

000

783001

88-2808

(11)

**An Archaeological Survey of Proposed Mineral  
Exploration Works in the Vicinity of Adamsfield,  
Southwest Tasmania.**

A Report to Metals Explorations Ltd.

by

G.B.Prince

February, 1988.

**OPEN FILE**

EL 4/85

**Contents.**

1. Introduction.
2. The Survey.
3. Results.
4. Discussion.
5. Recommendations.
6. References.
7. Tables.
8. Plates.
9. Maps.
10. Appendix.

## 1. Introduction

This survey was undertaken on behalf of Metals Exploration Ltd. according to the brief provided (see Appendix). The object was to locate and record historical archaeological features affected by proposed mineral exploration activities in the vicinity of Adamsfield, Southwest Tasmania.

These proposed activities include track construction in the Adam Plain area, at the eastern margin of the Ragged Range, and line cutting and gridding across the Adam Plain from that track to the existing Marriot Track.

Additional line cutting and gridding is proposed for the Main Creek Area 2, north of the Adamsfield track, and west of the recently constructed Bolton Track, and also in two areas near Hall's Open Cut, the Packers Spur West Area and the Main Creek Area 1.

An earlier survey (Prince 1987) preceding preliminary exploration works confirmed that there were extensive archaeological remains in the area, including landscape modifications and artefacts associated with early alluvial mining activities, in addition to structural remains associated with the operations of the early Lode Company.

A review of the history of mining activities in this area is given in the earlier report (Prince 1987) and will not be repeated here.

## 2. The Survey.

Following an introduction to the proposed areas of exploration by field staff of Metal Explorations Ltd., the relevant areas were surveyed for archaeological features during six days of field work in December 1987 and January 1988.

Several areas of proposed works were examined. In the Adam Plain area, a vehicular track is to be constructed along the western margin of the plain, at the base of the Ragged Range, and 8 grid lines are to be cut in an east/west direction connecting this track with the existing Marriot Track on the eastern margin of the plain. These tracks have been numbered from north to south and given the prefix "AP" (see Map 1).

In Main Creek Area 2, on the Adam Plain, north of the Adamsfield track, and east of Football Hill, 4 grid lines are to be cut, running north across the plain from the Adamsfield track. These have been numbered from west to east, and given the prefix "MC" and the suffix "A". The easternmost of these, MC4A, intersects the existing Bolton Track approximately 400m north of the Adamsfield Track (see Map 1).

In Main Creek Area 1, on the eastern side of Hall's Open Cut Pit, a track is to be constructed running approximately parallel to Main Creek (roughly east/west). This has been identified as "MC1".

North of the Open Cut, in the Packer Spur West Area, a track is to be constructed running approximately north for about 1km from the north end of the existing track, which runs north/south past the 4WD hut. This track is identified as "PS1".

These tracks and grid lines have been marked in the field by the staff of Metals Explorations.

All proposed tracks were traversed on foot, and additional transects were walked in areas of proposed intensive line cutting and gridding, such as at Main Creek Area 1, and all archaeological features observed were recorded in as much detail as was possible in the available time.

### 3. Results.

More than fifty archaeological features were recorded during the survey, of which more than sixty percent would be directly impacted by the proposed exploration activities. These are listed in Table 1.

The majority of these were minor landscape modifications such as small trenches or ditches, but a number of other features were also recorded.

In the area of the proposed **Ragged Range Track**, most features recorded were minor landscape modifications such as ditches, pits, and mounds of excavated material, located in or near natural watercourses on the western margin of the Adam Plain. A number of features similar to those recorded on the proposed track alignment occur outside the corridor of impact. AF88-03, in particular, provides an apparently representative sample of the types of features located within the track corridor and will not be affected by the proposed works. The extensive water race AF88-01 is crossed by the proposed track alignment in the vicinity of Line AP5 (Plates 1 to 4).

In the **Adam Plain Area** the majority of features recorded were also minor landscape modifications associated with early mining activities. The highest concentration of such features occurs on the lower slopes of Football Hill, at the eastern margin of the Adam Plain. A number of large ponds and extensive areas of spoil heaps, with associated artefacts, also occur in this area, as does the sheet metal pipe AF88-09 (Plates 5 to 12). Several of the features recorded occurred outside the area of impact of the proposed works.

In **Main Creek Area 2** the situation is similar, with a number of minor landscape modifications occurring on the plain itself (Plate 13), and evidence of more extensive workings appearing at the margins, on the lower slopes of Football Hill.

**Main Creek Area 1** also has a number of minor landscape modifications occurring along the proposed track alignment (Plates 14 and 15), but the creek bed itself contains a complex of features unique in the study area. AF88-33, 34, and 36 (Plates 16 to 24) provide extremely interesting examples of extensive earth and stone works associated with apparently intensive mining activities in the area. AF88-36 is unique among the features recorded in that artefacts apparently *in situ* were observed, suggesting that this area may provide a suitable site for future archaeological excavation.

The proposed track in the **Packers Spur West Area** follows a similar route to a disused track (AF88-38), corded in places, which it intersects in a number of locations. A timber bridge on this old track (AF88-37) lies within the corridor of impact of the proposed Metals Exploration track (Plates 25 to 28). The extent of vegetation regrowth on this track, and the similarity of the cording present to that on the remaining sections of the historic Adamsfield track, suggest that it also dates from the early mining period. No other significant features were recorded in this area.

The **Open Cut Area**, adjoining the Packers Spur Area to the north and Main Creek Area 1 to the west, contains a number of features, most of which are apparently associated with the workings of the old Lode Company. Predominant among these are the trench/adit AF88-39, which contains the only recorded wooden mining structural remains in the study area, and the remains of the 5-shaft stamper battery (AF88-54) associated with these workings (Plates 29 to 44).

#### 4. Discussion.

It is apparent from the results that the most common archaeological features in the study area are minor landscape modifications resulting from small-scale alluvial mining activities, which were the dominant form of mineral extraction occurring in this area during the historical period.

As noted in the preliminary report (Prince 1987), the Adamsfield osmoridium field was predominantly worked by individuals or small teams of two or three men working small claims using simple hydraulic extraction methods.

The archaeological remains reflect this situation, and the most common features are small excavations and water transport ditches, the latter often only 50cm wide and 50cm deep. Excavations and mounds of redeposited material commonly occur in and near natural watercourses on the slopes adjacent to the Adam Plains, and are therefore in the line of proposed and existing tracks on the margins of these plains.

Assessment of the cultural significance of archaeological sites, or features within those sites, is generally according to aesthetic, historic, scientific and social values, and includes such attributes as rarity, representativeness, and the ability to contribute further scientific information (Australia ICOMOS, 1987).

The significance of the features recorded in this survey require assessment at the site level, as the significance of the site itself has already been established (Prince 1987).

Individually, the minor landscape modification features characteristic of this site cannot be seen to be of major archaeological significance. However, it is important that they are recorded to a sufficient level to ensure the conservation of the information that they may contain, which in this situation appears to be confined to some record of the nature and distribution of the mining activities in the area.

Many of these landscape modifications are linear in configuration and therefore the impact of proposed works is often limited to a minority portion of affected features, and examples of similar features also occur outside areas of proposed impact.

It is therefore considered that recording of minor landscape modifications at the level of this survey constitutes a sufficient mitigation procedure for the effect on these features of the proposed exploration works.

Several of the other features recorded in the study area, however, are considered to be of particular significance to the historical Adamsfield mining field, due to their rarity within the site, their ability

to contribute to our understanding of the past activities in the area, or other relevant criteria, and these require alternative mitigation procedures.

Features of particular significance within the area include the water race (AF88-01), the complex of features in Main Creek Area 1 (AF88-33 to 36), the remains of the Lode Company operations (AF88-39 to 44), and the stamper battery (AF88-54).

The most successful form of impact mitigation is usually *avoidance*, and it would be preferable if the proposed exploration activities avoid certain features in the area, including those mentioned above.

In most instances, discussions with the representatives of Metals Exploration Ltd. suggest that this will not pose any impediment to the proposed exploration works. In the case of the water race (AF88-01) for example, moving the track line a few metres to the east in the affected area will be sufficient to protect the feature, and a similar situation exists with other cases.

The Main Creek Area 1 presents a particular problem in that the features present in this area, notably AF88-33 and AF88-36, are complexes of landscape modifications and built structures, with associated artefacts, extending for considerable distances along the creek. Proposed grid lines in this area intersect AF88-33, and appear to intersect the eastern sections of AF88-36, although this is somewhat uncertain given the difficulty of precise location of points in the field (See Map 2).

At this stage it is suggested by company representatives that exploration work along these grid lines may be restricted to equipment transported on foot, and if this is the case then the impact on these sites will be insignificant. If, however, any excavation or earth moving for vehicular access is conducted along these grid lines, then the potential for impact on these features is greatly increased.

In the event of such track construction occurring, it is considered that the company should take extreme care to avoid AF88-36, and to minimise the disturbance to AF88-33 and other features in the area. Grid line 2, where it crosses Main Creek in this area, seems likely to affect AF88-36. As the features recorded occur within a narrow corridor along the creek, however, it should be possible to avoid crossing the creek in the vicinity of AF88-36 by utilising the existing track AF88-32 and limiting the construction of Grid Line 2 to areas north and south of AF88-36.

A similar situation exists in the vicinity of Halls Open Cut, where there are extensive remains of the operations of the Lode Company. Previous exploration works have resulted in some minor disturbance to this feature (AF88-39) where drill pad construction has resulted in material being pushed into the trench. This feature and others associated with it should not be further disturbed by the proposed exploration activities.

Although field staff of the company indicated only the northerly track PS1, maps provided indicate a

series of grid lines in the Open Cut area. As with the lines in MC1, if these are limited to foot access, there should be no significant affect on the archaeological features. If vehicular access is intended, however, there is likely to be considerable disturbance to these features unless extreme care is taken by the company. Any track construction for exploration lines across the Open Cut area should only occur up to the trench (AF88-39) from either side, and the trench itself and the features within it should not be disturbed by excavation, infilling or other earthworks.

In the event that there is an irreconcilable conflict between the proposed exploration works and the recommended avoidance of AF88-36 and AF88-39, then alternative mitigation procedures, such as detailed recording of these features before disturbance, require consideration. Consultation with Metals Exploration Ltd. representatives, however, indicate that avoidance of these features is a viable option within the present requirements of the company's program.

## **5. Recommendations.**

It is therefore recommended that Metals Exploration Ltd, in the course of proposed mineral exploration works in the vicinity of Adamsfield....

1. Avoid disturbance to the water race AF88-01 by moving the proposed Ragged Range Track construction line approximately 10m east, between the intersection of the track with AP5 and the point to the southeast where the proposed track alignment diverges from the water race.
2. Terminate AP2 at its eastern end on the western side of the pond and associated features AF88-13, or divert the line around this on the northern side if the line must be connected to the Marriot track.
3. Avoid disturbance to AP88-36 and minimise disturbance to AP88-33 in the Main creek Area 1.
4. Avoid disturbance to the remains of the Lode Company operations in the vicinity of Hall's Open Cut, in particular the trench AF88-39 and associated features, and the stamper battery AF88-54.
5. Avoid disturbance to the wooden bridge AF88-37 by relocating the proposed track 5 or 10 metres east or west of the present alignment in this area, and minimise disturbance to the disused track AF88-38.

**References.**

- Prince, G.B., 1987. "A Preliminary Archaeological Survey of Proposed Mining Exploration Activities in the vicinity of Adamsfield, Southwest Tasmania." Report to Metals Exploration Ltd.
- Australia ICOMOS, 1987. "The Australian ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter). Guidelines to the Burra Charter : Cultural Significance. Guidelines to the Burra Charter : Conservation Policy." Australia International Council On Monuments and Sites, Sydney.

7. Tables

**Table 1. Archaeological Features Recorded in Areas of Impact of  
Proposed Mineral Exploration in the Vicinity of Adamsfield.**

Feature	Plate	Description	Affect'd?
<b>Adam Plain Area</b>			
AF88-01	1 2	Disused water race exceeding 1500m in length, and 1.25m wide x 1.0m deep, contouring around east margin Ragged Range, intersected by proposed track in the vicinity of lines AP5 & AP6.	Yes?
AF88-02		Alluvial workings in watercourse immediately south of Barrets Creek. Complex of ditches, pits, and mounds of redeposited alluvial gravel from ~25m west of intersection of Ragged Range track with AP5, extending westwards for a considerable distance.	No
AF88-03	3	Alluvial workings; pit and ditching, redeposited gravels and fines, located 10m north of AP5 and approximately 50m east of the Ragged Range track alignment. Pit >30m long x 14m wide x 3m deep, with watercourse feeding from ditch 7.0m long x 0.75m wide x 1.0 m deep entering SW corner. Coarse alluvials are redeposited on the south side of the floor of the pit, with fines on the north side.	No
AF88-04	4	Mounds of redeposited coarse alluvials on the Ragged Range track alignment in watercourse north of Scanlon's Creek, just south of AP6.	Yes
AF88-05		Ditch or water race of undetermined length and 0.75m wide x 0.5m deep across slope of hill crossed by Ragged Range track alignment about 100m south of AP6.	Yes
AF88-06		Mounds of redeposited coarse alluvials, pits and associated water diversion ditch adjacent to Scanlons Creek on the Ragged Range track alignment.	Yes
AF88-07	5	Ditch intersected by AP1 ~200m east-southeast of Morley's cabins. Length exceeding 50m and 0.5-1.5m wide x 1.0m deep, running in direction 330°.	Yes
AF88-08	6	Pond 7m long x 5m wide x 1.0-1.5m deep, approx. 100m ESE of AF88-07, close to AP1.	?
AF88-09	7	Riveted ~25cm diameter sheet metal pipe running parallel to Adamsfield track between track and AP1, perpendicular to AF88-07. Distance between joints ~90cm.	No
AF88-10		Ditch or water race of undetermined length, and 0.5m wide x 0.5m deep, located 7m south of AP2, some 150m east of edge of plain.	No
AF88-11		Ditch across slope on the western margin of Football Hill intersected by AP1 7m west of Marriot track. This feature is ~75-100m in length and cut by the Marriot track at the northern end, where it is 0.30m wide x 0.25m deep, widening to 0.75m for most of its length, and further widening to 1.0m before opening on to the plain at its southern end.	Yes
AF88-12		Water filled excavation 7-10m x 7m x 1.5-2.0m with redeposited gravels on south side, located 30m west of the Marriot track on AP1. The west end opens onto the eastern edge of the Adam Plain.	Yes

011

Feature	Plate	Description	Affect'd
AF88-13		Complex of excavations and large residual pond with associated artefacts at the intersection of AP2 and the Marriot track. The large pond has excavations ~2m deep entering the east side, including a ditch running E/W which has been cut by the Marriot track. On the western side of the pond is a large area of redeposited alluvials with iron and wooden artefacts present. The wood consists of split boards 8-15mm thick x ~120mm wide of varying lengths. A rectangular piece of flat iron sheet 700mm x 400mm was recorded, in addition to a piece 120mm x 600mm overall, with a curved excision ~450mm overall on one of the long edges. The pump engine previously recorded (Prince 1987) stands on the eastern margin of the pond, at its northern end, near a sawn stump 1.10m high and 0.45m diameter. This stump has a loop of wire encircling it at height of 0.60m, and several embedded nails.	Yes
AF88-14	8	Shallow ditch, probably a water race, running approximately E/W, and located approximately 60m east of the trees at the western margin of the plain, and approximately 75m south of AP2.	No
AF88-15		Excavation intersected by Marriot track and AP3, ~4-5m wide x 2-3m deep adjacent to track, becoming wider and shallower downslope towards Adam Plain, opening into a pond/bog ~10m west of the track. A ditch 0.75 wide x 1.0-1.5m deep exits the S side of the excavation ~3m W of the track and runs across and slightly downslope towards the plain for ~10m, becoming slightly wider and shallower towards the S end.	Yes
AF88-16	9 10	Small trench 3.0 x 2.0 x 1.5m, orientated ~NE/SW with water to a depth of 1.0m, located on the southern margin of a small hillock on the western side of the plain, between AP3 & AP4. A shallow ditch ~50m in length, running ~E/W, enters the eastern corner.	Yes
AF88-17		Ponds and extensive area of redeposited alluvials at on the Adam Plain at the eastern end of AP6. (See Prince 1987)	No?
AF88-18	11	Pond, mid plain, adjacent to AP6, on the north side.	Yes?
AF88-19		Ditch running approximately NE/SW, crossed by the Marriot track just north of its intersection with AP7, and intersected by AP7 ~7m west of the Marriot track. The feature is ~30m long overall and 1.0m wide x 1.5m deep at the NE end, grading to 1.5-2.0m wide x 0.6m deep at the SW end, where it opens out.	Yes
AF88-20	12	Trench 2.5m long x 0.75m wide x 0.6m deep, orientated N/S, and located ~15m north of AP7 and ~100m west of the Adam River. Redeposited alluvial material excavated from the trench forms a low mound on the western margin.	No

012

Feature	Plate	Description	Affect'd?
<b>Main Creek Area 2</b>			
AF88-21		Ditch, probably a water race, 0.5-0.6m wide x 0.8-0.9m deep and with a length exceeding 10m, intersected by MC3A at an angle of $-60^{\circ}$ , approximately 20m north of the Adamsfield track.	Yes
AF88-22	13	Small trench, 1.65m long x 0.5-0.6m wide x 0.5-0.6m deep, intersected by MC3A at an angle of $-30^{\circ}$ , approximately 45m north of Adamsfield track.	Yes
AF88-23		Ditch 0.5m wide x 0.4m deep and exceeding 10m in length, intersected by MC3A at $-90^{\circ}$ , $\sim 100$ m north of the Adamsfield track. On the southern side of this feature, a slight mounding is apparent, where excavated material has been redeposited.	Yes
AF88-24		Small (dry) pond $\sim 10$ m SW of AF88/23, with a possible shallow ditch entering from the eastern side.	No
AF88-25		Small trench 1.25 x 0.4 x 0.4m on MC3A, parallel to it, about 150m north of Adamsfield track.	Yes
AF88-26		Small trench 1.0 x 0.75 x 0.25m at $-70^{\circ}$ to MC3A, Approximately 175m north of Adamsfield track.	Yes
AF88-27		Extensive area of redeposited material from alluvial mining activities located along MC4A approximately 50m north of the Adamsfield track. A number of associated artefacts including pick and mattock heads, occur in the area. (See Prince 1987)	Yes

013

Feature	Plate	Description	Affect'd?
<b>Main Creek Area 1</b>			
AF88-28		Ditch 0.3m wide x 0.2m deep of undetermined length, running north/south and located approximately 10m west along MC1.	Yes
AF88-29	14	Excavation 1.5m x 1.0m x 0.7m, orientated northeast/southwest, and located approximately 40m west along MC1 and ~10m southwest of Main Creek.	Yes
AF88-30		Ditch, probably a water race, 0.5m wide x 0.5m deep, of indeterminate length, very overgrown, running ~parallel to Main Creek and located around 100m west along MC1.	Yes
AF88-31	15	Several mounds of redeposited stone occurring in a clearing ~20m across, some 160m west along MC1, a few metres north of the track.	No?
AF88-32		Recent mineral exploration grid track running north/south, crossing Main Creek around 250m west along MC1.	—
AF88-33	16	Complex of features associated with an open flat area of possibly redeposited alluvium adjacent to the southern side of Main Creek approximately 325m west along MC1. A ditch 3-6m wide x 1-2m deep, and exceeding 75m in length, runs east/west along the northern boundary, separated from Main Creek by a residual embankment ~5m high. A diversion channel 1.5m wide x 1.5m deep, cut into rock, connects the creek with the eastern end of the ditch. The south bank of the ditch is of boulders and may represent a retaining wall for the finer alluvial material redeposited on its southern side. No evidence of alluvial workings were observed on the slopes around these flats, and mining activities in this area appear to have been confined to the immediate vicinity of the creek itself.	Yes
	17		
	18		
AF88-34	19	Linear built stone feature 10m long x 1.0m wide x 0.75m high in bed of Main Creek, approximately 10m east of track AF88-31 and parallel and adjacent to the present (summer) main water channel, on its northern side. On the southern side, redeposited material was also present.	No?
AF88-35	20	Section of iron pipe, ~0.9m in length, in creek bed 10m east of above.	No?
AF88-36	21	Complex of landscape modifications and built features, with associated artefacts, on Main Creek, extending from some 50m east of track AF88-31 upstream to around 50m west of the beginning of MC1. At the eastern (downstream) end, an area around 30m x 30m, centred on the creek bed, contains a number of built linear stone features and excavated channels. Upstream from this are other built stone features including substantial retaining walls up to 2m in height, and mounds of redeposited excavated material. Artefacts observed in this area included portions of leather shoes apparently <i>in situ</i> , and a square nosed shovel in the creek bed around 20m east of the beginning of MC1.	?
	22		
	23		
	24		

Feature	Plate	Description	Affect'd?
<b>Packers spur Area</b>			
AF88-37	25 26	Small wooden bridge 1.5m in width, spanning watercourse as part of old track, some 300m north along PS1. The structure is largely overgrown with moss, and abuts onto a corded section of track on the southern side of the creek, and laid cobbles on the northern side (at least on the west side of the track).	Yes
AF88-38	27 28	Disused track, running approximately north from the vicinity of the northern end of the remains of the Lode Company workings, along a similar line to PS1, and intersected by it in several places, such as at the bridge AF88-36 and again around 75m north of that point, where a relatively open area of Eucalypt forest occurs, with some evidence of soil disturbance from alluvial mining or associated activities having occurred there. Several cut tree stumps are present. The track is considerably overgrown, and is most visible in those sections where it has been cut into the slope and a resulting embankment occurs. In some sections, such as in the gully where AF88-37 occurs, the track has been levelled by filling above the existing terrain, and in some areas logs or stones have been laid along the track boundaries.	Yes
<b>Halls Open Cut Area</b>			
AF88-39	29 30	Trench of variable depth and width, extending from Hall's Open Cut northwards to the vicinity of the beginning of PS1. At the southern end, where it departs from the excavation at Hall's O/C, the trench varies in width from ~4m to 5m, and in depth from around 3m to 4m. This feature is the remains of the workings of the Lode Company and has a number of associated features and artefacts. At a number of places the trench has subsided or collapsed, and its original depth is uncertain. Dense vegetation also obscures part of the trench. A number of structural features are present within the trench which will be dealt with separately.	No?
AF88-40	31 32 33	Timber support structures within AF88-39, consisting of horizontal boards 15-16cm wide x 4cm thick retaining the walls of the trench, and supported by vertical timbers generally approximately round in section, with overall diameter around 16-17cm. Steps have been cut in these to accommodate cross braces. In some places wedges have been inserted between the horizontal boards against the wall, and the vertical posts. These timber structures appear to be restricted to the area of the trench north of the new section of road (drill pad ?) originating at the 4WD hut. In the northernmost section of the trench, between the Metalex drill pad marked AHP7 and the bulldozed area where PS1 originates, some cross bracing timbers are in place between the vertical posts. In this section of the trench, relatively undisturbed, it appears that the average distance between vertical posts is about 1.5m, and cross braces appear to occur between every second pair of vertical posts. The presence of debris to around the level of the cross-braces suggests that considerable filling of the trench has occurred since the operation period.	No?
AF88-41		Excavation, exceeding 3m in depth, located on western margin of AF88-39 around 30m north of new road section originating at 4WD hut.	No?
AF88-42		Hole, ~4m deep, with Fe pipe in southeastern corner, located approximately 10m north of AF88-41.	No?

X no such company in mines Records. many sets of workings here.

Feature	Plate	Description	Affect'd?
AF88-43	34	Shaft or pit, in AF88-39, located just south of Metalex drill pad AHP7. This feature has timber structures bracing the walls, and is filled with water to approximately 30cm below the level of the floor of AF 5 above. A length of wire rope with an iron hook on one end, and an iron ring on the other, is located at the entrance. Water filled; depth uncertain, but >2m.	No?
AF88-44	35 36	Remains of timber structure, possibly a bridge, collapsed into trench AF88-39 in the section north of drill pad AHP7. Associated with box-like timber structure at present ground level in trench on eastern side.	No?
AF88-45	37 38	Machinery, engine block and pulley wheels, located south across track from 4WD hut, on the edge of the track junction.	No?
AF88-46	39	Timber and iron artefacts adjacent to east side of track, approximately 25m south of 4WD hut. The timber has the appearance of track or tramway base and appears to be <i>in situ</i> . Lengths of 1/2" (?) iron pipe and round bar are also present. This feature has been disturbed in the past and as only a small section remains, its original function is difficult to determine.	Yes?
AF88-47		Machinery adjacent to the south side of small track entering Open Cut area from track running past 4WD hut. (See Prince 1987)	No?
AF88-48	40	Remnant timbers, <u>almost certainly from the Lode Company workings</u> , redeposited in the excavated material in the southwest area of the Open Cut. <i>rubbish.</i>	Yes?
AF88-49	41	<u>Extensive area of redeposited material from the Lode Company excavations</u> , east of the north/south track, in the area bounded to the north by the new track running east from the 4WD hut, and in the south by the new track entering the Open Cut area. Bounded on the east side by trench AF88-38. X	Yes?
AF88-50	42	Pile of cut timber on the southwest corner of the Open Cut area, just north of the Main Creek channel, and east of the vehicular creek crossing. <u>Of uncertain origin, but at least some pieces may derive from the Lode Company workings.</u> X	Yes?
AF88-51	43	Extensive area of mounds of redeposited coarse excavated material on the southwest corner of Hall's Open Cut, slightly south of AF88-49. The similarity of this material to AF88-48, and its dissimilarity to the material from the Open Cut, which appears to overlay it, <u>suggests that it derives from the excavations of the Lode Company.</u> X	Yes?
AF88-52	?	Linear low mound of redeposited alluvial gravels approximately 12m wide forming the north bank of the Main Creek channel between the vehicular crossing and the point where the creek enters a rocky channel just west of the origin of track MC1. Overlain at the eastern end by material from the Open Cut excavation.	No
AF88-53	?	Ditch, probably a water race, 0.5m wide x 0.5m deep, of indeterminate length running parallel to Main Creek in dense scrub, approximately 25m north of the creek channel. Overlain at the eastern end by material from the Open Cut excavation.	No

Feature	Plate	Description	Affect'd?
AF88-54		Remains of 5 shaft stamper battery located on the northern bank of Main Creek at the southern edge of redeposited material from the Open Cut, approximately half way between the vehicular creek crossing and the cut rock face at the eastern edge of the Open Cut pit. (See Prince 1987)	Yes?
AF88-55	44	Iron shaft and pulley wheels located in bed of Main Creek channel approximately 10m east of the vehicular creek crossing. The wheels are of sheet metal, rather than cast construction, and may be associated with the stamper battery AF88-54.	No?

*Pelton wheel of Osmividium (7cs) NL's operations.*

9. Maps.

**10. Appendix.**

See also preliminary rept attached as appx2 at rear.

ADAMSFIELD HISTORIC MINING SITE  
Brief for Archaeological Consultant in regard to  
mineral exploration by Metals Exploration Ltd (1987/88)

The subject of this investigation is the Adamsfield Historic Mining Site. The aim of the project is to identify and record all cultural resources that will be impacted by the proposed exploration programme of Metals Exploration Ltd (see attached description of programme and map).

Specifically the Archaeologist is required to:

1. Traverse by foot all proposed tracks and gravel pit locations during which all visible cultural resources (structures, landscape modifications and artefacts) should be identified and recorded.
2. Make an initial assessment on the significance of cultural resources identified.
3. Assess the impact of proposed exploration activities on cultural resources and recommend on measures to minimise impact if required.

The final report should include:

1. Copy of the brief.
2. Authorship.
3. A brief summary of investigation undertaken in connection with the project and results obtained.
4. A summary of historical aspects of the site relevant to areas investigated.
5. A detailed description of all cultural resources identified in areas of exploration impact.
6. A detailed site plan showing locations of all cultural resources identified.
7. An initial assessment of the significance of cultural resources identified.
8. Assessment of the impact of proposed exploration activities on cultural resources.
9. Recommend on measures required to minimise impact of exploration activities on cultural resources.

022

2.

All original photographs and copies of all relevant field notes and drawings must be lodged with the Department of Lands, Parks and Wildlife in a form suitable for entry into the Historic Sites Index.

In doing the work it should be borne in mind that the data collected is to be used as part of the input into a full archaeological study of Adamsfield which it is hoped to undertake under the auspices of the National Estate.

Encl

wp.4/1B/47

003

783022

8. Plates.



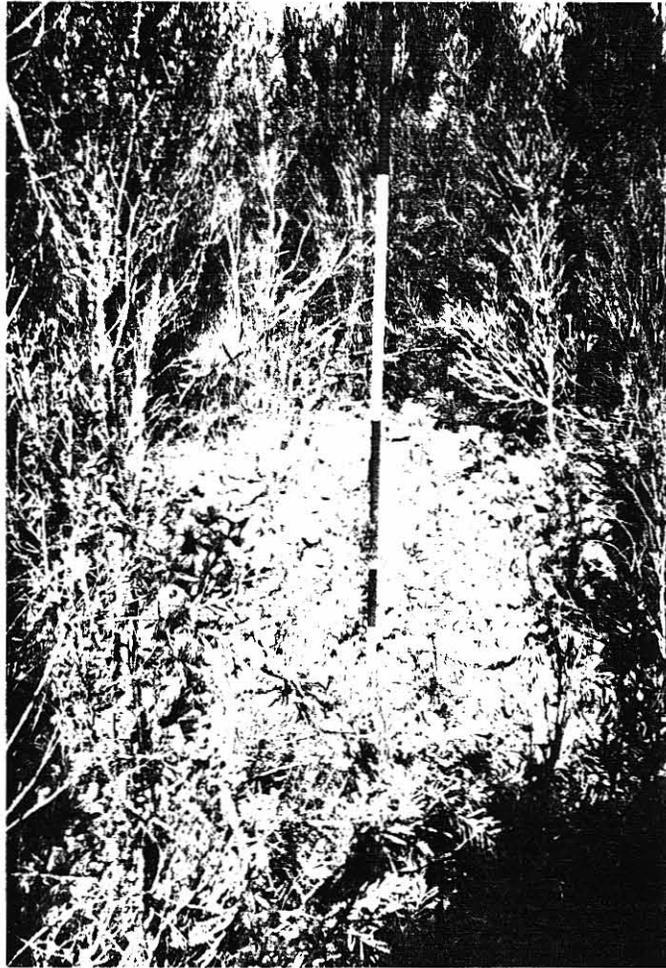
**Plate 1.** Water race AF88-01. The ditch lies at the base of the ranging pole. Excavated material is visible to the left of the pole. The Sawback range can be seen in the background.



**Plate 2.** Adam Plain at the west end of AP5. Water race AF88-01 is visible just beyond the tree in the midground, and continues across to the base of the trees in the mid left background.



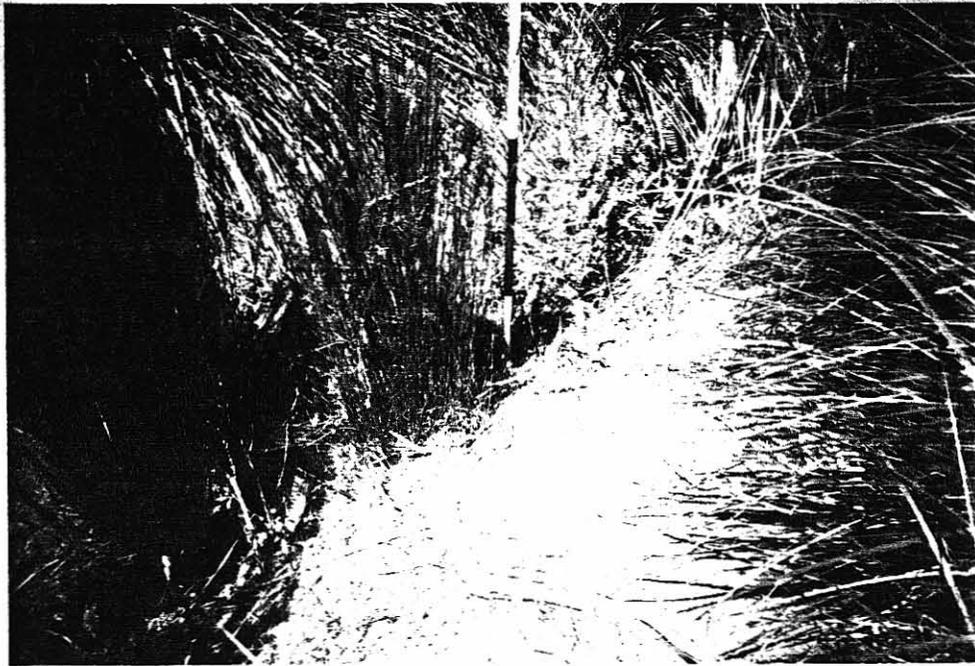
**Plate 3.** AF88-03. Alluvial workings just south of the west end of AP5.  
The ranging pole is in a ditch which enters the pit in the background.  
View approximately NE.



**Plate 4.**

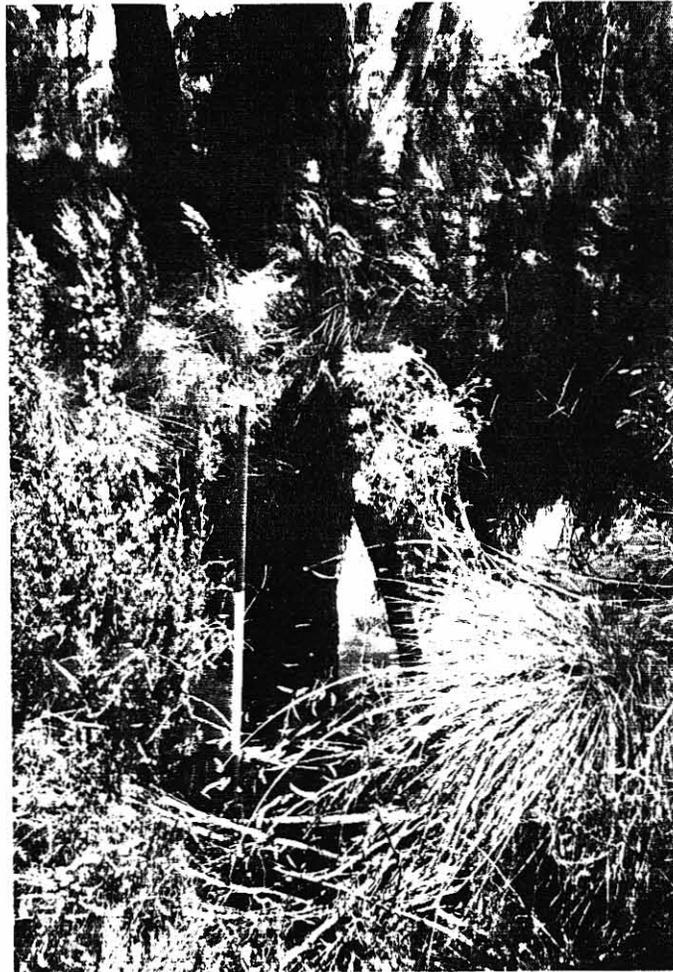
AF88-04. Mounds of excavated material in the vicinity of Scanlons Creek, proposed Ragged range track.

027

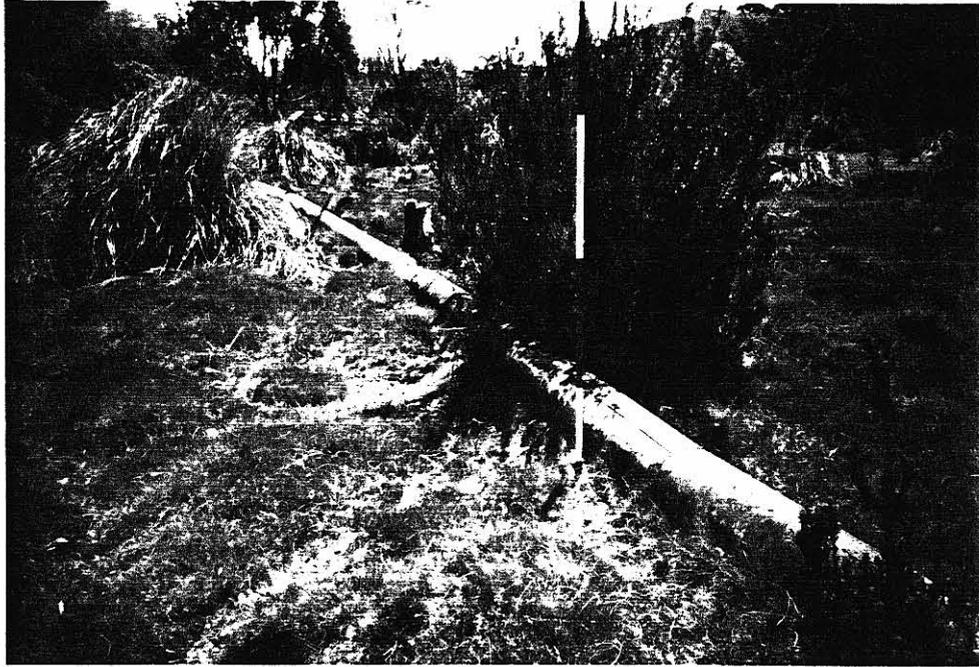


783026

**Plate 5.** AF88-07. Ditch or water race intersected by AP1 approximately 200m SE Morley's cabins.



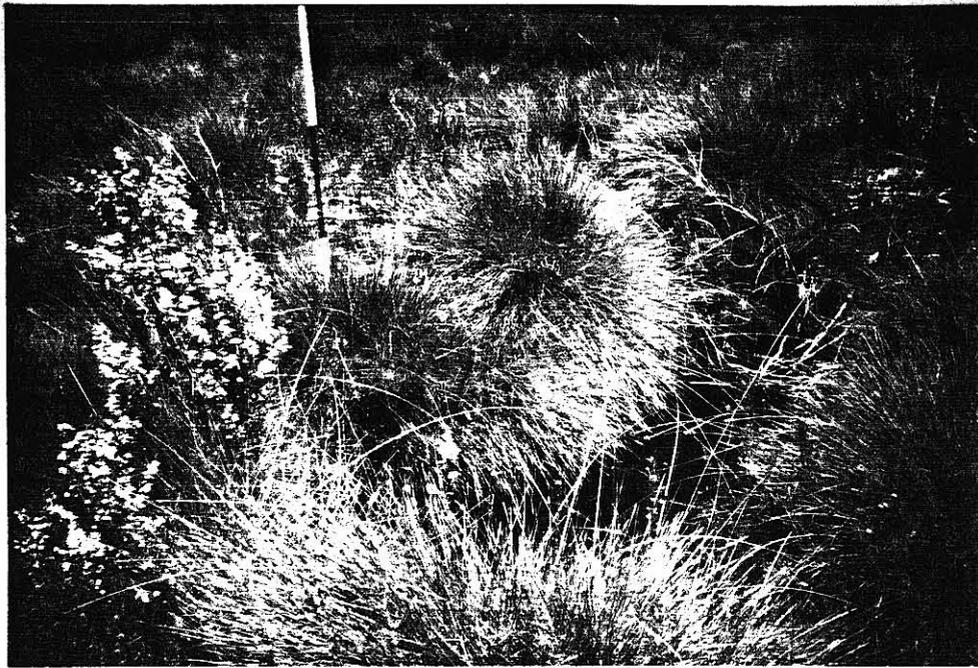
**Plate 6.** Pond AF88-08.



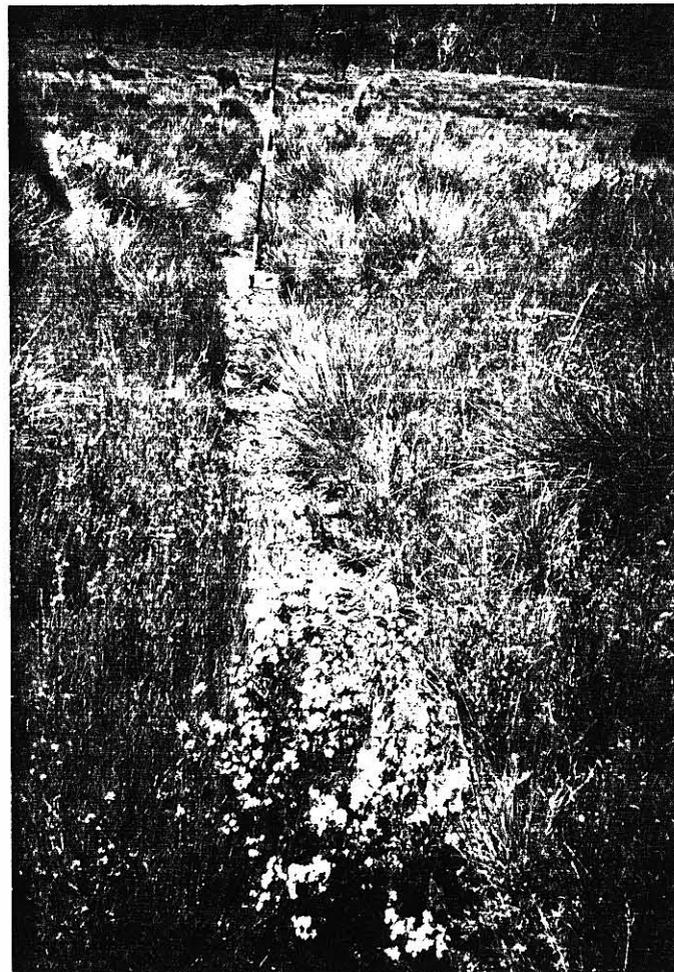
**Plate 7.** AF88-09. Riveted sheet metal pipe parallel to AP1.



**Plate 8.** AF88-14. Ditch approximately 75m south of AP2.



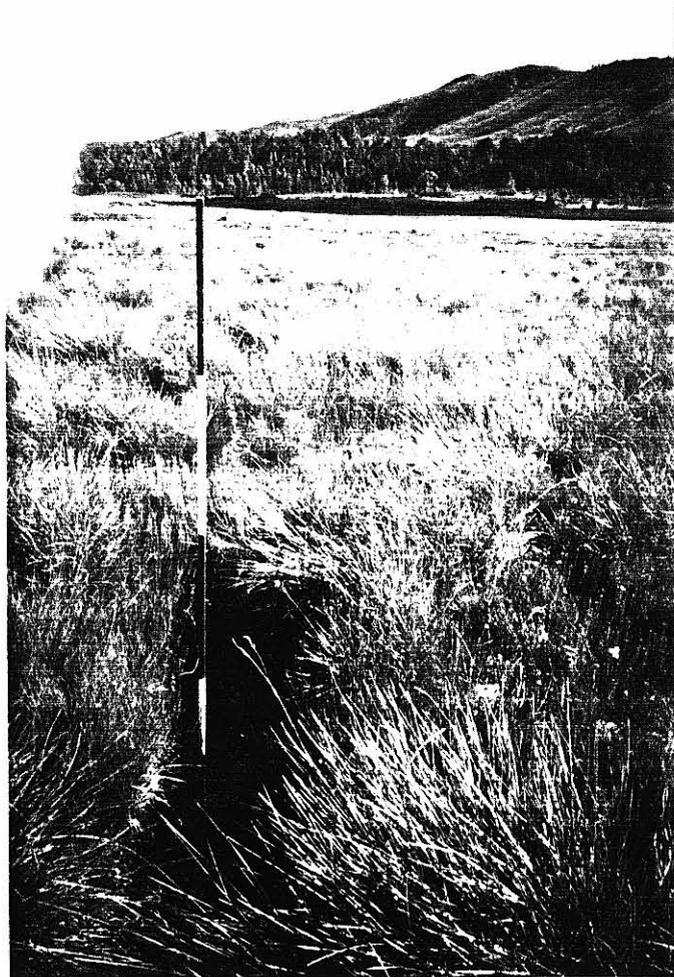
**Plate 9.** Trench AF88-16.



**Plate 10.** Long shallow ditch entering eastern corner AF88-16.



**Plate 11.** Pond AF88-18 Adjacent to AP6, mid plain.



**Plate 12.** Trench AF88-20, 15m north of AP7 and 100m west of the Adam River.



Plate 13. Trench AF88-22, 20m north of the Adamsfield track on MC3A.



Plate 14. Trench AF88-29, approximately 40m west along MC1.

1. 003

783032



Plate 15. AF88-31. Mounds of excavated stone ~160m west along MC1.



Plate 16. AF88-33. Flat area of possibly redeposited alluvials crossed by MC1 approximately 325m west of origin of track.

634



783033

**Plate 17.** AF88-33. Ditch and bank of excavated stone, north boundary of flat area.



**Plate 18.** AF88-33. Water diversion channel cut into rock at eastern end of ditch.



Plate 19. AF88-34. Linear built stone feature in bed of Main Creek ~10m east of track AF88-32.

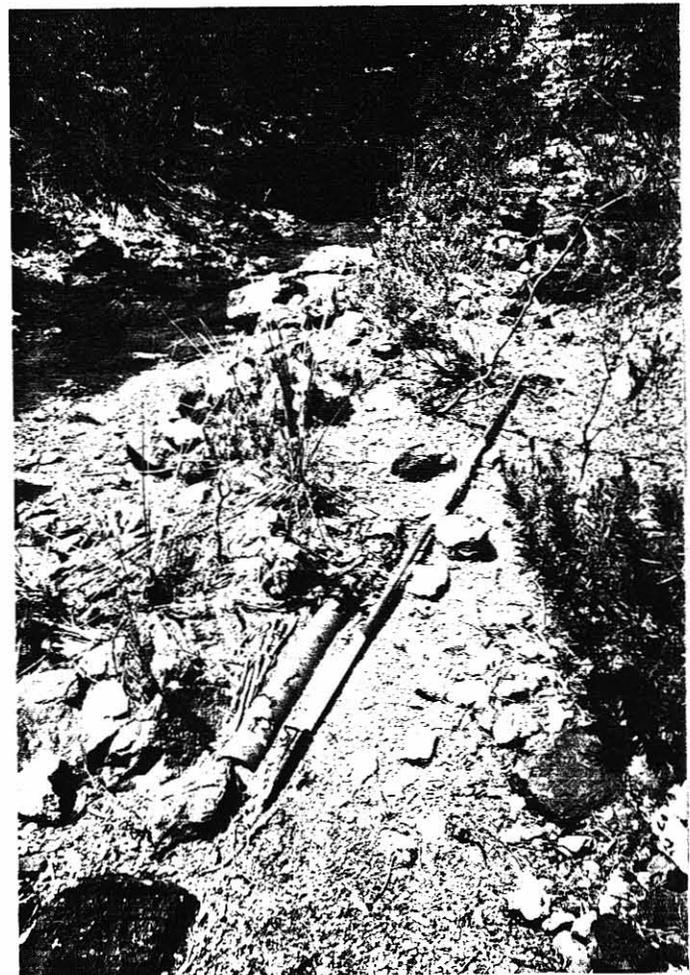


Plate 20. AF88-35. Section of iron pipe 10m east of AF88-34.



**Plate 21.** AF88-36. Southeastern view, ~50m east of track AF88-32, showing built stone retaining or water diversionary walls on the south side of Main Creek.



**Plate 22.** AF88-36. Built stone walls in the Main Creek channel upstream of those shown in Plate 21.



Plate 23. AF88-36. Remains of leather shoe apparently *in situ*.

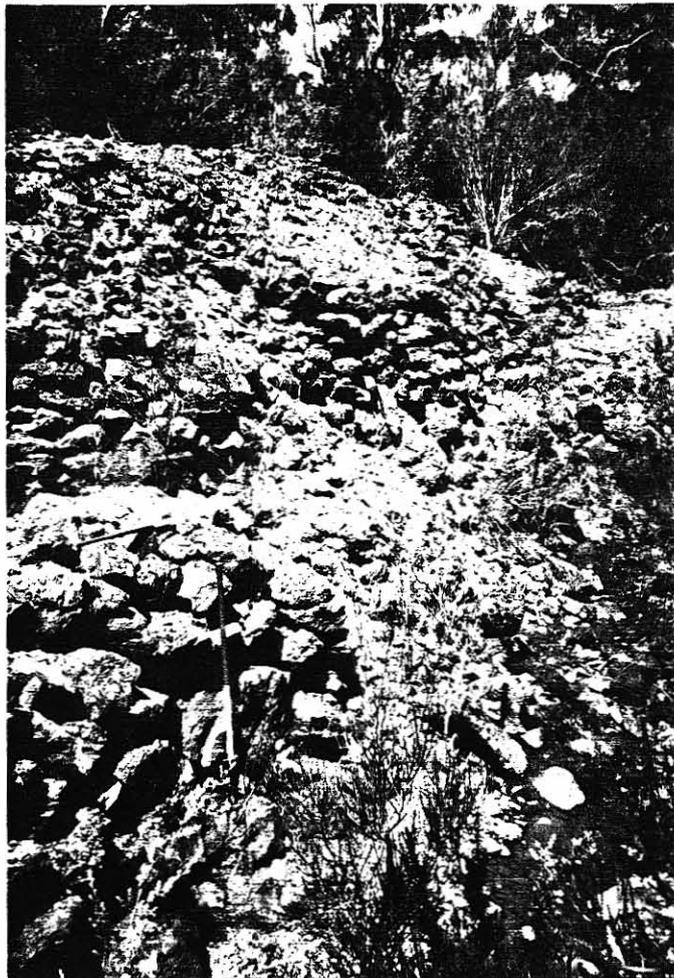


Plate 24. AF88-36. Wall and stacked stone, northern margin of Main Creek.



**Plate 25.** AF88-37. Small wooden bridge on disused track 300m north along PS1, viewed towards the north.



**Plate 26.** AF88-37. Side view, looking west.



**Plate 27.** AF88-38. Disused track running north from the northern end of the Lode Company trench, intersected by PS1. View south.



**Plate 28.** AF88-38. Track passes through area of open Eucalypt and Ti-tree forest, possible an area of past mining activities. View west.



**Plate 29.** AF88-39. Lode Company trench, running NW from the Open Cut. View south from new track running east from 4WD hut.



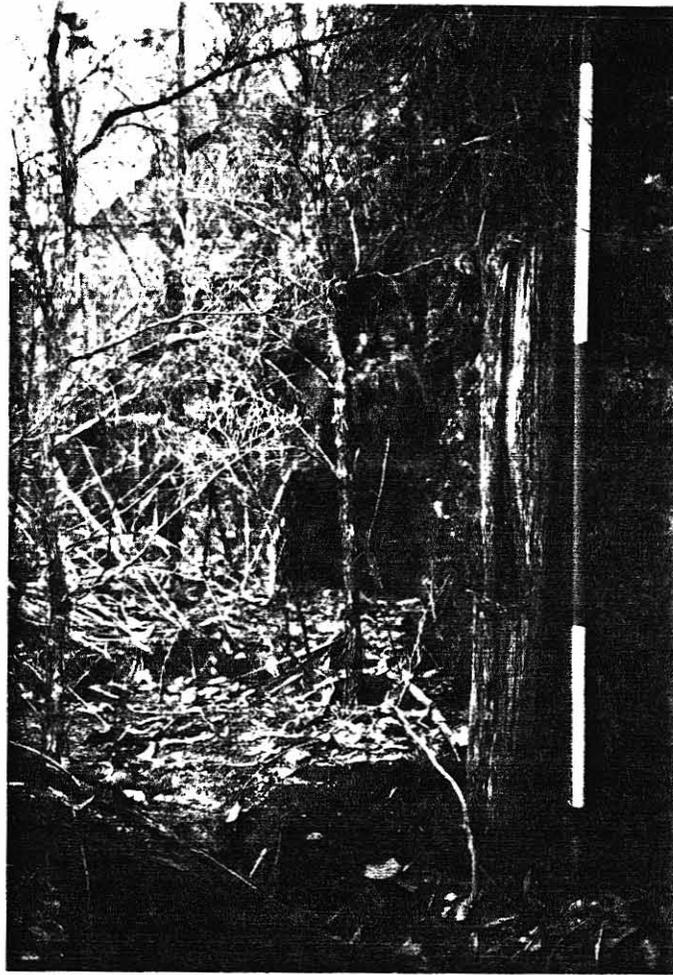
**PLate 30.** Metals exploration track running east from 4WD hut, crossing Lode Company trench AF88-39. View west from same position as Plate 29.



**Plate 31.** AF88-39. Lode company trench ~20m NW of intersection with track running east from 4WD hut. The trench is 2-3m deep at this point and shoring timbers are visible behind the *Ghania* in the right hand background of the photograph (see Plate 32).



Plate 32. AF88-40. Timber supports in trench AF88-39.



**Plate 33.** AF88-40. Shoring post and collapsed cross brace in trench AF88-39, north of Drill pad AHP7.



**Plate 34.** AF88-43. Shaft or pit, in trench AF88-39, 3m southeast of drill pad AHP7.



**Plate 35.** AF88-44. Collapsed timber structure in trench AF88-39. Two long timbers appear to have spanned the trench, with cross timbers attached. View west.

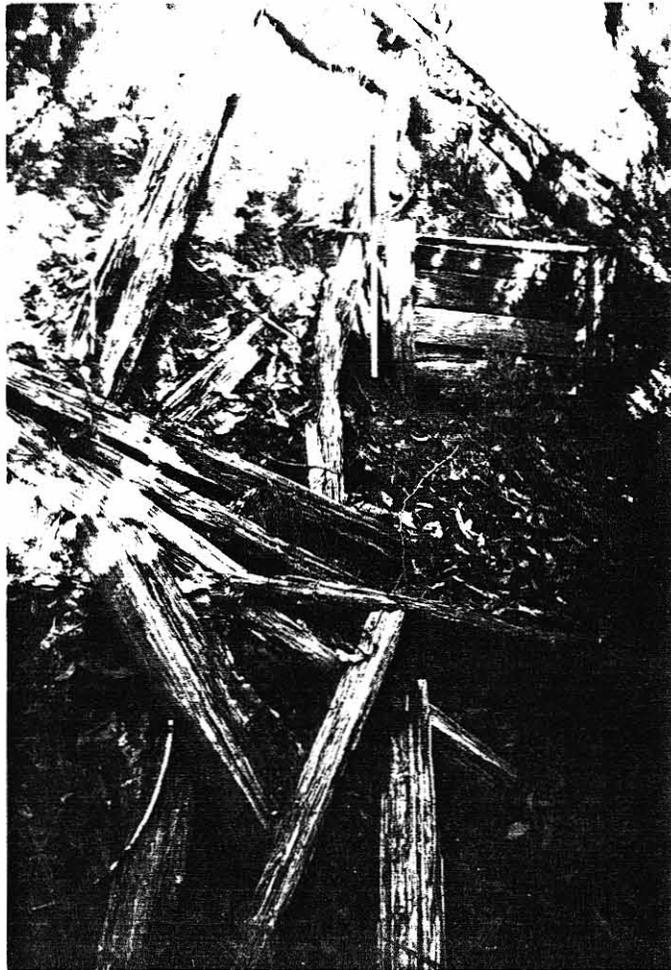
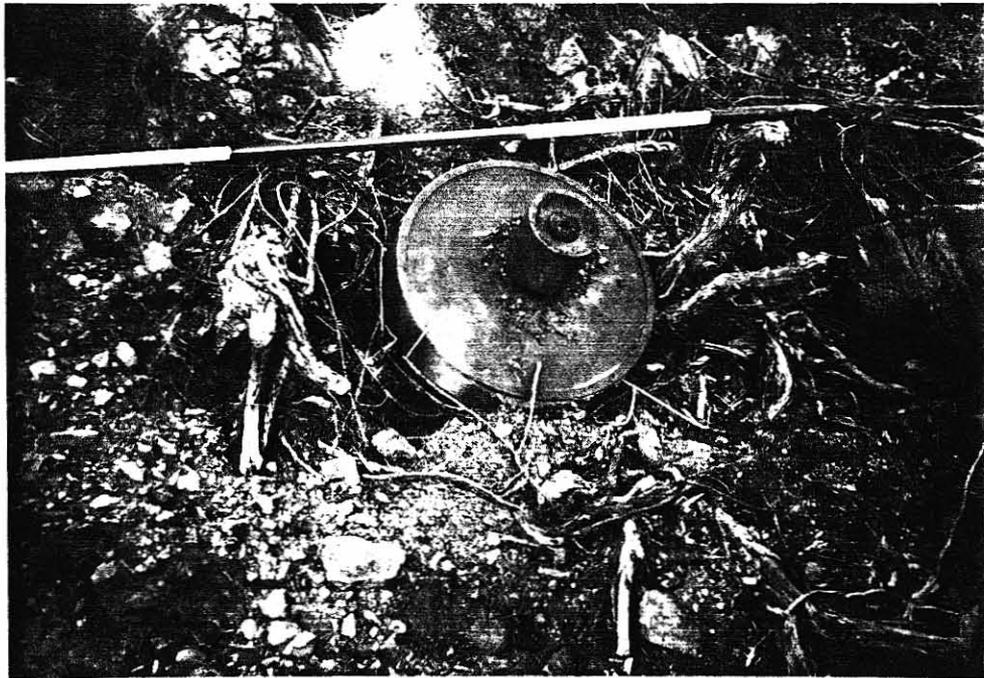


Plate 36. AF88-44. View east.



**Plate 37.** AF88-45. Machinery located south across track from 4WD hut.



**Plate 38.** AF88-45. Flywheel (?) on edge of track a few metres south of machinery in Plate 37 above.



Plate 39. AF88-46. Timber structure, possibly part of a tramway associated with the Lode Company?



Plate 40. AF88-48. Remnant timbers, probably from the Lode Company excavations, in the southwest area of the Open Cut.



**Plate 41.** AF88-49. Extensive area of excavated material from the Lode Company operations, west of Trench AF88-39 and north of the new track entering the west side of the Open Cut.



**Plate 42.** AF88-50. Pile of cut timber on southwest margin of the Open Cut.



**Plate 43.** AF88-51. Excavated material, probably from the Lode Company operation, on the southwest margin of the Open Cut.



**Plate 44.** AF88-55. Iron shaft and wheels, located in the bed of Main Creek approximately 10m east of the vehicular crossing.

052

783051

APPX 2 88-2808

MINES	
File Ref.	EL 4/85
27 APR 1987	
Doc. Ref.	10/A6
Action Officer	Initials
DJJ	
Resubmit to	Date

"A Preliminary Archaeological Survey of  
Proposed Mining Exploration Activities in the Vicinity of  
Adamsfield, South West Tasmania."

A report to Metals Exploration Ltd

by

G Brian Prince

March 1987

20. 3. 87

## CONTENTS

1. Introduction
  - 1.1 Ethno-historic Accounts of Aboriginal occupation of the South West
  - 1.2 Archaeology of the South West
  - 1.3 Mining history of Adamsfield
2. The Survey
3. Results
  - 3.1 Aboriginal Sites
  - 3.2 Historic Sites and Features
4. Discussion and recommendations
  - 4.1 Aboriginal Sites
  - 4.2 Historical Archaeology
  - 4.3 Impact of Proposed Exploration Activities
  - 4.4 Recommendations
5. References
6. Appendices

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Ethno-Historical Accounts of Aboriginal Occupation of the South West.

The Adamsfield area, where this study was undertaken, lies approximately 3 kilometres east of Adams Bay on Lake Gordon in South-west Tasmania. (Map 1)

Ethno-historical accounts vary in their views of Aboriginal occupation of this region. G A Robinson travelled extensively throughout the island from 1829 - 1834 persuading surviving Aborigines to enter Government settlements. On one of these journeys he reported of his view inland from the Arthur Range that

"There was not the least sign of appearance of natives or of any white man ever being in this part of the country. The natives that accompanied me assured me that there was (sic) no natives ever went inland."

(Robinson, 1833, After Plomley, 1966)

Other accounts, however, indicate at least some Aboriginal presence in the South West in historical times. The account of James Goodwin, a convict who escaped with a companion from Macquarie Harbour in 1828 and travelled overland to the settled areas, records contact with Aborigines on at least two occasions.

Of one of these, in the Vale of Rasselas, on the Gordon River several kilometres upstream of the study area, Goodwin reports

"... We stopped there between 3 and 4 days, we caught some fish which weighed about four ounces each, they were like trout; we saw plenty of kangaroo upon the plain; and a great many natives..."

(Goodwin, 1832, After Binks, 1980)

Goodwin later became a member of the exploration parties of John Charles Darke that journeyed into the South West in 1833. During the first of these, Darke and his party also entered the Vale of Rasselas, at its Northern end, where he recorded that

"... The ground has been much burned by natives whose huts we observed. Kangaroos are plentiful..."

(Darke, 1833, After Gowland, 1976)

During his second journey, Darke traveled several miles further down the Vale of Rasselas, reporting that the party

"... met with several trees newly hacked and on searching we found a native hut, nearly new with a rug in it. This confirmed me in my own opinion that these plains are frequented by natives in the summer, and who, most probably, take up their quarters at Port Davey during the winter."

(Darke, 1833, After Gowland, 1976)

Several years later, and a considerable distance to the North West, in the Franklin region, James Calder, during his expedition of 1840, recorded the presence of two native huts.

"... of the Beehive form ... on the bark with which they are covered are some extraordinary charcoal drawings - one representing two men spearing an animal, which from its erect posture was meant for a kangaroo ... There was also the outline of a dog, and an emu, really not badly done ..."

(Calder, 1840, After Binks, 1980)

From these accounts, it seems possible that Aborigines made use, in historical times, of the area surveyed in the study, as it lies in close proximity to the Vale of Rasselas which is known to have had some Aboriginal occupation. The broad plains of the Gordon in this area would have provided a similar habitat to the Vale of Rasselas, and they would also seem to lie on a plausible migration route along the Gordon Valley.

As Binks (1980) suggests

"The natives who burned the Rasselas probably penetrated further West to the Wedge plains, and could well have established a route into the Serpentine Valley, as this region was relatively open when the first whiteman entered it."

(Binks, 1980)

There is, however, no direct ethno-historical evidence for Aboriginal utilisation of the study area in post-European times, and it is possible that the people reported in the South-West by these early explorers were retreating from the pressures of advancing European settlement and had not previously occupied the region.

## 1.2 Archaeology of the South-West

The archaeological resource of the region is largely unknown. There has been little archaeological research conducted in the area, and archaeological surveys have been limited.

NPWS/ANU expeditions to the Gordon/Franklin limestones, some distance to the North-West of the study area, in 1981/82 and 1982/83, resulted in the discovery of a number of cave sites, two of which are of confirmed Pleistocene age. One Pleistocene open site was also recorded on the Gordon River, whilst a small, more recent site (300+ 150 yr. BP) was discovered on the river bank at the confluence of the Gordon and Denison Rivers. (Kiernan et al, 1983; Blain et al, 1983; Jones et al, 1983)

Another Pleistocene site (20, 650 + 1970 yr. BP) has been recorded at Beginner's Luck Cave in the Florentine Valley by Murray et al (1980, after Kiernan et al, 1983) while Corbett (1980) has reported the fortuitous discovery of Aboriginal sites on the exposed hills of Queenstown during geological mapping activities.

Corbett considers these sites to also be of Pleistocene origin. Cosgrove & Hughes (1983) support this view, drawing mainly on the concept of advancing rainforests forcing the withdrawal of human occupation as argued by Bowdler (1983).

A survey of the Wedge forest by Prince (1984) recorded a number of Aboriginal sites in relatively close proximity to the present study area, although no temporal context for the Aboriginal occupation of the region could be determined. These sites were all artefact scatters or isolated artefact finds.

An expedition to the Maxwell River Valley in 1986 yielded further evidence of Aboriginal occupation of inland South West Tasmania.

A number of limestone cave occupation sites were discovered, including one containing a gallery of hand stencils. Test excavations were conducted in two locations, but the results of analysis are not yet available. The similarity of the deposit in one of these to that occurring in Kutikina and Deenarena cave, however, suggests that occupation of the Maxwell Cave sites may also date from the Pleistocene.

Confirmed datings of sites recorded in the interior of South West Tasmania have, therefore, almost all been of Pleistocene age, although the Denison River site of Jones et al (1982) indicates at least brief excursions into the region by Aborigines in historical times.

Kiernan et al (1983) have argued that the Aborigines were able to make more extensive use of the region during the Pleistocene due

to the absence of dense forests, which were then confined to low coastal areas. The amelioration of the climate at the end of the Pleistocene led to the rainforests advancing from their glacial refugia, rendering much of the South West unsuitable for human exploitation. This view of rainforests as "colonisers" is also argued by Bowdler (1983).

According to Kiernan et al (1983) the area under study in this survey was, in Pleistocene times, open alpine herbfield country similar to that exploited by the occupants of Kutikina Cave on the Franklin River. This cave was occupied from about 20,000 yr. BP to about 15,000 yr. BP.

It is feasible that Aboriginal sites of Pleistocene age might be expected to occur within the study area, if it can be assumed that sites discovered elsewhere are merely isolated examples, revealed by circumstances, of a more general Aboriginal occupation of the South West during Pleistocene times.

### 1.3 Mining History of Adamsfield

Adamsfield was the largest and most relatively stable mining settlement in South West Tasmania. (King and Fenton, 1978; Gee & Waterman, 1981)

Osmiridium was first discovered in the area in 1909 by the government geologist W H Twelvetrees. Macintosh Reid, another government geologist, examined the Clear Hills area in 1920, and confirmed the presence of Osmiridium. *AT MAYDNA, AGAIN.*

In 1924, Stacey, Stacey, Boden and Wright prospected the Adam's River Valley and the Western slopes of the Sawback Range and were subsequently granted reward claims in 1925.

Osmiridium at that time was valued at £ 25-30 per ounce, or 5 times the price of gold, and the new field attracted many miners.

Access was extremely difficult, people travelling to the settlement via train to Fitzgerald, some 80 kilometres West of Hobart, and then walking to Adamsfield on a track over the Thumbs.

The track was extremely muddy and packhorses were initially only able to proceed as far as the Florentine River, due to the lack of a bridge. Some hardy individuals operated as 'packmen', carrying loads into the new mining community on their backs, for a fee of 1 shilling per pound. (Gowland & Gowland, 1976).

*AT MAYDNA!*

*2 ALLUVIAL  
REWARDS  
+ 1 ADDIT.  
IN 1929  
FOR  
LODE  
DISCOVERY*

By December 1925, plans for a railway to the town had been rejected, but the government had spent £ 5000 upgrading the track, which was re-corded most of the distance to the Florentine River.

The River was bridged and a new track made from their to Adamsfield. In 1928 this track was "still in excellent order, and likely to remain so for some considerable time. (Nye, 1929).

At its peak, the population of Adamsfield was around 2000, and the production of osmiridium was valued at around £3000 - £5000 per week, Tasmania at that time producing virtually the only pen-nib osmiridium in the world (Nye, 1929). In December 1925, 2258 ounces of osmiridium worth £ 68,757 were produced.

The mining methods were simple and inexpensive, involving panning, cradling, sluicing or puddling of the deposit, and consequently many individuals took to the field, where claims were commonly worked by one or two men. The availability of water was a critical factor and many miners built small dams on their workings. The insubstantial nature of the construction of many of these was seen as safety risk by the Mines Department, and regulations were introduced to limit their capacity. (Gowland and Gowland, 1976)

A 5/- fee entitled a miner to claim and work half an acre, with the right to build a dwelling on an additional half acre. Whilst most of the town's occupants lived in tents, many timber buildings were erected, and the remains of some of these survive to the present time. Adamsfield had a hospital, school, post office, police station, bakery and hall, as well as butchers, general stores and a 'sly grog' shop. (King and Fenton, 1978)

An interesting personal account of life in the township, both as a miner and later as founder of the Pioneer store, is given by Lane.

The harsh winter of 1926 appears to have discouraged many of the town's inhabitants, and by the end of that year, two thirds of the population had departed. (Gowland and Gowland, 1976).

Numbers dropped to around 100 in 1927, and by 1928 most of the easily worked claims were exhausted. A rise in the price of osmiridium in that year however, resulted in the population increasing to about 200. The town had stabilised and an osmiridium producers association had been formed for the marketing of the metal.

Nyes' report of 1929 suggested that the field was nearing exhaustion, depending on the price of osmiridium and the methods of extraction. He suggested that, with larger supplies of water, the ground on and around Football Hill could be effectively

exploited, and that the deep ground of Adam River, between Football Hill and Adams Falls, should be prospected.

Nye's field work was carried out between October and December 1925, and apparently following his report, the 'Lode Company' was formed in 1928 to mine on a larger scale. Two dams were constructed on Hopper Creek, and a flume built to transport the water to the Lode workings.

The 'Lode Company' was not successful in extracting sufficient osmiridium to remain viable, and in addition to financial difficulties, collapse of the shoring timbers in the mine occurred, and the company ceased operations.

More recently, some mechanical excavations were undertaken in the area at Halls' open cut, apparently with little success.

The Second World War brought the final decline of Adamsfield, and eventually only one resident, Stan Gerny, 'the Count' of Adamsfield, remained until his death at New Norfolk Hospital.

## 2. THE SURVEY

The proposed access track for bulk sampling, on the Western flanks of Football Hill was examined on foot, visually searching for archaeological features.

The proposed drill line, in the vicinity of Hall's open cut, was also examined

Brian Johnstone, representing Metals Exploration Ltd, and Darryl West, from the Tasmanian Aboriginal centre assisted with the survey.

### 3. RESULTS

#### 3.1 Aboriginal Sites

A single aboriginal site comprising 2 quartzite flakes was located on a track North of and parallel to the Adamsfield track, (see Map 1). This site is described in detail in the N.P.W.S. recording form (attached).

#### 3.2 Historic sites and Features

The Western flanks of Football Hill and the adjacent alluvial flats contain large numbers of historical archaeological features.

The majority of these are landscape modifications associated with surface mining operations such as trenches, ditches, ponds, and water races. A number of associated artefacts were observed, including pickheads, bottles, sections of riveted pipe or ducting, and items of machinery, (see Plates).

The precise location of these is very difficult to record owing to the dense vegetation, and accurate survey would be extremely time consuming.

As this survey was designed only to determine the impact of Metal Explorations' proposed exploration works on the archaeological resource, detailed recording was not undertaken.

?? It should be noted, however, that the area contains extensive archaeological evidence of historical mining activities. Of particular interest are the remains of mining occurring North of the Adamsfield track, as no documentary evidence for this was located. DID YOU LOOK? !!!

Mines  
Dept  
records.

At the Hall's open cut area, there is substantial physical evidence of both early manual and later mechanical mining activities. In the line of proposed drilling, a historical mining adit runs North from the vicinity of the cut.

Timber shoring and bracing still exist in sections. Historical structures of this type appear relatively rare in the area.

#### 4. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

##### 4.1 Aboriginal Sites

The results of the survey indicate that the study area was occupied in the past by the Tasmanian Aboriginal people, but the spatial distribution and temporal context of this occupation have been determined.

However, the stratigraphic position of the Aboriginal artefacts located suggests a (geologically) recent date for their deposition, as they lie in soil which has been recently deposited over Pleistocene alluvial gravels. (Nye, 1929)

The recorded site appears typical of the small artefact scatters and isolated artefact finds which are the most common site type found in inland Tasmania, and its location at the margin of button grass plain and forest is also typical of the Western region. (Cosgrove, pers. comm.)

The quartzite material appears similar to that occurring on a number of sites recorded in the nearby Wedge Forest Block (Prince, 1984) and may derive from the same source.

The problems of poor archaeological visibility generally encountered in South West Tasmania, due to dense vegetation, (Kiernan et al, 1983; Cosgrove and Hughes, 1983; Prince, 1984) certainly occur in the study area, and there is, therefore, some difficulty in relating site recovery during survey to actual site distribution.

The location of Aboriginal artefacts on the only area of good visibility examined suggests that other sites probably occur within the study area, but could not be located.

The sandstone of Football does not appear to be of a type that gives rise to the formation of rock shelters, and none were recorded in the study area.

It is likely, therefore, that any unrecorded Aboriginal sites in the study area can be expected to be similar to the single site that was recorded.

##### 4.2 Historical Archaeology

A similar but less extreme situation exists with historical features in the area. Although a large number of landscape modification features and several artefacts were located during

the survey, these almost certainly only represent a proportion of those actually occurring in the area.

While the historic mining features located during the survey are not particularly spectacular, they are important (and in some cases the only) evidence of the nature and location of the mining activities in the area during the occupation of Adamsfield.

The town and its environs have particular significance as the only Osmiridium mining field in the state (and rare on a world scale) and as the largest historical mining community in the South West.

Further, Adamsfield and the activities of its residents appear to have considerable social significance to the Tasmanian community, as evidenced by the many newspaper articles and popular accounts of the history of the area which have been published in the state. (See appendix 2). The remains of the town continue to draw visitors interested in the early history of the area.

#### 4.3 Impact of proposed exploration activities

In order to conserve the archaeological resource in the study area, and Tasmania in general, it is necessary to seek ways in which to mitigate against the destruction of sites by development activities.

Mitigation consists of one or more of the following procedures.

1. AVOIDANCE of the destruction or disturbance of cultural resources.
2. Active measures for resource PRESERVATION or minimisation of effect.
3. INVESTIGATION or the conservation of information through adequate study of the resources before they are destroyed.

(McGimsy and Davis, 1977)

The impact of the exploration activities proposed by Metals Exploration on the archaeological resource of the area will be limited, and will arise principally from the access track for bulk alluvials ampling, to be constructed along the Western flanks of Football Hill (See Map 1) and the proposed line of exploration drilling North of Hall's open cut.

According to the company's representative, the spur access from the proposed track to the sampling site will involve driving a

tracked excavator to those sites without construction of a track, and therefore with little disturbance to the vegetation or soil.

The sample sites themselves are located on the margin of alluvial plain, much of which appears to have been extensively worked and redeposited by past mining activities.

Provided reasonable care is taken to avoid major features and visible artefacts during sampling, then this part of the proposed operations should have no significant impact on the archaeological resource.

The majority of archaeological features observed along the line of the proposed access track run across the contours of Football Hill and will be intersected by the track approximately at right angles.

There will, therefore, be major sections of most such features left undisturbed. It would be desirable, however, for archaeological features disturbed by the access track to be recorded during or soon after track construction.

In the proposed drill line near Halls' open cut, it is understood that the existing historical structures can be avoided during exploration operations, and that access will be largely from existing track. If shoring timbers and other archaeological features are not disturbed by these activities, then the impact on the archaeological resource should not be significant.

It is therefore recommended that -

#### 4.4 Recommendations

1. Metal Explorations Ltd or its representatives exercise care to avoid visible historical mining features and artefacts during their exploration activities. Any artefacts disturbed by the activities of the company should be relocated to the nearest undisturbed ground, the location and original position noted and this information made available to the N.P.W.S. archaeology section.
2. Disturbance to any structural remains of early mining activities, such as the timber shoring North of Hall's open cut, should be avoided by the proposed exploration works. It is understood from the company representative that this will not cause any impediment to the exploration programme.
3. The company give consideration to the employment of a contract archaeologist to locate and record those

archaeological features disturbed by the access track construction. The most cost effective method would be to survey along the track as soon as practicable after its construction. A period of 2 to 3 days in the field would probably be sufficient time for this task.

## 5. REFERENCES

- Blain, B; Fullager, R; Ranson, D; Allen, J; Harris, S; Jones, R; Stadler, E; Cosgrove, R; and Middleton, G. -  
 1983. The Australian National University-Tasmanian National Parks and Wildlife Service archaeological expedition to the Franklin and Gordon Rivers, 1983; a summary of results. Australian Archaeology, 16:71-83
- Binks, C J 1980. Explorers of Western Tasmania. Mary Fisher Bookshop, Launceston.
- Bowdler, S 1983. Rainforest, Colonised or Coloniser? Australian Archaeology, 17:59-66
- Corbett, D K 1980. A Record of Aboriginal implement sites in Queenstown area, Tasmania. Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 114:35-39
- Cosgrove, R F 1982. Brass Minkeys: Aboriginal settlement patterns in the Central Highlands, Tasmania. Unpublished preliminary report to the Tasmanian National Parks and Wildlife Service, Hobart, and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, Canberra.
- Cosgrove, R F 1983. The Effects of Logging Practices on the archaeology of east coast forests: A pilot study. Tasmanian Archaeological occasional Paper No 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Hobart.
- Cosgrove, R F and Hughes, P J 1983. Anthony Power Development Scheme: Phase 3 Archaeological Studies. A report to Natural Systems Research Pty Ltd, Hawthorn, Victoria. ANU Archaeological Consultancies, Canberra.
- Gee, H and Waterman, P 1981. "An archaeological and Historical perspective for S. W. Tasmania." South West Tasmania Resources Survey. Working Paper No 9.
- Gowland, R W (ed) 1976. Darke of the Peaks

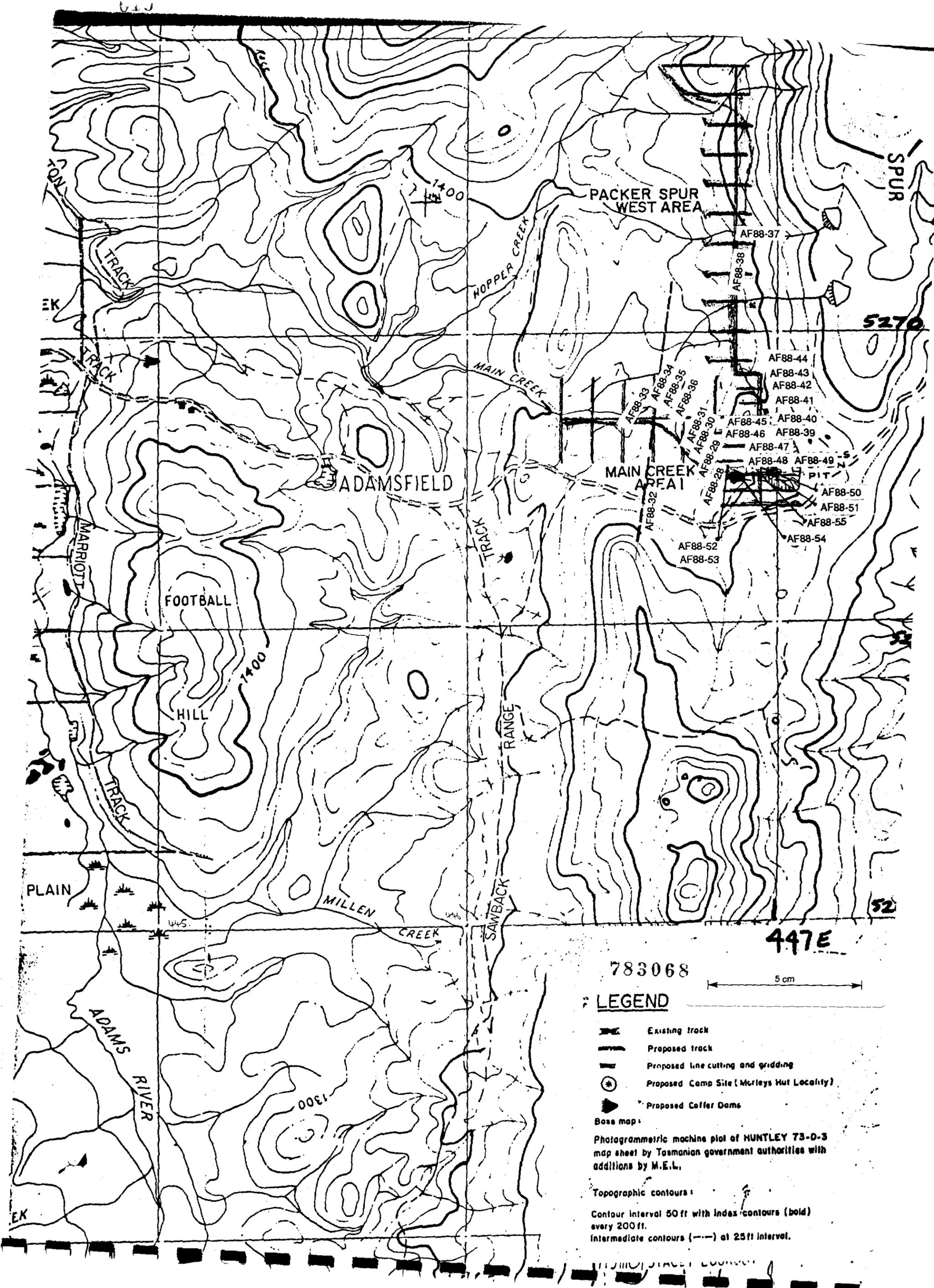
- Gowland, R and  
Gowland, K 1976. "Adamsfield - the town that lived and died. Trampled Wilderness. Richmond & Son, Devonport.
- Jones, R Ranson, D  
Allen, J and  
Kiernan, K 1983. The Australian National University-Tasmanian National Parks and Wildlife Service, Archaeological Expedition to the Franklin River, 1982. Australian Archaeology, 16:57-70
- Kiernan, K  
Jones, R and  
Ranson, D 1983. New evidence from Fraser Cave for glacial age man in South-West Tasmania. Nature, 301:28-32
- King, C D and  
Fenton, J 1978. "Small Mining Settlements" in The South West Book - Gee, H and Fenton, J (Eds). Australian Conservation Foundation.
- Lennon, P Ormsby 1927. "A Prospecting Trip in Tasmania's Wild West. Blackwoods Magazine No MCCCXLIV.
- Lane, H A "I had a quid to get" - Adamsfield 1925 and other Tasmanian stories.
- McGimsey, C R  
and Davis H A (Eds) 1977. The Management of Archaeological Resources: The Airlie House Report. Society for American Archaeology.
- Nye, P B 1929. "The Osmiridium Deposits of the Adamsfield District" Geological Survey Bulletin No 39, Tasmanian Department of Mines.
- Peterson, F 1955. "Adamsfield - then and now" Tasmanian Tramp No 12. Hobart Walking Club.
- Plomley, N J B (Ed) 1966. Friendly Mission: The Tasmanian Journals and Papers of George Augustus Robinson, 1829 - 1834. Tasmanian Historical Research Association, Hobart.
- Prince, G B 1984. "An Archaeological Survey of Wedge Forest Block, South West Tasmania." Report to the Tasmanian Forestry Commission.
- Sharland, M 1976. "Once Upon a Time - Tasmanian Tales. Adamsfield Obituary, pp 153-158. Davis Bros Ltd.

## 6.2 APPENDIX 2

## Chronological List of Newspaper and Magazine articles about Adamsfield.

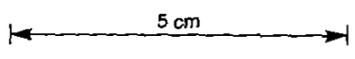
## ADAMSFIELD

1. Frank, H: Ghost town - S.E.M. 08/12/56 page 3
2. Church, K: Adamsfield was scene of last mining rush in Tasmania. Examiner 11/01/58 page 13
3. Death of a mining town. Walkabout June 1962 pages 26-27
4. Lilo on the Gordon. Tas. Tramp. January 1966 page 34
5. Adamsfield as history. S.E.M. 19/04/75 page 20
6. Peregrine. Mercury 05/06/76 page 7
7. Packing feat was no fable (Arthur Fleming) Mercury 26/06/76 page 6
8. Back to Adamsfield. Mercury 29/09/78 page 5
9. Mining Adamsfield? Tas. Conservationist. March 1983 page 20
10. Adamsfield, a place on the map of history (illus.) Sunday Tasmanian 03/02/85 page 20
11. Once past the mine, follow the trail of Ernie's travels. Sunday Tasmanian 10/02/85 page 20



783068

447E



**LEGEND**

- Existing track
- Proposed track
- Proposed line cutting and gridding
- Proposed Camp Site (Morleys Hut Locality)
- Proposed Coffe Dams

Base map:  
 Photogrammetric machine plot of HUNTLEY 73-D-3 map sheet by Tasmanian government authorities with additions by M.E.L.

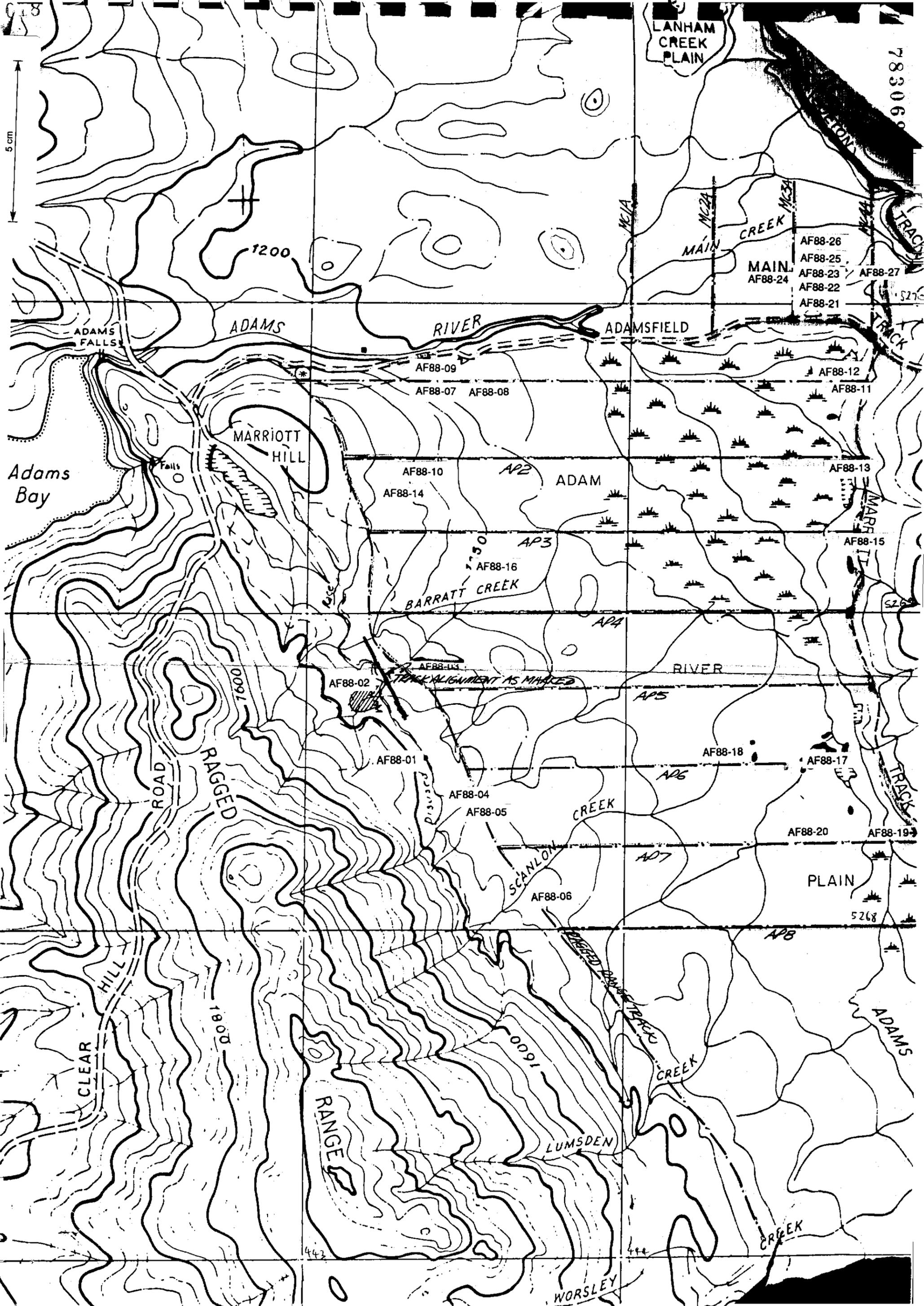
Topographic contours:  
 Contour interval 50 ft with Index contours (bold) every 200 ft.  
 Intermediate contours (---) at 25 ft interval.

18

5 cm

LANHAM CREEK PLAIN

783060



AF88-26  
 AF88-25  
 AF88-23 AF88-27  
 AF88-22  
 AF88-21

MAIN  
 AF88-24

ADAMS RIVER

ADAMSFIELD

ADAMS

MARRIOTT HILL

Adams Bay

ADAM

BARRATT CREEK

RIVER

RAGGED ROAD

AF88-01

AF88-18

AF88-17

AF88-04  
 AF88-05

CREEK

AF88-20

AF88-19

SCANLON CREEK

AF88-06

PLAIN

CLEAR HILL

1800

RANGE

LUMSDEN

CREEK

ADAMS

WORSLEY

CREEK