

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:  
BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS.

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RECORDS.

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1960/19

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PLANT FOSSILS FROM THE STANNARY HILLS DISTRICT  
N. QUEENSLAND

by

Mary E. White

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A large collection of plant fossils was made in July 1959 by C.D. Branch from a locality in Eureka Creek, 1 mile West of Stannary Hills Township (Atherton 4-mile sheet, A 55/5).

All determinate fossils in these specimens (F.21156, F.21162 and F.21163) are referable to Leptophloeum australe (M'Coy).

Figures 1 and 2 show examples with rhombic leaf bases with leaf trace scars in the upper angles. These are surface or near-surface impressions of stems. Many other decorticated forms are present, similar to those from an earlier collection from the Gilberton Formation illustrated in Record 1957/71, and to those seen in the collection from the Star Group of the Clarke River Formation. (Record 1958/38, p.7).

Leptophloeum australe (M'Coy) occurs commonly in Australia, in beds of Upper Devonian - Lower Carboniferous Age and seems to be a reliable indicator of that era, but it is possible that it may persist to Middle Carboniferous.



Fig. 1. (Spec. No. F21156)



Fig. 2. (Spec. No. F21162)

Specimens A 507a.

Specimens containing a large amount of carbonaceous matter were collected 2 miles N.W. of Arbouin Mine in the Stannary Hills area (Atherton 4-mile sheet, A 55/5) by K.G. Lucas in 1959. The plant material is indeterminate and most of the specimens have disintegrated. (F21164).

Spore analysis of this material might yield satisfactory results, and it is suggested that samples might be sent to Mr. Balme in Perth for his opinion.