

REPORT ON

CAPE SCOTT HEAVY MINERALS BEACH SANDS
NORTHERN TERRITORY

Placer Prospecting (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
Sydney, N.S.W. Australia - June, 1969.

cc: Placer, Vancouver
" Oakland
" Darwin
" Sydney
Nevsam, Melbourne

CAPE SCOTT HEAVY MINERAL BEACH SANDS

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Summary

An Authority to Prospect (A.P. No. 1970) granted to Australus Mining Co., Pty. Ltd. and comprising approximately 12 square miles in area was investigated for beach sand heavies in October, 1968. Hand augering failed to disclose commercial mineralisation.

Locality & Description

The A/P is located on the NW coastline of Northern Territory on the Timor Sea at approximately the intersection of $13^{\circ}30'$ S. Lat. and $129^{\circ}50'$ E. Long. which is roughly 105 airline miles SW of Darwin. The Daly River discharges into Anson Bay some 32 miles NE of Cape Scott. It is likely, although not certain, that longshore currents sweeping south around Cape Ford formed sand spits in the lee of the group of isolated rocks that is now Cape Scott. The spits eventually coalesced into a tombolo linking these rocks to the mainland and encroaching into the mangrove swamps which originally lined the shore here. The accumulated sand gradually formed an extensive area of rather shallow parallel beach lines bottoming on a shell and mud base. Assuming a uniform thickness of 9' throughout an area of 3 square miles, approximately 27,000,000 cu. yds. of modern and ancient beach sand occurs here.

The Daly River, with its tributary the Katherine River, has developed a very extensive drainage area in which are exposed enough granite, granodiorite and assorted metamorphic sequences to yield a good crop of primary heavy minerals through a long period of erosion. It was for this reason the area was deemed worthy of investigation.

The attached map showing location of A/P is taken from the Army Map Series, Cape Scott, SD 52-7, Edition 1, Series R502. Scale: 1:250,000.

Examination of Area

Access to the area was by a diesel-powered 50 ton shallow-vee work boat, the Larrpan II, skippered by Capt. Sid Hawks with a crew of two. Transportation from ship to shore was by motorized dinghy. A Dormer Engineering Works portable hand auger set with aluminium rods and steel casing was used for drilling. Two geologists, a professional prospector and a field assistant composed the exploration team.

After the usual reconnaissance of the overall area it was decided to put down one hole in the main north-facing dune area and one hole along the west-facing beach area, even though there was no surficial evidence

along the beaches or among the dunes of any heavy mineral enrichment. These holes were located roughly 1000' apart and exposed 8' and 9' respectively of coarse, brown shelly sand. Each was terminated at approximately the level of the local water table on a highly-indurated coarse shell bed. The sand was devoid of any significant mineralisation.

Conclusions

Although a fairly substantial body of sand occurs here at Cape Scott, it is unmineralized either surficially or at depth. This, together with poor operational site factors (isolation, exposure to storms and shallowness of sand) makes the deposit of no economic interest whatsoever.

APPENDIX

Drill Logs

Hole 1.

<u>Depth</u> <u>Section</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u> <u>H.M.</u> <u>Grams</u>	<u>lbs./cu./yd.</u>	<u>H.M.</u>
0-5'	coarse grey sand.	0.3	0.3	0.01
5'-9'	coarse grey sand no visible heavy minerals	Tr	Tr	Tr
<u>Hole 2</u> Pos. on Weste m Exposure				
0-8'	coarse brown sand and shells	Tr	Tr	Tr

Coarse shell seams on water line - unable to drill through
no visible H.M.

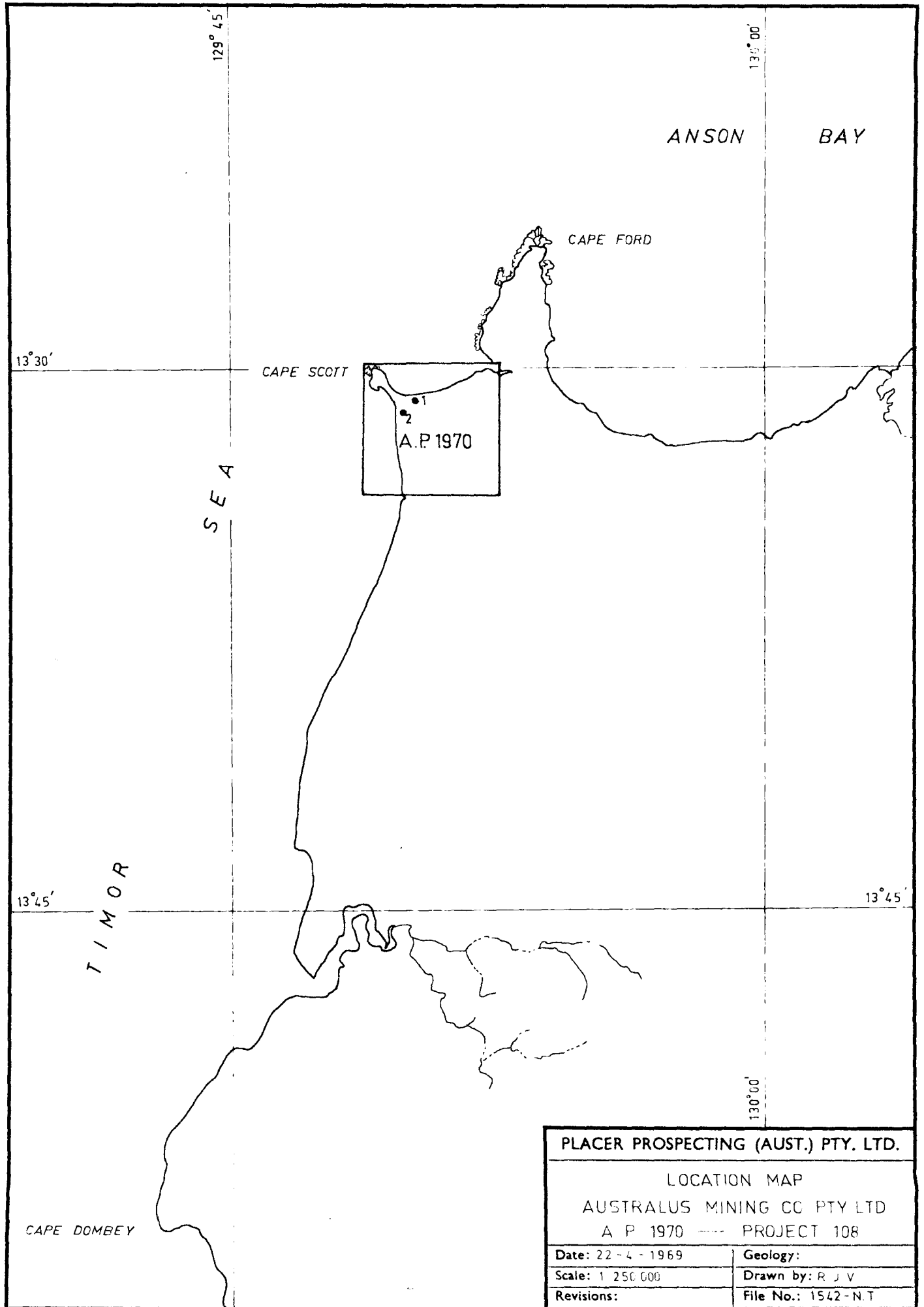
Driller : W. Barber
Date : 23/10/68

Expenses Allocated to Exploration

	\$
Camp Operation & Field Expenses	50.00
Geology	150.00
Hand Drilling	125.00
Sampling & Assaying	60.00
Transporation	115.00
Office Overhead (15%)	<u>75.00</u>
Rounded Total	\$ 575.00 =====



T.D. MURPHY.
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Australus Mining Co. Pty. Ltd.



PLACER PROSPECTING (AUST.) PTY. LTD.	
LOCATION MAP	
AUSTRALUS MINING CO PTY LTD	
A P 1970 --- PROJECT 108	
Date: 22-4-1969	Geology:
Scale: 1:250,000	Drawn by: R J V
Revisions:	File No.: 1542-N.T