

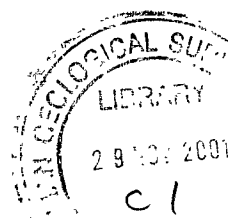
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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES
GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

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GEOLOGICAL REPORT ON FLETCHER'S BARITE DEPOSIT, BRAIDWOOD

by

N.H. Fisher

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DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SHIP-ING.

Mineral Resources Survey Branch.

GEOLOGICAL REPORT ON FLETCHER'S BARITE DEPOSIT.
BRAIDWOOD.

Report No. 1943/57.

SITUATION.

This deposit is not quite ten miles west of Braidwood along what is known as the Bombay Road. This road continues to the railway at Hockington, twelve miles farther on. The barite is half a mile south of the road up a moderately steep, but trafficable grade, and a little clearing is all that would be necessary to put a road right to the deposit.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEPOSIT.

The country rock is quartz porphyry on both walls of the lode. Similar quartz porphyry was observed in the vicinity of the barite lode known as Callery's, which is five miles from Braidwood and four miles east of Fletcher's. A shaft has been put down 18 feet and the barite is said to have opened out to a width of 2'8" at the bottom. On the surface it is exposed by a small open cut 12 feet long and 5 feet wide, which includes the shaft and which was full of water at the time of inspection. Only a portion of this width - a foot or so - was barite. The strike of the lode is 70 degrees west of north and the dip 80 to 85 degrees to the north. At the eastern end of the cut the lode plays out completely, but no capping has been done along the strike. At the west end of the cut a vein less than 12 inches wide is exposed for a few feet, but no further work has been done in that direction either. One or two small pits have exposed other lenses of barite.

The barite seems to be of reasonably good quality, similar to that obtained from Callery's mine, although in the specimens examined iron-staining was not so much in evidence as is usual at Callery's. The pure barite grinds to a fairly good white colour and Minerals Limited have offered £3/10/- per ton for the run-of-mine material, with higher prices for selected, more crystalline, barite similar to some of that found at the bottom of the shaft. A ton or so is lying on the surface.

From the small size of the deposit it does not seem likely that any worthwhile production will be obtained.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.
23rd August, 1943.

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