

MACROFOSSILS FROM THE ?CABBAGE TREE FORMATION, ALONG BULL'S ROAD, NEAR FLOWERY GULLY, TASMANIA.

by

John R. Laurie

A CONTRIBUTION FROM MARINE, PETROLEUM AND SEDIMENTARY RESOURCES DIVISION

# Professional Opinion

1996/009

GEOSCIENCE FOR AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE

A Research Bureau of the Department of Primary Industries & Energy

## Macrofossils from the ?Cabbage Tree Formation, along Bull's Road, near Flowery Gully, Tasmania

#### by J. Laurie

Sample Locality

Samples from three horizons in pink to orange-brown cleaved siltstones exposed in a road cutting on the northeastern side of Bull's Road (GR 870309), to the east of Flowery Gully, were collected by the author and Dr C. Calver of Tasmania Development and Resources during field work in October, 1995. These localities were also investigated by Hills (1982)

**Sample Preparation** 

Included in the samples are many, poorly preserved brachiopods and fragments of trilobites. The fauna is preserved as moulds and specimens were mechanically excavated using a compressed air powered vibrotool.

### Interpretation

The fauna from these three localities are as follows:

Locality 95FG16

Nanorthis ?carinata
indeterminate ?syntrophiid brachiopod
indeterminate trilobites

Locality 95FG17 (about 1.5-2.0m below 95FG16) *Nanorthis ?carinata* indeterminate asaphid trilobite

Locality 95FG18 (about 20m below 95FG 17) indeterminate orthoid brachiopod indeterminate ?plectambonitoid brachiopod

The presence of specimens very like *Nanorthis carinata* Laurie, 1980, originally recorded from the Pontoon Hill Siltstone Member of the Florentine Valley Formation, indicates this unit is of similar age to that member.

Fossils collected from the type section of the Cabbage Tree Formation in Middle Arm Gorge are also correlated with the Pontoon Hill Siltstone Member of the Florentine Valley Formation (Laurie, 1996; in prep). This supports the assertion of Banks & Kennedy (in Burrett & Martin, 1989, p. 193) that these siltstones along Bulls Road are a facies variant of the Cabbage Tree Formation, as presently understood, and do not overlie that formation as stated by Hills (1982, p. 6)

#### References

Burrett, C.F. & Martin, E.L. (eds), 1989. Geology and mineral resources of Tasmania. *Geological Society of Australia Special Publication* 15, 574p.

Hills, P.B., 1982. The Geology of the Lower and Middle Palaeozoic rocks of Flowery Gully, northern Tasmania. Unpublished B.Sc. (Hons) thesis, University of Tasmania.

Laurie, J.R., 1980. Early Ordovician orthide brachiopods from southern Tasmania. *Alcheringa 4*, 11-23.

Laurie, J.R., 1996. Macrofossils from the Cabbage Tree Formation, Middle Arm Gorge, near Beaconsfield, Tasmania. *Australian Geological Survey Organisation, Professional Opinion* 1996/008, 2p. (unpublished).

Laurie, J.R., in prep. The correlation of Lower-Middle Ordovician clastics in Tasmania. Australian Geological Survey Organisation, Record