

1909 to 1913 a total of 36 000 tonnes of ore, containing 37% S, was exported. Another 60 000 tonnes of lower grade ore, 21% S, was stockpiled at the mine site.

Rio Tinto Australia Exploration carried out a substantial geophysical and geochemical exploration programme between 1956 and 1962, including ground electromagnetics, ground magnetometer and gravity surveys. This programme indicated that the area requiring detailed exploration was in the vicinity of the Chester Mine. There is no record of them having carried out any detailed exploration in this area, and no drilling was done.

Comstaff Proprietary Limited acquired an Exploration Licence over the region in 1963 and commenced regional exploration in 1968. Initial exploration consisted of stream sediment sampling and reconnaissance stream geological mapping. Follow up work was concentrated in the vicinity of the Pinnacles mines and the Chester Pyrite Mine and consisted of gridding, grid mapping, geochemical surveys and limited induced polarisation and electromagnetic surveys. On the basis of this work, two diamond drill holes were drilled at the southern end of Pinnacles (CP 1 and CP 2) and one hole (CP 3) to the south of the Chester Mine which intersected 2.4m of economic grade lead-zinc sulphides.

Further detailed work was carried out in 1974/1975, consisting of the cutting of a metric grid at Pinnacles and at Chester. An A⁰ horizon geochemical survey was completed over both grids and provided the basis for follow up drill testing. Remapping of the grids was completed, and a gradient array induced polarisation survey was carried out over the Pinnacles grid. As a consequence of this work, a further 12 diamond drill holes were drilled at Chester, and a further 8 holes at Pinnacles. Only low grade mineralisation was intersected at Pinnacles, related to the mineralisation seen at the surface at the South Trench and Thomas' and Brown's Tunnels. The Chester drilling failed to intersect economic grades of mineralisation, either associated with the previous intersection or associated with the surface geochemical anomalies.

Since the entry of Preussag Australia Limited into the Joint Venture, a detailed exploration programme was completed over the Pinnacles grid and has been reported in Preussag Report Tas/9 by G. Krummei. D. Perkin of Preussag completed a detailed exploration programme over the eastern and south-western portions of the Chester