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MERRYWOOD COAL COMPANY

MICROFILMED

E. L. 50/89 - MT. SLAUGHTER

YEAR 1 AND FINAL REPORT

OPEN FILE

K. Morrison
July 1991

91-3283.

TENEMENT INFORMATION

E.L. 50/89 was granted on 27/8/1990 and covers 9 km² in the St. Pauls River Valley, N.E. Tasmania (Fig.1).

The E.L. is held in total by Merrywood Coal Company.

Work conducted during the previous year has indicated a low chance of discovering useful coal reserves and the tenement is to be relinquished at the end of Year 1.

PREVIOUS WORK

In 1978 Investigator Coal Exploration Pty. Ltd. drilled one cored hole to test a broad spur, south of Mt. Slaughter, within their E.L. 16/77. Coal fragments had previously been located downslope from the drill site, in tributaries of Brookstead Creek and Hockeys Creek (Fig.2). The diamond drill hole (RG3) was collared at an R.L. approximately 200 metres above outcropping quartz sandstone and drilled to a depth of 185 metres, intersecting;

43.5 metres of talus composed of Jurassic dolerite fragments,
86.5 metres of Triassic Coal Measures rocks and
55 metres of Undifferentiated Upper Triassic Sandstones.

Minor coal intersections were recovered from the following intervals.

66.80 - 67.80
112.75 - 113.86
116.35 - 116.48
118.04 - 118.61
127.72 - 128.04
129.20 - 129.40

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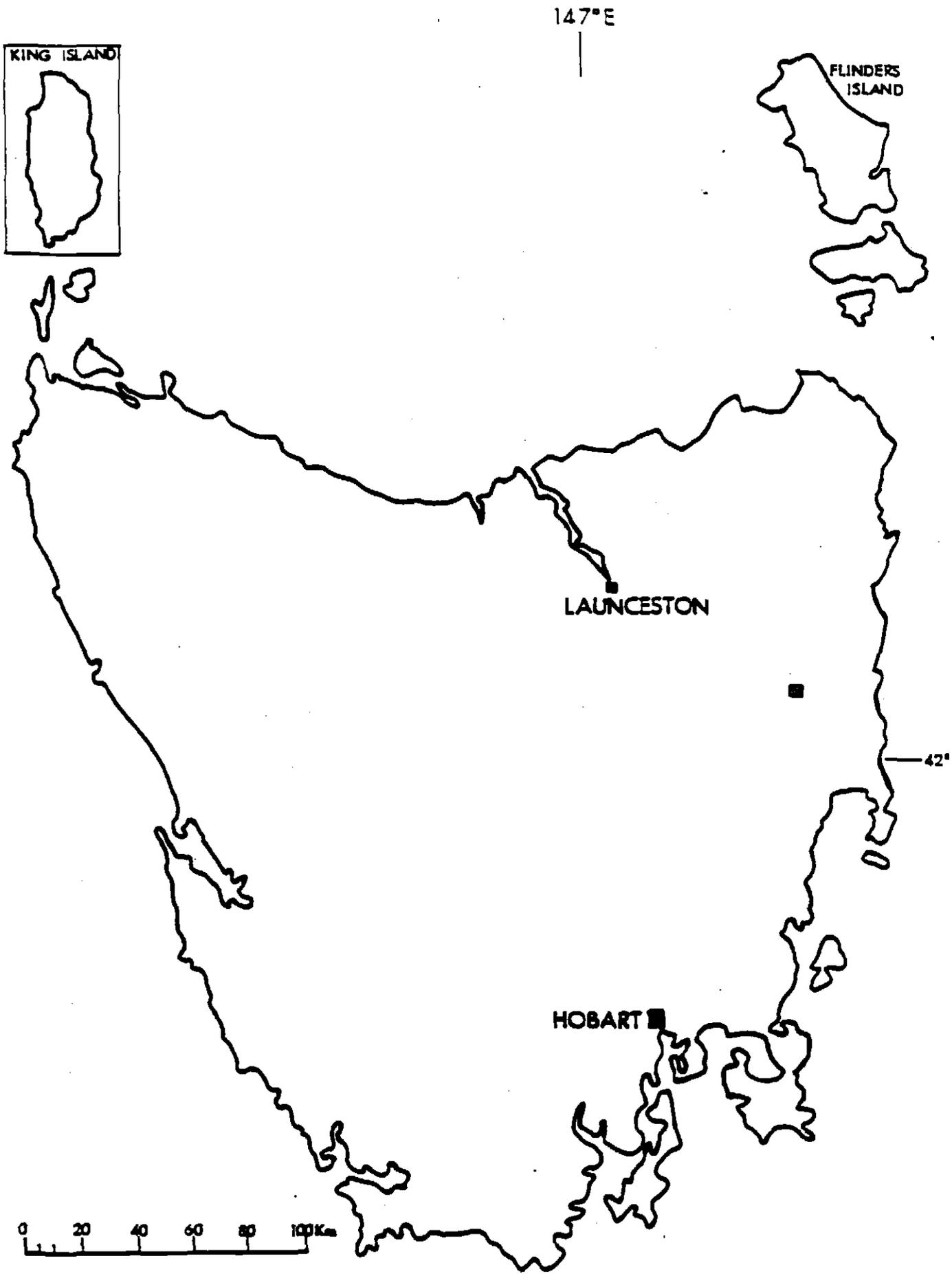
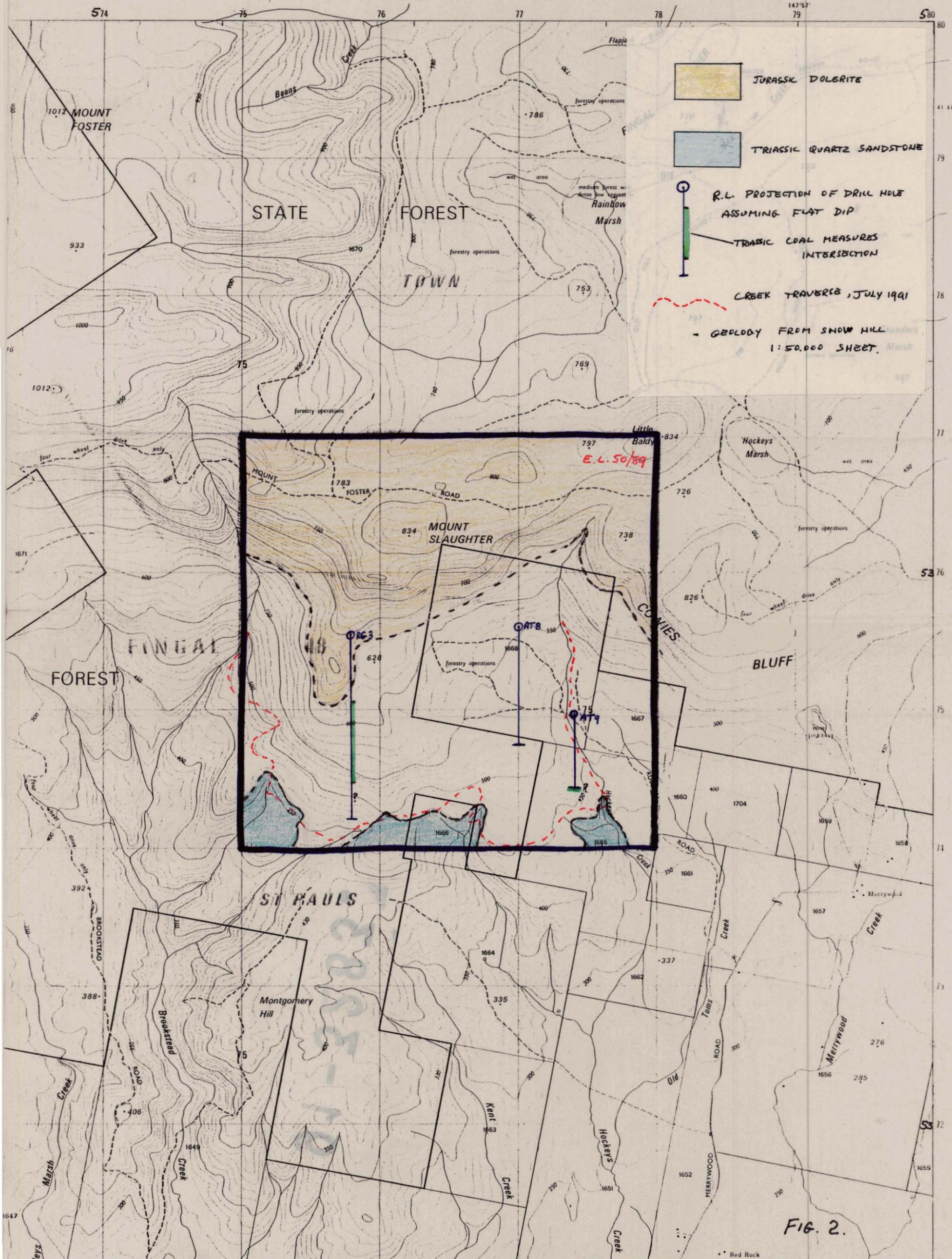
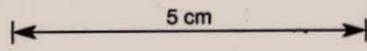


Fig. 1. E.L. 50/89 Location Map

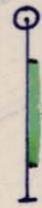
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JURASSIC DOLERITE



TRIASSIC QUARTZ SANDSTONE



R.L. PROJECTION OF DRILL HOLE ASSUMING FLAT DIP

TRIASSIC COAL MEASURES INTERSECTION

CREEK TRAVERSE, JULY 1991

- GEOLOGY FROM SNOW HILL 1:50,000 SHEET.

E.L. 50/89

FIG. 2.

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None of these seams were considered worthy of coal analysis. The hole demonstrated that at least 86 metres of coal measures rocks are preserved under the dolerite talus and because several intervals of core loss were logged, the possibility of untested, better quality, coal remained.

In 1986 Merrywood Coal Company drilled two shallow stratigraphic holes in the Hockeys Creek area (Fig.2) within their E.L. 21/82.

AT 8 drilled 37 metres of dolerite talus and AT 9 drilled 18 metres of dolerite talus, finishing in undifferentiated Upper Triassic sandstone.

PRESENT WORK

A draft copy of the Snow Hill 1:50,000 geological map sheet was obtained from the Geological Survey, Division of Mines, by courtesy of Ms. C. Bacon and Dr. E. Williams. This mapping shows that a shallow dipping Triassic quartz sandstone unit outcrops along the southern margin of the E.L. and forms a stratigraphic base to the coal measures target. (Fig.2) This unit demonstrates the absence of significant post-coal faulting between RG3 and the Merrywood Coal holes and therefore indicates that the coal measures are deeply eroded in the Hockeys Creek area, with a thick apron of dolerite talus in filling the Hockeys Creek gully.

A traverse of the tributary creeks of Hockeys and Brookstead Creeks, failed to locate any coal measures outcrop. Creek outcrop and float mapping confirms the mappable boundary at the top of the quartz sandstone, where small cliffs are developed. The target section of coal measures rocks appears to be missing in the eastern half of E.L. and covered by dolerite talus in the western half. The gully and spur morphology of the talus slope appears to reflect the subsurface absence or presence of the Upper Triassic section.

CONCLUSIONS

The prospective portion of the E.L. appears to be restricted to the zone drilled by RG3 and therefore any remaining potential requires that economically viable coal corresponds to core loss intervals between R.L. 520 - 620 metres. The chance of success is considered too low to justify another drill hole and consequently the E.L. is to be submitted for relinquishment.