

WLM/3

5th September, 1960.

MEMORANDUMUNDERGROUND WATER AT MARRAWAH.Mr. A.H. Marshall

A visit was made to Mr. Marshall's property on 30th August, to determine the chances of obtaining underground water for stock, by boring.

This part of Marrawah consists of up to 300 feet of tertiary basalt and associated pyroclastics which overlie Precambrian quartzites. Recent sands overlie the basalt in some areas. Mr. Marshall's site is situated about 10 chains back from the edge of the basalt plateau in a small valley running down to the coastal plain and lying about 250' above the base of the basalt.

The previous results obtained by well digging and boring in these volcanics has not been good. Mr. Marshall, himself had one bore put down to 150' which proved unsuccessful. Another bore on the next property struck solid basalt at 80'. A bore on this same property, but further back from the edge of the plateau had a bore put down in 1923 with a fair supply of water. About 1 mile to the south of Mr. Marshall's a recent bore within 7 - 8 chains of the plateau slope was successful and several wells in this area are also of fair quality.

It was suggested to Mr. Marshall, that if he were to try for water again, it might be wise to try further back from the plateau edge although the site was not recommended.

Many springs emit from underneath the basalt and the community of Marrawah are discussing the supplying of all Marrawah from one of these with a reported flow of over 250,000 gallons per day. For this reason, Mr. Marshall may cancel his application for boring.

Mr. C. Gray.

Mr. Gray's property is situated about 1½ miles to the south of Mr. Marshall's property and is also situated on the plateau of volcanic material. He has about seven wells on the property all of which have been unsuccessful. One reached a depth of 70'. The site where the bore is to be drilled is further away from

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the edge of the plateau and appears favourable topographically but owing to the unreliable nature of the volcanics to supply water, the site was not recommended. The exact position of boring is to be positioned by a diviner.

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