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SML 705 PARABARANA COPPER PROSPECT

REPORT ON DETAILED MAPPING CARRIED OUT IN APRIL-MAY 1972, AND A REVIEWED GEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION FOR THE PERIOD 19/5/69 TO AUGUST 1972

Submitted by

North Flinders Mines Ltd 1972

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Enquiries: Information Services Branch

Mines and Energy South Australia 191 Greenhill Road, Parkside 5063

Telephone: (08) 274 7687 Facsimile: (08) 272 7597

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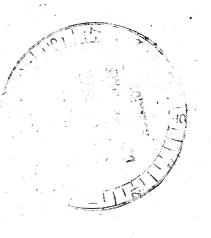
SPECIAL MINING LEASE NO. 705, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

DETAILED MAPPING AND A REVIEWED GEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF THE PARABARANA COPPER PROSPECT.

bу

I.B. FREYTAG

Senior Geologist



ADELAIDE, August, 1972

NORTH FLINDERS MINES LIMITED



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I INTRODUCTION

The occurrence of copper mineralization in the southern vicinity of Parabarana Hill was reported prior to the turn of the last century. Small scale mining activity began in about 1899 and continued intermittently for a period of approximately 20 years. Recorded production from this area is of the order of 250 tons of dressed oxide and secondary sulphide ores averaging about 20 per cent copper, taken chiefly from shallow pits and shafts.

Company exploration in this part of the Northern Flinders Ranges was commenced by Anaconda Australia Inc., in 1966.

In May of 1969, the mineralized Parabarana area was secured by North Flinders Mines N.L. and during the last three years, it has been the subject of a comprehensive exploration programme.

Exploration methods have included:

- 1) stream sediment survey for Cu, Pb, Zn and U.
- 2) helicopter radiometric survey and ground follow-up,
- 3) semi-detailed geologic mapping,
- 4) gridding of area 10,000 ft. x 4000 ft.,
- 5) petrologic study of outcrop material,
- 6) induced polarization survey on grid.
- 7) magnetometer survey on grid,
- 8) soil and rock chip sampling on grid,
- 9) rotary-percussion drilling (32 holes),
- 10) diamond core drilling ((7 holes).

Whilst four of the diamond drill holes achieved inconclusive results, the PDD 3 hole located an ore intersection of 18 ft. (5.5.m) of 2.5% copper plus minor molybdenum and uranium, at approximately 1,100 ft. (335m) below surface.

In reviewing the status of the Parabarana Copper Prospect early in 1972, it was considered that optimum use of outcrop data might further the understanding and interpretation of this complex geological environment.

The author undertook detailed mapping on a one hundred foot square grid during a 4-week period in April and May of this year.

The geological map and revised drill-hole cross sections are the subject of this report.

II LOCATION AND ACCESS

Parabarana Hill (latitude 29° 58.8°S, longitude 139° 41.9°E) is a prominent feature situated 5.5 miles (8.8 km) SSW of Moolawatana, a station homestead at the very north—eastern tip of the Flinders Ranges (see Fig. 1).

Numerous copper occurrences are found along a one mile (1.6 km) east—west zone which passes one half mile (0.8 km) south of Parabarana Hill.

Elevation of Parabarana Hill Trig is 1,300 ft. (396 m) A.S.L. but the topography drops away steeply to the prospect area which averages about 800 ft. (244 m) above sea level. An abitrary datum approximately 4000 ft. (1220 m) above true elevation was used for the drilling programme.

Access to the Parabarana Prospect is by graded dirt tracks approaching from the eastern plains, one from Moolawatana, one from Box Bore on the main Wooltana — Moolawatana road, and a southerly one from Pepegoona Well (Fig. 1).

III <u>TENEMENT HISTORY</u>

Special Mining Lease No. 297 covering some 7 square miles (18 sq.km) around Parabarana was granted to North Flinders Mines N.L. on 19 May, 1969, for a 2-year term.

In March 1971, this prospecting lease was absorbed into a larger surrounding company lease, S.M.L. 558.

Recent revision of leases has resulted in the Parabarana Prospect now being covered by S.M.L. 705 (the same area as for S.M.L. 297), which lease is current until 17 May, 1974.

North Flinders Mines Limited has 100 per cent lease ownership.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF COMPANY REPORTS

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(17)	WILSON, R.B. (1971)	Final Summary Exploration Report, SML 297, North Flinders Ranges, S.A. (North Flinders Mines, Company Report)
(18)	(1971)	Progress Report on Diamond Drilling Programme, Parabarana Copper Prospect, SML 297. (North Flinders Mines, Company Report)

Additional supporting information has been taken from:

(19) COATS, R.P. and Regional and Economic Geology of the BLISSETT, A.H. Mount Painter Province.
(1971) Geol. Survey of S. Australia, Bull. 43.

V GEOLOGY OF THE PROSPECT AREA

(1) Local Setting

The Parabarana Copper Prospect is situated within an environment of Carpentarian (Middle Proterozoic) acid igneous rocks.

Regional mapping by Coats (19; also Fig. 1) has defined an area to the north and west of the prospect, as being underlain by Terrapinna Granite, and that to the south by the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry.

Separating them and interjacent to these formations, within a structurally complex pile of east—west thrust slices, is a north—dipping sheet of layered microadamellite and microgranite which has undergone varying degrees of metamorphic and hydrothermal alteration. This fine—grained, probably intrusive rock is the main host to the copper mineralization.

Because most of the exposed rock boundaries are considered to be faulted, the local inter-relationships of the various rock-types are not all known. The one definite relationship recognized is the intrusive nature of the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry into microadamellite.

(2) Problems in Mapping

Several aspects of the Parabarana geology have presented difficulties in the selection and mapping of outcrop data likely to be most useful particularly in the interpretation of structure and drilling results and in future ore—finding.

The macroscopic similarity between Terrapinna Granite and Mount Neill Granite Porphyry for instance, is such that outcrops of these rocks may be difficult to distinguish, and indeed where chloritization is moderate to intense as in many parts of the prospect area, it is virtually impossible to do so. This applies especially to the wedge of highly chloritized granite porphyry above the microadamellite, which is tentatively regarded as Terrapinna Granite.

The effects of metamorphism, metasomatism and alteration on rocks in the Parabarana area are widespread and varied. Alteration features which might be mapped are usually gradational, intermittent, or superimposed and their accurate mapping would require the utmost detail.

Intense dynamic metamorphism associated with the thrust fault movements has resulted in cataclasis and retrograde metamorphism to such a degree in some parts, that the nature of original rock-types is all but lost.

In spite of these problems it seemed early in the mapping programme, that rock—units mapped in terms of their original type rather than their altered state, would more likely provide the clearest structural picture of the prospect and this aim has been followed.

(3) Detailed geology

The geologic model of the prospect developed by Wilson (16, 17) and Pontifex (7) has been substantiated by detailed mapping. Some refinements in the strucutral interpretation have been adopted and a close field study of the metamorphism and alteration of microadamellite appears to have clarified the nature of epidote garnet hornfels and related rocks which earlier had proved to be problematical:

ROCK RELATIONS TABLE

WILSON AND PONTIFEX	DETAILED MAP UNITS (STRUCTURAL SUPERPOSITION)	CONTACT RELATIONSHIP
HANGING WALL ROCKS	Mylonite gneiss; augen granite, (a) amphibolite; retrograde schist (TERRAPINNA GRANITE)	The control of the co
•	Chloritized porphyritic microgranite (b) (?TERRAPINNA GRANITE)	TECTONIC (Thrust)
CHLORITIZED ZONE	MAIN ORE ZONE	?TECTONIC (Thrust
FOOTWALL ROCKS	(c) Microadamellite — altered metamorphosed, mineralized	TAITOURTUE TAITO
	Porphyritic microgranite (d) (MT. NEILL GRANITE PORPHYRY)	INTRUSIVE INTO MICROADAMELLITE

(a) Mylonites, cataclasites, granite gneisses and augen granites of the Parabarana Hill thrust block.

The southern slopes of Parabarana Hill exposed a suite of rocks which have developed through the extreme mechanical deformation of porphyritic granitic rocks. Coats assigned them to the Terrapinna Granite.

Usually of a bright reddish to brown colour, these are mylonite gneisses, flaser granite gneisses, and augen gneissic granites with a persistent foliation striking regularly in the north-east to east-north-east direction, and dipping at 55° to 85° to the north-west.

This foliated block is truncated sharply and obliquely at its base by an east—west striking thrust fault, the trace of which is exposed on the northern side of the water storage dam (300N, 600W).

Bands of coarse-grained muscovite-chlorite schist up to 40 ft. wide pass conformably through the mylonites. These schists are products of strong differential stress in which retrogressive changes in the granite have occurred (13).

Another rock-type mappable in this block, and logged in several drill-holes (see Figs. 4,5,6) is a dark coloured schistose amphibolite or amphibolitic gneiss. The continuity of this more basic rock unit is difficult to follow. An original dioritic rock-type in which case these bodies may be metamorphosed intrusive dykes, has been postulated (4,7).

A number of small pegmatitic and fine grained granitic lenses have been found cutting the gneisses. These are thought to be a late phase Mt. Neill Granite Porphyry and microadamellite respectively.

Epigenetic chlorite, calcite, micaceous hematite and quartz are common fracture fillings in gneiss.

(b) Chloritized Porphyritic Microgranite
A tapering faulted slice of pyritic chloritized
porphyritic microgranite has been mapped in outcrop between the
mylonite gneiss block and the underlying altered microadamellite.

Chloritization with some epidote has affected the original rock-type in all manner of degree. Residual patches of somewhat gneissic porphyritic microgranite with chloritized ferromagnesian components occur with completely chloritized rock, resembling chloritic schist.

Much of this map—unit, however, has undergone moderate chloritization, where relict pink feldspar phenocrysts in various stages of digestion, determine the original porphyritic texture.

(c) Microadamellite

This formation, as yet formally unnamed, is of special importance as the chief host rock to copper mineralization at Parabarana.

Microadamellite and its alteration variants has been mapped in a belt from line 800E as far as line 2200W. Semi-detailed reconnaissance further west has shown the microadamellite to outcrop over a total strike length of more than one mile (1.6 km).

This banded rock has a northerly dip of near 55°, bounded on the top probably by a now-healed thrust fault and at the bottom by intrusive Mt. Neill Granite Porphyry.

The thickness of microadamellite between lines OOE/W and 800W is about 300 feet (91.5m). Apparent thickening further west is in part, at least, due to disruptions and dislocations caused by granite porphyry intrusion.

East of line 300E it is limited to small patches of outcrop, some of which is retrogressively metamorphosed beneath thrust faults to a fine quartz—sericite—chlorite schist. This type of rock occurs as far east as line 1600E.

In its freshest state, the microadamellite is a pinkish to salmon coloured, fine grained, crudely banded rock. It is everywhere fractured, and often crushed and brecciated. The most extensive exposure of the less altered microadamellite is on 'Copper Hill' (vicinity OO E/W), and in several smaller outcrops to the west.

Thin section work by Pontifex (7, 10) and Whittle (14) shows the microadamellite to be an allotriomorphic granular aggregate of quartz, potash feldspar and sodic plagioclase, with several per cent of accessory sphene. Primary biotite, usually chloritized to some degree, is variable through the rock mass, and where it is deficient the rock is decidedly leucocratic. The plagioclase content also is variable, thus accounting for changes to microgranite and microtonalite.

The microadamellite has some of the petrological characteristics of a high—level intrusive, and it may be regarded somewhat tentatively as such. Its upper contact with the chloritized ? Terrapinna Granite is thought to be faulted, but in two road

cutting exposures (locations 330N, 295W and 1970W, 380N) small intrusive veins of microadamellite and microgranite cut across the foliation of mylonite gneiss. It might be inferred from this relationship that the main body of microadamellite intrudes and post—dates the Terrapinna Granite.

Compositional changes through most of the microadamellite have been brought about by contact metamorphism and metasomatism as well as a superimposed phase of hydrothermal alteration and mineralization.

In a broad simplification, altered portions of the microadamellite now have been distinguished visually and mapped on the basis of a dominant epidote or dominant chlorite (and green biotite) component in the alteration assemblage (Fig.2). There is, however, overlap of most of the secondary alteration effects and the sequence of processes of alteration is still not fully recognized.

The weight of both field and laboratory evidence indicates that there have been two and possibly three phases of alteration.

(i) Contact metamorphism and calc-silicate metasomatism -

Metamorphic and metasomatic changes in microadamellite marginal to the intrusive Mt. Neill Granite Porphyry have produced a characteristic mineral assemblage consisting of epidote, hornblende (actinolite, tremolite), garnet, calcite, magnetite and sulphide. These rocks have been classified in Coats' mapping (Fig. 1) as 'banded, siliceous, epidote amphibolites' and by Blissett (19) as epidote — actinolite — sphene — apatite hornfels, with the petrographic inference of a metasedimentary origin. This cannot be substantiated in the field.

They might best be described as hornfels especially nearer the Mount Neill Porphyry contact, from which they grade outwards into epidotized microadamellite. Colour banding and mottling is a common feature, related partly to primary banding in the microadamellite, and more directly to relative amounts of epidote, garnet and amphibole in patches and layers alternating with less altered microadamellite.

Whether the contact metamorphic influence or the metasomatic influence has had more effect on these rocks is not clear. Whilst epidote, calcite, magnetite and amphibole can be metamorphic reconstitution products, there is evidence that epidote, calcite and quartz have been mobile and introduced into fractures.

(ii) Chloritized (epidotized) microadamellite.

Mottling in grey, greenish and pinkish tinges is typical of these rocks, where various degress of alteration have permeated the fragmented pink microadamellite.

Shearing is evident especially where chlorite is abundant and a strong fissility is developed.

The microadamellite has been in part hydrothermally sericitized and argillized and generally affected by the introduction of varying amounts of chlorite, green biotite, epidote, quartz, potash

feldspar, calcite, apatite magnetite, primary hematite and sulphides, predominantly pyrite and chalcopyrite.

This type of alteration seems to be best developed within the top 150 feet of the unit, but it does occur in lower portions in the 'Copper Hill' area.

(d) Mount Neill Granite Porphyry

Typically this rock is a light brown weathering, porphyritic type in which large pinkish to flesh—coloured ovoid phenocrysts of feldspar (mostly microcline), are set in groundmass of fine quartz, potash feldspar, subordinate plagioclase and biotite. Chlorite, sericite and epidote are common secondary minerals. Bluish to grey quartz phenocrysts are sporadic.

Gross texture of the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry is normally homogeneous, but incipient gneissosity has developed in shear zones. Rather the rock tends to joint and in some fault zones to shatter. Veins in these fractures range from a fraction of an inch to several feet in thickness and are composed of calcite, siderite, quartz, minor chlorite and varying amounts of pyrite and chalcopyrite. These obviously post—date the granite porphyry and some pass into the altered microadamellite. They seem to be most concentrated in fracture zones striking between north—north—east and north—east.

(e) Alkaline ? Pegmatite

Pods and lenses measuring a few tens of feet, of a rock composed essentially of coarse, subhedral pink potash feldspar have been mapped in intrusive relationships to the Mt. Neill Granite Porphyry, to the epidotized (hornfelsed) microadamellite, and to mylonite gneiss in the vicinity of 700N, 650W. In the latter

occurrence the rock is an unstressed friable, sugary, medium grained, pinkish feldspar rock with some feldspar phenocrysts and disseminated hematite, chlorite, sericite and calcite.

The rock has been described as an alkaline pegmatite, probably a late phase of the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry, (9).

Secondary components mentioned above (calcite, quartz, chlorite, potash feldspar and pyrite) in fractures and cleavages, are common to other outcrops of this rock.

(f) Sedimements

Outcrops of Mesozoic and younger sediments encroach on the prospect area.

Basal mudstones, sandstones and shales of the Great Artesian Basin are in steep and overturned fault contact with chloritized, porphyritic microgranite and granite porphyry in the south—eastern part of the mapped area. Wilson (16) has reported that Cretaceous sediments were intersected below microgranite in drill—holes on grid line 800E, thus indicating post—Cretaceous over—thrust movement.

Prominent fluviatile boulder conglomerates cut across the prospect area along fracture lineaments which have controlled valley development.

(4) Geological Structure

In this environment of massive igneous rocks, faulting has had the most obvious effects on structure, ground preparation and mineralization.

In regional aspect, the Parabarana prospectarea is situated favourably at the convergence of three major fault systems.

Coats (Fig. 1) indicates a major fault, transverse to the general trends in the Mount Painter Block, striking into the prospect—area from the west, along which intense chloritization has occurred.

Merging with this east—west structure at the western end of the prospect—area, the Mount Adams Fault system strikes in from the south—west. This complex, steep tectonic zone has been shown by geochemical surveys to be mineralized with copper and some uranium for a distance of about 12 miles (19 km).

Mineralized faults and fractured zones striking NNE into the southern portion of the map—area (Fig. 2) form a set which when projected to the SSW, it seems likely has controlled the topographic margin of the ranges for some 10 miles (16 km) towards Pepegoona Well (Fig. 1).

The local structure of the copper prospect is dominated by east—west thrust faults. Geologic cross—sections (Figs. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) show that these faults are subparallel and that they dip at angles between 45° and 55° to the north.

Eastward of line 300E, the thrust slices are complicated by steep, meridional cross faults. Some of these seem to pre-date the thrust faults, but others to transect them.

The large veined fault traversing the south-east part of the map (Fig. 2) is near vertical at the south, but it appears to flatten in successive offset segments, and becomes the overthrust structure on Cretaceous sediments, discussed by Wilson (16). There is, therefore, post-Cretaceous movement, but the relative ages of other faults in the area are not known.

A steep NNE striking fault mapped close to drill-hole NFP 20 (Fig. 2) has offset the microadamellite and the ore horizon. This apparent east-block-north horizontal movement is confirmed by structural contours in Figure 9.

A set of NW — SE geomorphic lineaments cutting through the prospect—area indicates another fracture system. These may be young mega—joints rather than faults, as displacements have not yet been demonstrated.

VI <u>MINERALIZATION</u>

(1) Surface Indications and weathering

Malachite stainings in outcropping rocks are common and widespread along the Parabarana microadamellite trend.

Extensive 'paint copper' occurs on fractures in the very broken microadamellite at 'Copper Hill' (vicinity OOE/W), and in several chloritic shear—cleavage zones on and nearby this hill, supergene chalcocite haloed with malachite has been the main target of early mining.

Drilling results have shown that depth of oxidation of the copper-mineralized zone varies between 50 ft. (15m) and 150 ft. (46 m) below surface. Generally sulphides in exposed rock have been oxidized but in the more massive carbonate-quartz veins where weathering has been inhibited by lack of permeability, fresh pyrite and chalcopyrite can be found.

Malachite stained outcrops often show some evidence of pre-existing sulphides. Reddish-brown limonite in cleavages and in very fine fractures, also scattered intergranular lenticles and blabs, can sometimes be identified as boxworks, but the frequent occurrence of hematite as a weathering product of biotite and chlorite makes a quantitative estimate of sulphides difficult. No doubt hematite masks the presence of oxidized sulphides in some outcrops.

It is significant that in very few places along the outcropping mineralized zone is there fair visual indication of the better primary grades intercepted in drill—holes. It is felt that this results, to some degree, from not being able to identify the extremely finely divided sulphides in weathered rock, but also that the primary copper tenor for one reason or another is improving in depth.

One reason for this may be that diminishing effects of metamorphism and metasomatism of the microadamellite away from the line of present outcrop, have deprived the rock less of fracturing ability, thus effectively increasing permeability to ore fluids.

It seems possible also that a steep chloritic zone coming in along line 100N for some distance from the west, may have impeded permeability along what is now the near surface part of the ore horizon.

In the absence of more factual data, these suggestions are fairly subjective.

Core holes have all entered the mineralized zone below base of weathering. Rotary percussion logs (16) of several holes record the presence of native copper and secondary copper low in the oxidation zone, but there appears to be no important and consistent secondary enriched zone. Incipient chalcocite and covellite replacement around chalcopyrite and bornite and disseminated fine native copper have been reported.

(2) Ore Minerals

Petrographic and mineragraphic studies of cores and cuttings (6, 7, 10, 14) have established that the Parabarana primary ore is a complex assemblage.

Pyrite and chalcopyrite are the dominant sulphides.

Bornite, molybdenite, pyrrhotite and marcasite and unidentified uranium mineralization are subordinate, while trace amounts of galena, sphalerite and pseudobrookite have been noted.

(3) Gangue Minerals

Gangue in Parabarana ore is composed mainly of carbonate (calcite), chlorite and quartz.

Other gangue minerals are green biotite, epidote, sericite, clay minerals, orthoclase and amphibole, as well as primary hematite, magnetite and graphite.

This is largely a hydrothermally introduced assemblage with propelitic affinities.

Where hydrothermal alteration has pervaded the host-rock, sericitization may be more pronounced, and the intensity of chalcopyrite disseminations increased.

(4) Control and Localization of Mineralization

The main copper mineralization at Parabarana occurs within a sheet-like zone of brecciated, altered microadamellite, up to 150 feet (46 m) in true width, and generally within the top most 200 feet (61 m) of the unit. Deeper mineralization was located within microadamellite in core holes PDD 5 and PDD 6 (Figs. 8 and 6).

Mineralization occurs as very fine fracture fillings, breccia fillings and stockworks with related intergranular disseminations.

The parallelism of the mineralized breccia sheet with overlying thrust faults inclined at 45° to 55° northward, infers a relationship to the faulting and a structural control in ground preparation of brittle microadamellite prior to hydrothermal alteration and mineralization.

There is a distinct localization of epigenetic copper sulphides within the microadamellite. The excellent fracturing ability of this fine—grained igneous rock has played a large part in this, but chemical factors also may have been effective.

Sulphides are widespread in the overlying chloritized granite porphyry, but this is essentially pyritic mineralization.

Faults and fracture zones cutting through the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry have also localized vein—type mineral—ization of a comparable assemblage to that in the microadamellite breccia. These are the site of several small workings.

Drill intercepts of molybdenum and uranium mineralization exceeding 100 p.p.m. have been plotted on the cross-sections
accompanying this report. The minor concentrations of these metals
occur usually in two or three separate zones through the copper
mineralization, and these zones when joined from drill-hole to drillhole, also define a parallelism to overlying thrust faults. The
implication here is that molybdenite and uranium minerals were
localized along secondary shears or faults belonging to the main
thrust fault set.

(5) Source of Mineralization

Several established temporal and spatial relationships contribute to an early understanding of the origin of copper mineral—ization at Parabarana. These are:—

- (a) The Mount Neill Granite Porphyry is intrusive into the microadamellite. This event accounts satisfactorily for the metamorphism in much of the lower portion of the microadamellite.
- (b) Fracture and stockwork copper mineralization is epigenetic to and therefore post—dates the microadamellite and its metamorphosed portions.

(c) Copper-bearing vein and fracture fillings with a mineral association very similar to that in the microadamellite are epigenetic to and therefore post-date the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry.

This evidence infers that copper mineralization is related to a late hydrothermal phase of the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry intrusion, perhaps in time close to the alkaline pegmatite phase.

To what extent there was an interplay between thrust faulting and the positioning of the microadamellite sheet, or the confining of the granite porphyry intrusion, is not yet known.

Post-intrusive movement caused widespread crushing through the microadamellite, at which time a brecciated sheet parallel to superjacent faults became the principle locus for hydrothermal solutions and copper mineralization.

(6) Ore Possibilities

Figure 9 has been included to show the distribution of drill-hole copper intercepts, in a simple, inclined structural zone.

Approximate true widths of copper mineralization defined by one tenth per cent — plus assays show that the known thickest development of the mineralized horizon occurs along lines 400W and 800W, and in PDD 6 on line 1200W. Six holes in this vicinity cut mineralized widths of between 95 ft. (29 m) and 150 ft. (46 m).

The coincidence of the highest grade intercepts also in this area gives the impression of a shoot development plunging to the north-west at about 40° below horizontal. This may be incidental, however, in the absence of information in diamond drill holes PDD 1 and PDD 4 where host-rock was not reached, and because of the incomplete mineral intersection (top half only) in PDD 2. There is no reason to predict that the quality of the intersection in PDD 3 and NFP 14 will not be maintained or improved down-dip on lines 400W and 800W.

On this basis true ore widths of near 20 ft. (6 m) and greater with average grade upward of 1.8% copper could be . anticipated.

Unless recoverable grades of molybdenum or uranium can be proved more consistent than presently indicated, these would not figure as by—product metals.

The likelihood of locating a sufficient volume of lower grade copper ore to support an underground mining operation under present conditions, seems to be remote.

VII CONCLUSIONS

- (1) Copper mineralization at Parabarana occurs within a north-dipping, sheet-like and probably intrusive body of banded microadamellite. It is overlain by 50° north-inclined thrust-fault slices of pyritic chloritized porphyritic microgranite and mylonitized gneissic granitic rocks, originally part of the Terrapinna Granite.
- (2) The microadamellite host-rock is underlain, and was intruded by the Mount Neill Granite Porphyry. It became extensively metamorphosed and metasomatised, resulting in alteration to an epidote-calcite-garnet-magnetite rich rock.
- (3) Following widespread brecciation and crushing in the microadamellite, phases of hydrothermal activity resulted in the introduction of a secondary mineral assemblage dominated by calcite, chlorite, green biotite and quartz. There was also some pervasive sericitization of host rock.
- (4) Chalcopyrite, pyrite and bornite with minor molybdenite and uranium were introduced with the alteration minerals, predominantly into fractures and fine stockworks.

The copper sulphides were localized in a sheet-like breccia of brittle microadamellite. This mineralized horizon varies in thickness from about 40 feet (12 m) up to 150 feet (46 m). It occurs within the upper 200 feet (61 m) of microadamellite.

Copper mineralization is insignificant in the thrust block overlying the microadamellite but there are calcite—quartz veins in faults and fracture zones cutting the underlying granite porphyry.

(5) Thirty two percussion holes and seven diamond core holes have been drilled on the prospect.

Three holes on lines 400W and 800W intersected potential ore mineralization at 300 to 400 feet (122 m) and 1000 feet (305 m) below surface. There is evidence that the grade of primary copper has improved with depth.

(6) Ore widths of at least near 20 feet (6.1 m) with 1.9% to 2.5% copper are indicated.

It seems that molybdenum and uranium are present in sub-economic amounts.

- (7) Oue to technical problems in drilling, four of the seven diamond core holes were abandoned before reaching or prematurely to penetrating the ore zone.
- (8) It is concluded that there is good exploration potential in the Parabarana area. Diamond drilling to test for extensions of the encouraging copper intersections on lines 400W and 800W is well justified.

There is also need for a more speculative approach, to investigate the prospect area where a strike length exceeding one mile with scattered mineralization has been delineated in recommaissance.

Despite the discouraging results from a number of percussion holes to the west, and low values in POO 5 and POO 6, these holes have confirmed the continuity of the microadamellite ore horizon as a near-planar, north-dipping mineralized breccia sheet.

There is no basis for the prediction of quality of mineralization to the west. Induced polarization traverses (1, 2, 11) have defined good anomalies along this zone, but these appear to have a main source in the pyritic chloritized granite, beneath which copper sulphide mineralization, if present, would be masked.

VIII GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Two approaches to the prospect are recommended.

(1) Semi-detailed diamond drill testing.

Diamond drilling on approximate 4DD feet (122 m)
centres is recommended to test extensions of ore intercepts down
dip on lines 400W and 8DOW. Pre-collared vertical holes will
minimize previously experienced drilling difficulties.

To commence the programme and to utilize existing facilities in fairly steep terrain, proposed vertical core hole PDD 8 should be collared on the PDD 2 platform to intersect the ore zone at approximately 95D feet (29D m) below surface.

Proposed vertical core hole PDD 9 should be drilled to test down dip from the PDD 3 intersection. In view of the steep topography and rapidly increasing elevation, PDD 9 might be collared on the PDD 3 platform to intersect the ore zone at approximately 1350 feet (411 m) below surface.

The siting of subsequent diamond drill—holes should await the results of PDD 8 and PDD 9.

(2) Exploratory drilling

In the longer term, exploratory holes should be drilled between lines 2000W and 5200W to test for mineralized microadamellite at about 700 feet (213 m) below surface. The upper 250 to 300 feet (91 m) of microadamellite would be the main target but the possibility of locating deeper mineralization as in PDD 5 (line 2000W) should not be discounted.

This phase of drilling would be preceded by detailed mapping, incorporating past geochemical, geophysical and percussion drilling results.

I.B. FREY TAG

Senior Geologist

MOUNT PAINTER PROVINCE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA DEPARTMENT OF MINES ADELAIDE GEOLOGICAL ATLAS SPECIAL SERIES PARABARANA COPPER PROSPECT SCALE 1:125,000 H. J. WALL, GOVERNMENT PHOTOLITHOGRAPHER, ADELAIDE CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED ROCK RELATION DIAGRAM LOCALITY 133° 135° 137° 139° SOUTH AUSTRALIA



REFERENCE

TERRAPINNA GRANITE: Massive pink-weathering rapakivi-like granite, minor adamellite, augen gneiss. Alluvium of creek beds and flood plains. MOUNT NEILL GRANITE PORPHYRY: Massive red-weathering Outwash, low angle slope deposits, gibbers, sand dunes. Scree deposits. Massive white-weathering dark grey microgranite. Thin alluvium of pediments, minor bedrock outcrops. Massive white granodiorite. High level gravels often calcreted; red-brown gypseous clay, gypcrete, mottled green clays (TELFORD GRAVEL and AVONDALE CLAY). WATTLEOWIE GRANITE: Weakly gneissic white granite and Dense cream limestone and dolomite, calcareous sandstones, grits and conglomerates (?ETADUNNA FORMATION equivalents). YERILA GRANITE: Lineated tabular feldspar granite. Quartzose silcrete of duricrust profile. FREELING HEIGHTS QUARTZITE: UNNAMED MEMBER: Medium to coarse grained sericitic feldspathic quartzites, minor argillaceous sandstones, arenaceous schists, grits, quartz and quartzite pebble beds; heavy mineral lamination, cross-bedding, ripple marks. MURNPEOWIE FORMATION: Cross-bedded feldspathic sand-stone, minor clay, basal quartz-agate conglomerate. MARREE FORMATION: Poorly outcropping grey siltstone and shale, minor sandstone, concretionary ironstone; chocolate weathering limestones near base. CORUNDUM GREEK SCHIST MEMBER Arenaceous schists with quartzite pebble beds at top, quartzites, muscovite, biotite and corundum schists, migmatites. Undifferentiated sandstones: Brown-weathering sandstones and UNNAMED MEMBER: Medium to coarse grained sericitic feldspathic quartzites, arenaceous schist interbeds near top of sequence, quartz pebble conglomerate at base, minor argillaceous sandstone. ravels, ferruginous sandstone, carbonaceous silts, porphyry STONE). Buff-weathering sandstones, basal quartz conglomerate (VILLAGE WELL FORMATION). BRINDANA SCHIST: Arenaceous schists, muscovite and biotite schists, minor garnet-sericitic schists, epidote quartzite, hornfels, metasedimentary amphibolites, garnet rocks. p€r PEPEGOONA PORPHYRY: Recrystallised porphyritic (?) rhyolite. Muscovite and biotite pegmatites. MOUNT ADAMS QUARTZITE: Medium grained feldspathic quartzites, minor grits, cross-bedding, heavy mineral laminations. p€a MUDNAWATANA GRANITE: Medium-grained, equigranular YAGDLIN PHYLLITE: Laminated grey-green phyllites, lenticular p€g white granodiorite, locally with metasedimentary remnants. Soda leucogranites in diapirs. Undifferentiated quartzites. Amphibolites: Diorites, microdiorites and metadolerites, often retrograded to biotite or chlorite schist. Banded siliceous epidote amphibolites near Parabarana Hill. Undifferentiated breccias: Grante breccias, chloritic and haematitic in part, locally granitised, associated uranium minerals.

POUND QUARTZITE: Well bedded brown to grey-weathering white quartzites, thin purple siltstone with mud cracks. Minor cross-bedding and heavy mineral lamination. BILLY SPRINGS BEDS: Laminated green siltstones, minor dolo-

WONOKA FORMATION: Calcareous grey and grey-green silt-stones with minor blue-grey flaggy limestones.

BUNYEROO FORMATION: Finely laminated purple silty shales, ULUPA SILTSTONE: Green siltstones, finely laminated silty shales. NUCCALEENA FORMATION: Purple shales, cream-weathering pink dolomites near base.

ELATINA FORMATION: Cross-bedded pink arkosic sandstone or

reddish quartzite. Ripple marks.
BALPARANA SANDSTONE: Well-bedded sandstones, minor

FORTRESS HILL FORMATION: Laminated gritty grey siltstones, rare cobble lenses, dark massive quartzite at top, local erosion at base with associated edgewise breccias, gritty and pebbly limentages.

TREZONA FORMATION: Grey-green silty shales, lenticular red

ENORAMA SHALE: Purplish green shales, minor thin bedded

ANGEPENA FORMATION: Alternating red micaceous siltstones and red and grey dolomites, minor green silty shales. Ripple marks.

AMBEROONA FORMATION: Finely laminated green and grey-

AMBEROONA FORMATION: Finely laminated green and greygreen siltstones, minor well bedded sandy limestone.

WUNDOWIE LIMESTONE MEMBER: Three bands of white-weathering blue-grey algal limestone, middle band represented by sandstone west of Oodnaminta Hut.

WEETOOTLA DOLOMITE MEMBER: Massive brown sandy dolomite, blue-black pisolitic limestone, pink siltstone.

BALCANOONA FORMATION: Brown-weathering pale grey dolomite underlain by massive to thinly bedded blue-grey algal limestones.

YANKANINNA SILTSTONE MEMBER: Thinly bedded blue-grey calcareous siltstones with thin massive siltstone interbeds; irregular

TAPLEY HILL FORMATION: Finely laminated blue-grey silty shales; includes thin alternating siltstones, yellow-weathering blue-grey dolomites, and lenticular brown-weathering gritty limestones and cobble lenses in Gladstone Anticline.

TINDELPINA SHALE MEMBER: Finely laminated dolomitic and carbonaceous shales, thin dolomites, locally gritty and pebbly. SERLE CONGLOMERATE MEMBER: Boulder conglomerate and conglomeratic sandstone, minor grit and carbonaceous shale. Local

LYNDHURST FORMATION: Blue silty shales, minor green silty shales, quartzites, grits. Recurrence of boulders.

BOLLA BOLLANA FORMATION: Massive blue-green greywacke tillite, haematitic near Wooltana; minor siltstone and quartzite.

FITTON FORMATION: Scapolitic and amphibolitic calc-silicate rocks, minor laminated siltstones, quartzites. Recurrence of

Unnamed: Green greywacke and siltstone, dark grey dolomitic siltstones, minor dolomite and quartzite.

UNNAMED MEMBER: Tremolitic marbles, amphibolites, calc-silicate quartzites, cherts, blue-grey dolomites, dolomitic shales, minor quartzites, dolomitic arkoses, conglomeratic and shaly magnesite beds west of Arkaroola H.S. Mud cracks, ripple marks.

UNNAMED MEMBER: Dark grey siltstones, minor gritty arkose; dark grey dolomitic siltstones, minor white dolomites and grey-green siltstones, dark blue-green siltstones, minor dolomites and quartzites. Mud cracks. WORTUPA QUARTZITE: Well bedded feldspathic quartzite, minor arkosic grit and conglomerate. Ripple marks, mud cracks.

OPAMINDA FORMATION: Dark grey siltstones; green dolomitic shale, minor calc-silicate rocks and talcose magnesian dolomites,

BLUE MINE CONGLOMERATE: Arkosic conglomerate, minor feldspathic quartzites and dark grey siltstones. Heavy mineral lamination, mud cracks.

WOODNAMOKA PHYLLITE: Laminated silty phyllite with minor grit and arkose at top, well bedded gritty grey argillaceous sandstone with sedimentary breccias at base.

HUMANITY SEAT FORMATION: Medium-grained heavy mineral laminated sandstones with purple and blue-grey gritty shale laminations, abundant halite casts; flaggy and massive quartzites: Dark pockmarked siltstones, minor gritty quartzite, heavy mineral laminated sandstones with blue shale laminations, rare halite casts.

WOOLTANA VOLCANICS: Melaphyres, amygdaloidal in part, minor andesite, calc-silicate metasediments, epidote quartzite; red sandstones and shales (east of Paralana Fault). WYWYANA FORMATION: Actinolitic marbles, amphibolites, minor calc-silicate hornfels and siltstones. Diapiric habit.

PARALANA QUARTZITE: Medium-grained grey orthoquartzites and grey-green argillaceous quartzites, minor actinolitic quartzites, massive amphibolite. Rare heavy mineral lamination, ripple marks.

SHANAHAN CONGLOMERATE MEMBER: Conglomerate, cobbles and

pebbles of quartzite, granite porphyry and quartz.

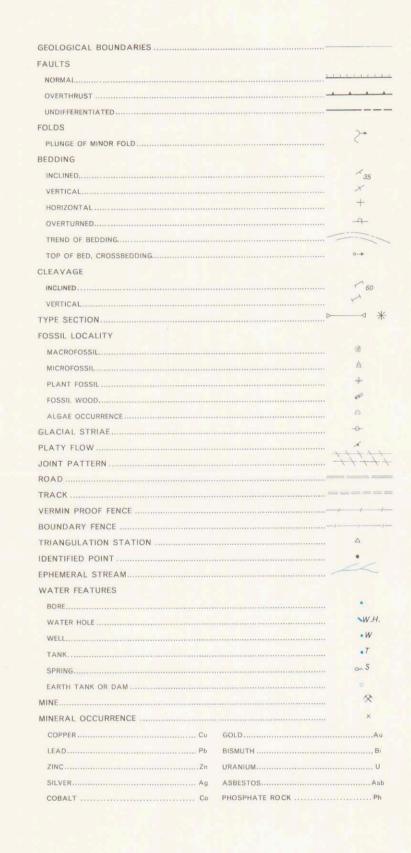
sandstone interbeds near top. Mud cracks, ripple marks.

Quartzite conglomerate or tillite near Prospect Hill.

Coarse pebbly arkose. Granite conglomerate or tillite.

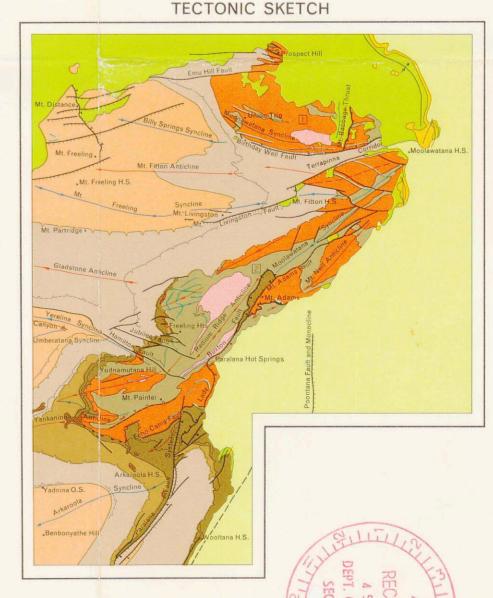
MOUNT CURTIS TILLITE: Massive grey-green dolomitic greywacke

mites and flaggy quartzites



Granitised metasediments.

Geology by R. P. Coats, B.Sc., R. C. Horwitz, D.Sc., A. R. Crawford, M.Sc., B. Campana, D.Sc., D. Thatcher, B.Sc. Supervising Geologist Regional Surveys Division, B. P. Thomson, M.Sc. Issued under the authority of the Honourable R. C. DeGaris, Minister of Mines Published 1969



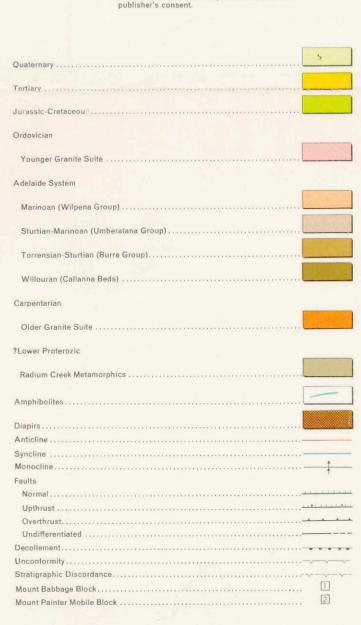


FIGURE 1

MOUNT PAINTER PROVINCE 2633-1



