

UR1959/26

(26)

BORING AT CRANES TIN PROSPECT

UPPER NATONE

368

In June 1957 Geologist F. Blake reported on this prospect. Since then Mr. Crane has constructed a dam and water race and has sluiced an area measuring approximately 200 feet by 80 feet and averaging 30 feet in depth. Most of the material sluiced is weathered basalt overburden. This sluicing revealed a thin layer of wash, rich in tin between the granite bedrock and the overlying basalt. After following this layer a short distance, the base of the basalt deepened considerably and sluicing of the wash was no longer possible. The top of the granite, with its covering of wash dipped to the east and it was considered that this wash had been deposited by a minor Tertiary stream and that the main stream was still concealed beneath the basalt, in position somewhere between the eastern edge of the deep sluicing and the outcropping granite to the east.

It was consequently recommended that the Department should put down two or three bore holes with the percussion plant to test this theory.

Drilling was carried out during September and October, 1959. Three holes were bored but as the first did not pass through the basalt only two were effective. No. 3 Bore was drilled within a few feet of No.1, and No.2. bore was 150 feet to the north-east. Both these holes showed a much thicker section of wash than in the area sluiced but unfortunately the tin values were either 'trace' or 'nil'.

Details of the bores are:

No. 1 Bore

Basalt to 56'6"

No. 2 Bore

Basalt to 59'

Decomposed Basalt and Sand 59 - 73' (Basalt to 70'?)

Granite 73 - 85'

No. 3 Bore

Basalt to 68'

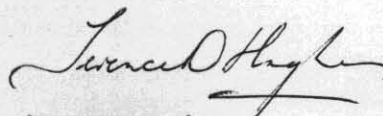
Gravel, Clay Sand Wood 68 - 85'

Granite 85 - 95'

This boring has indicated that a main deep lead does exist under the basalt and that the lead so far sluiced is a tributary of it. However tin values in the locations bored are so poor that although greater tin concentrations may be expected in other parts, further exploration does not seem warranted.

The positions of the bores are shown on the accompanying plan.

DOCN	S&A	CG	CC&N	AC&N & E
RECEIVED				22 DEC 1959
ANSWERED				EARL
DEPT. OF MINES				
REF. NO.				



(T.D. Hughes)
SENIOR GEOLOGIST

December, 1959