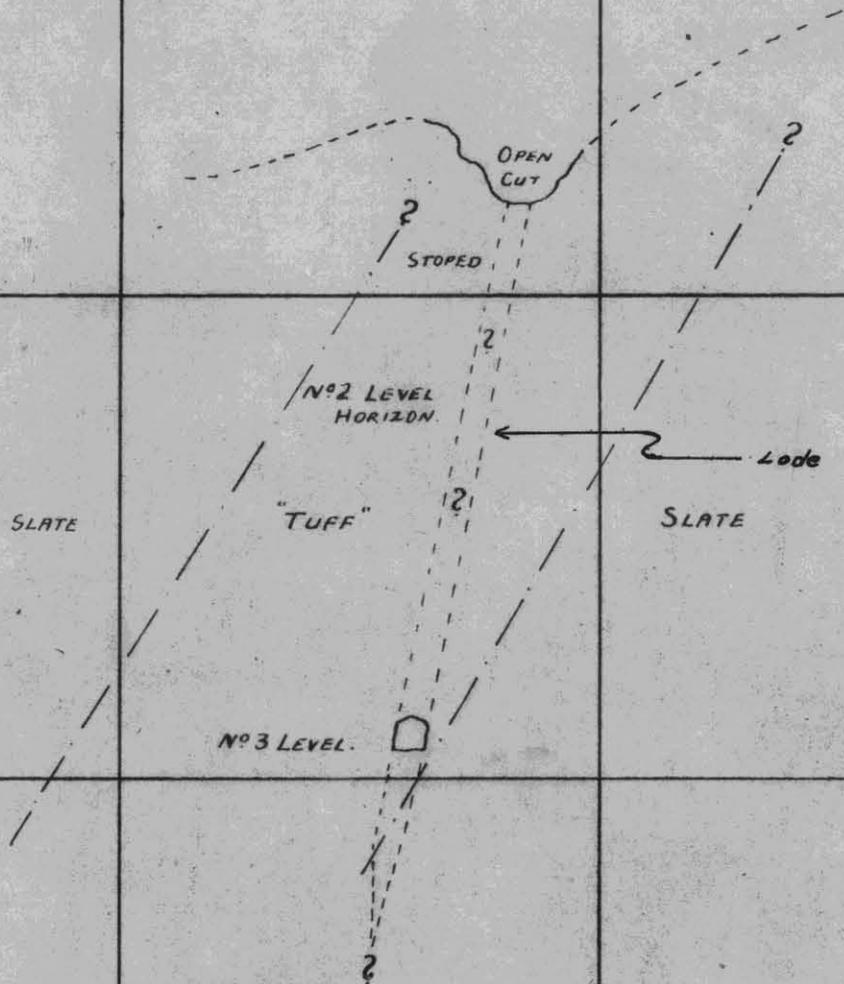
In order to test the downward continuation of the most favourable zone, a target for the diamond drill has been picked 100' below No. 3 Level. This hole can be drilled either from the surface or from No. 3 adit but a decision as to which site will be most favourable has yet to be made.

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GD

Rosebery, 14.10.47

CW:HCP.



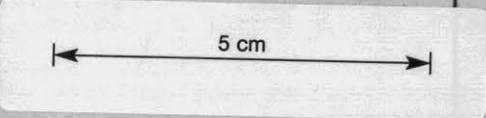
MURCHISON Ag-Pb-Zn DEPOSIT.

SECTION AA LOOKING NORTH

Rock Contact ---

Ore Limits - - - -

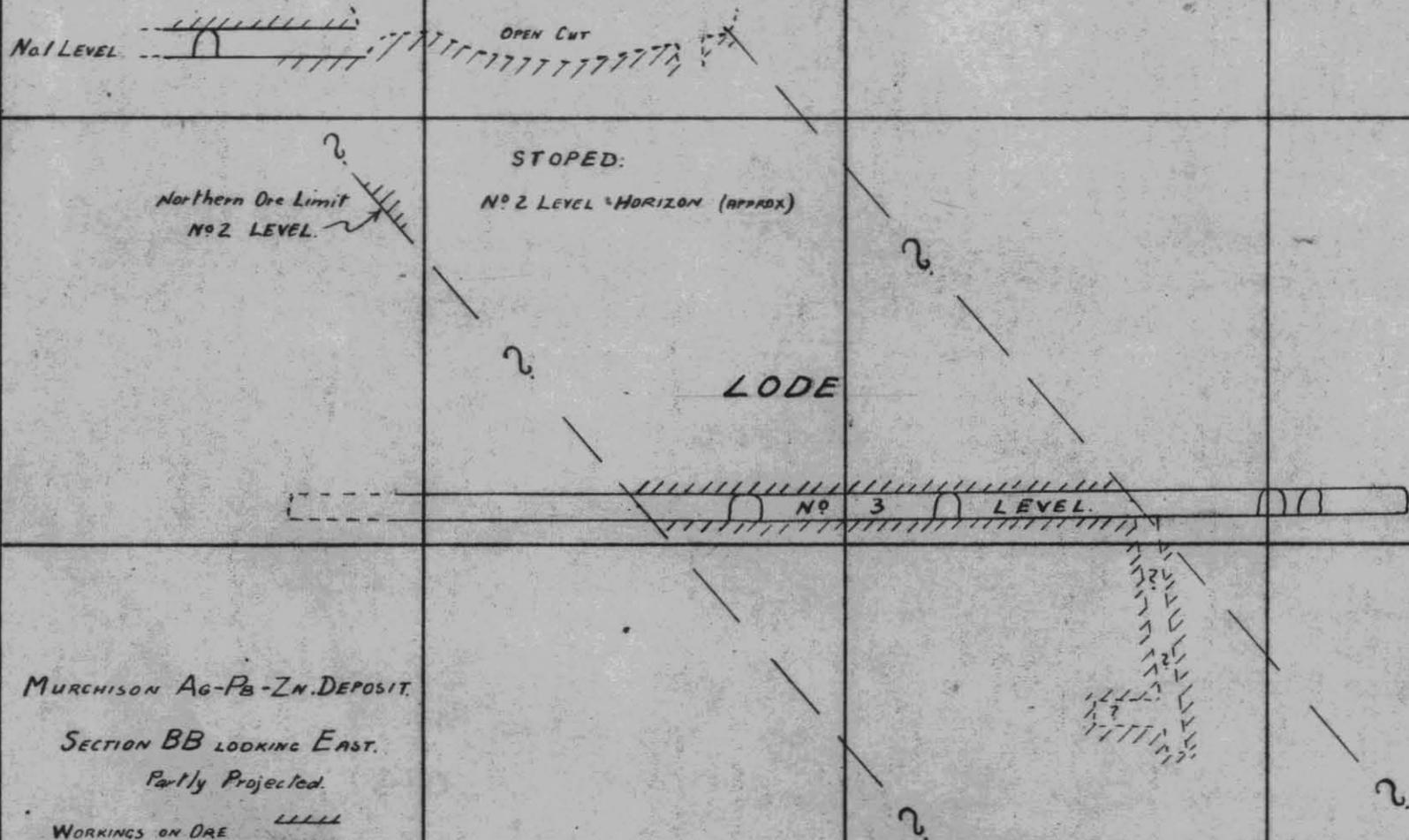
Scale 1" = 40'



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539012

E. Z. Co. - W. C. O. GEOL. DEPT. Z. O. 8



STOPPED:
No. 2 LEVEL HORIZON (APPROX)

MURCHISON Ag-Pb-Zn DEPOSIT.

SECTION BB LOOKING EAST.

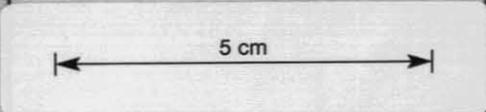
Partly Projected.

WORKINGS ON ORE 

ORE LIMITS 

No. 3 LEVEL AFTER L. K. YARD.

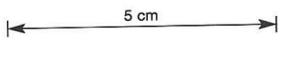
Scale 1" = 40'



* D.D. Target.

PLATE 44

011



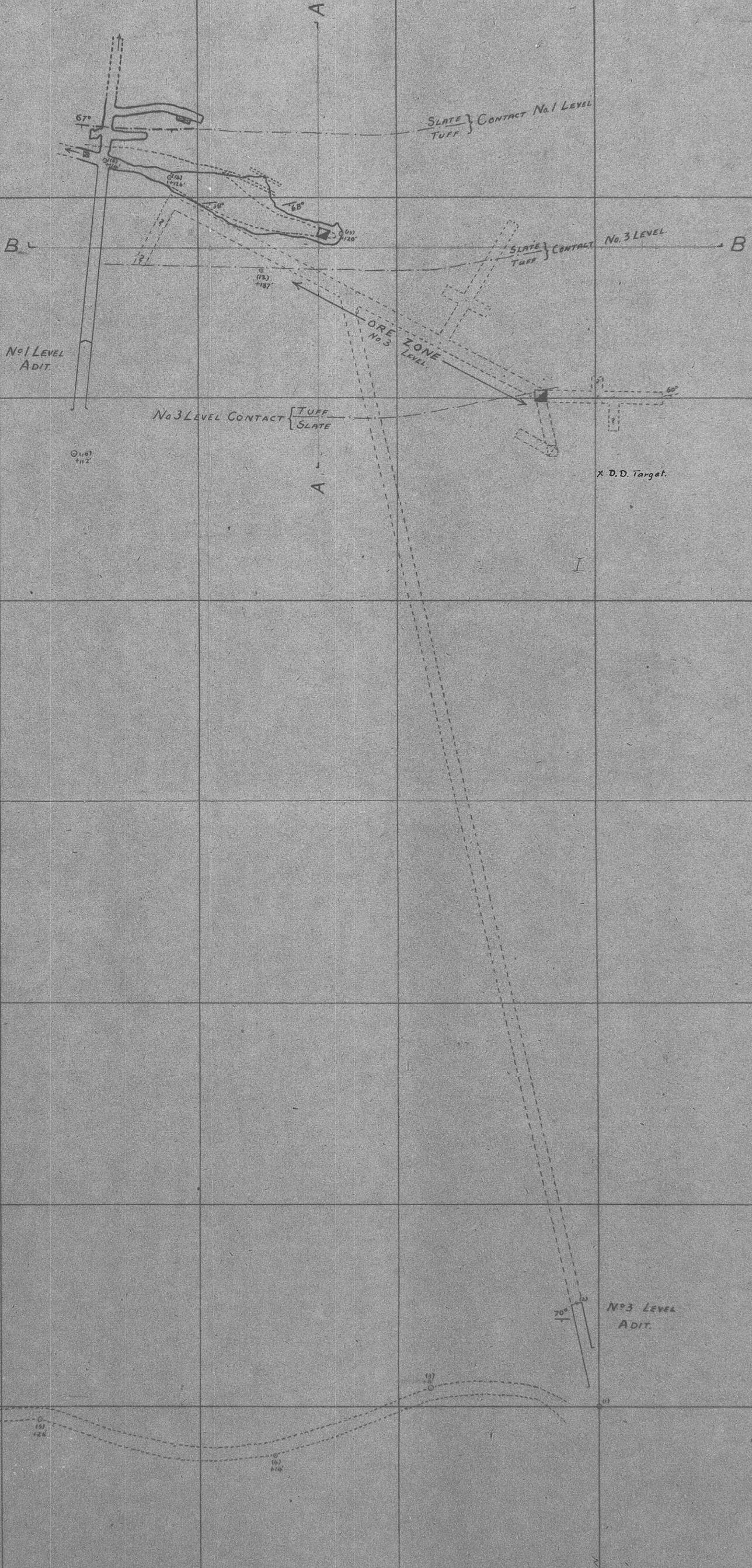
MAP OF MURCHISON Ag-Pb-Zn DEPOSIT

Showing Underground Workings.

Scale 40'-1"

Workings Mapped
Workings Inferred

Magnetic North
Compass 17537C.



No. 2 LEVEL
ADIT



No. 3 LEVEL
ADIT



KITSONS TRENCH

539013