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~~1818: Core Drilling in Ringarooma Bay~~

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Introduction

Between October 1966 and February 1967 Ocean Mining A.G. conducted a drilling campaign in Tasmanian waters using the vessel "Wando River" which was specially equipped to drill into the unconsolidated sediments on the ocean floor. The main area of activity was in Ringarooma Bay on the Bass Strait coast of north-eastern Tasmania.

The recovered drill core was split on the deck of the Wando River half being retained by OMAG, the other half being delivered to this laboratory for processing. The attached flowsheet shows how the samples were processed and the head values calculated.

Results were given to OMAG identified with their number and our Register Number. As we were not given any other identification our results could not be related to a hole or interval in a hole. OMAG would have used this data for reporting on this project to their partners in this venture.

During and at the end of the sample processing investigations were made on aspects of sampling and analysis. These findings were passed on to OMAG.

With renewed interest in Ringarooma Bay, Santos Ltd sought the results of the OMAG work. While the work we did in this laboratory was all on file here Santos was not successful in locating information that related results to holes etc. Some results found in the Electrolytic Zinc Company's files were incomplete, in some places quite erroneous and had not been brought up to date after the original results were entered in their (B.Z.) files.

Accordingly the objective was to put together all the information available so that the sample results could be applied to boreholes and hence be used to appraise the bed of Ringarooma Bay.

As the information was being extracted from our files it became apparent that experimental work on these samples was worth recording in a research project so that it was readily accessible hence the inclusion of such results.