

DEPARTMENT OF MINESSOUTH AUSTRALIABARYTES PROSPECT - ANGEPENA STATION

In company with Mr. J.W. Ross, an inspection was made on 3/6/56 of a barytes occurrence located on Angepena Station via Copley - Mineral Claim 1992.

The deposit is recorded on the Angepena 1M. Geological Map, 3 miles east-south-east from Angepena H.S., adjacent to the mail road to Balcanoona. It occurs on the western foothill slopes of the Constitution Hill range in purple and green shales which underlie the Pound Quartzite of the range.

The barytes outcrops prominently with a general east-west strike, and can be traced over a length of 450 feet, giving way at each extremity to barren quartz. The width varies from 6 feet to 30 feet and probably averages about 15 feet.

Several shallow pits have been excavated, and two shafts, one of which is approximately 30 feet in depth, the other 20 feet.

The mineral is rather badly stained and it will obviously be difficult to produce first grade material from this deposit. The lessee claims, however, that sample material has been submitted to the paint trade, and a contract for 5000 tons per year of second grade material is available.

It appears from the approximate dimensions indicated above that the lode is capable of providing about 800 to 1000 tons per foot of depth, the shallow portion of which will be relatively cheap to extract. However none of the excavations have traversed the full width, and more systematic sampling may be desirable to ensure that the entire tonnage is of acceptable quality. The proportion of quartz in the lode channel is difficult to estimate because of the similarly stained appearance of the quartz and barytes. A close check will be necessary during mining to ensure that massive quartz is rejected.

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CONCLUSION:

This prospect is capable of providing a source of second grade barytes which is apparently acceptable to the paint trade. The lessee will require advice from the Mining Branch on suitable methods of extraction, and the general economics of the proposition. The presence of massive stained quartz may prove a hazard.

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11/6/56