

REPORT ON N. FOOKS MINING
CONCESSION

WARATAH - TASMANIA

by

FA Roberg

April 1962

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VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

5th April '62

Mr Dorrington
C/O Walter P. Ham
Queen Street
Melbourne

Dear Mr Dorrington

Report on N. Fooks mining concession

Waratah - Tasmania

The area was inspected by the writer during the period 26th to 29th January '62.

Location - Waratah lies in the Nor West of Tasmania, at an elevation of approximately 2,000 ft above sea level. A good access metal road (in parts bitumen) connects Burnie with Waratah.

Transport - There is a daily bus service between Waratah and Burnie, also daily plane service Melbourne - Wynyard.

Water abundance available, the water races need attention but good supply still running to waste.

Climate is pleasant, cool most of year, some snow in winter; cold nights even during the summer months.

Timber is abundant and of good quality in the district and, close to the Corrina road are large myrtle trees and other timbers suitable for mine purposes.

Area. The Fooks area is in sedimentary country of similar outcrops to the great Mt Bishoff lodes: lies S.E. of the Mount and approximately 200' lower level than the top workings of the Bishoff mine.

A deep gorge divides the two mineralized areas i.e. Mt Bishoff mines and Fooks area.

There are several outcrops of lode showing interesting mineralization - Two tunnels have been driven into the hill-side intersecting lode of a pyritic nature: also a small shaft has been sunk through country near and above the tunnel which has cut a lode - The tunnels are about 300' - 400' east of the track connecting with the old tram line.

Samples taken of the lode are interesting in that the ore carries gold as well as tin, both metal and mineral visible in a finely divided state on panning off dollied stone.

A sample taken from the lode, by the writer, and brought to Melbourne which Mr Fooks submitted for assay, he reports gave 2% tin and 2 dwts gold per ton - the lode from which this sample was taken is 2' to 3' wide quartz, heavily mineralized carries also lead and zinc.

It is understood the area has been granted to Mr Fooks by the Tasmanian Mines Dept and is a Govt. reserve, which would account for the absence of mining operations and also for it not being a registered lease.

The tin occurs as cassiterite in a pyritic complex ore carrying sulphides of lead and copper and zinc, also gold is present in varying quantities - the tin is not particularly prominent in the stone to the naked eye nor is the gold.

Another particularly interesting outcrop has been located in thick scrub, about 60' from the shaft, near and above the tunnel above the old tram line. No work has yet been done on this: it is worth a shot.

General. The opinion is formed that the Fooks concession is a worthwhile prospect. The values of gold and tin are encouraging. The geological evidence is in its favor. The ore, as described above is fine grained complex pyrite in quartz of a friable nature.

It is general in this district for the lodes to be pyritic, which are fissure veins in the sedimentary country and occur also in the quartz porphyry dyke traversing as an intrusion.

The lode ore mined and milled by the Mt Bishoff Coy had the above similarity, that is, it was pyritic - The tin concentrate from the detrital deposits was clean and did not need roasting as did the lode concentrate the greater percentage of the tin concentrate came from the lodes -

There is still a portion of the old Mt Bishoff crushing plant left standing, which is now used by the local tributers - Power is electric - Trial parcels of ore from the Fooks concession may be put through this plant (battery) by arrangement.

On the Fooks area there is no plant, tools nor buildings -

Recommendation

- a/ It is suggested that a drive on the lode cut in the top tunnel be carried on for about 20' and the ore won stacked for later treatment as a trial bulk sample.
- b/ That the outcrop shown me by Laurie Wills, be opened up and the ore stacked; also the bottom tunnel level.
- c/ Light rails and mine truck be secured for the tunnel work.
- d/ Hire of an air compressor (portable type) hose (air) drills and machine be arranged.
- e/ A galvanized iron building of say 20' x 10' would be necessary on the job, to be used as a store, office etc. etc. this could probably be purchased cheaply, secondhand, in Waratah.

Mr Laurie Wills gave the writer much assistance; he made his light car available.

Yours faithfully,

F.A. Roberg

20th March, 1962

An. ND/PW/27/2

Report on Sample No. 274/62.

Sample : Mineralized Ore.
Locality : Tasmania.
Sender : N. Fooks,
13 Sorrett Ave,
MALVERN.

A sample of a complex ore, obtained in Tasmania was submitted for assay of gold and tin contents.

Result :

Gold per ton 2 dwts.
Tin (Sn) 2.35%

Sample procured by Mr Roberg.

Comment :

The treatment of this complex ore may well prove a difficult ore-dressing problem.

Provided that this problem can be solved, and that a large ore-body exists, the present price of tin would make the exploitation of this lode a profitable operation.

John C Kennedy

Senior Chemist,
Mines Department.

*File 2-2-0
Receipt No 38703*

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C. J. SHARP
L. J. HOWELLS
R. W. SCOBORIO

47 YARRA BANK ROAD,
SOUTH MELBOURNE, S.C.4
TELEPHONES: 61 2041 - 2 LINES

27th March, 1962.

Messrs. Edward Ward & Co.,
422 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. C.I.

Dear Sirs,

ATTENTION MR. NICOL FRASER

TEST REPORT

Sample of Ore received 22nd March, 1962.

Lab.No.	62/A/198
Sample marked	NO. 2.
Tin	7.1 %

Yours faithfully,

for SHARP & HOWELLS

R. W. Scoborio
(R. W. Scoborio.)

RWS/GB.3.

A similar sample of ore as above was analyzed
by me - by all to "other than tin" 14% Zinc, 2.5 Lead
29% Sulphur. R. W. S.