



Figure 42. Scollays Creek running in an artificial channel at Site D49/93, on the edge of Scollays Flat, looking downstream towards the east. Note the high revetment on the right. *Photo: P. Petchey.*

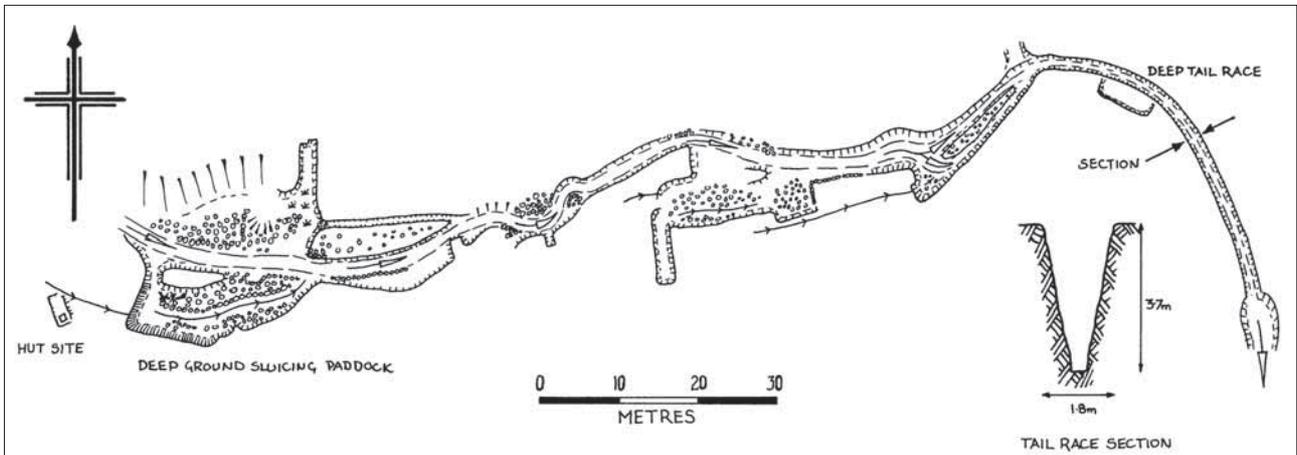


Figure 43. Workings in tributary of Scollays Creek, Site D49/94.

0.4 m wide at the base) drains the workings and the basin, cutting out an original loop of the stream. It is likely that the basin was originally very boggy, and the deep tailrace was dug to drain this area (as it still does).

The workings run for a distance of 120 m, with a maximum width of 20 m. There is a very deep ground sluice paddock at the upper end of the workings, the sluice faces being about 3 m high. A hut site is located just above the water race that fed this paddock.

The site was located in Section 4, Block VIII Pegasus District (Application 47), which was held in 1890 by W. Goodlet. This was almost certainly 'Wully' William Goodlet, who was Professor Black's assistant (Walrond 1999: 103).

13.1.6 Robertson River

The Robertson River was followed for a distance of approximately 4 km downstream of its confluence with Smiths Creek. Only the true right bank was searched, as the river was running high and could not be crossed safely. No workings were observed. Much of the river was held in claim areas in 1890, but it is possible that work was largely confined to the bed and banks when the river was low, and the evidence would have been washed away. Some possible pits had been reported at approximately G.R. 149 250 (P. Johnson, pers. comm.), but these were not relocated. Williams & Mackie (1959: 3) found that the quantities of tin and gold deteriorated as one moved away from Smiths Stream towards the Robertson River, so it is likely that there were never any large-scale workings along its course.

13.1.7 Maori Bay

Carrington's Maori Bay hut

NZAA Site No. D49/75

G.R. 123 247

This was Ted Carrington's store hut at his Maori Bay landing. It was a small corrugated iron hut situated on the west side of the small bay. It has now collapsed (Fig. 44). Artefactual material, including nails, a drum, and numerous pieces of timber, is still present inside the remains of the hut. A picture of the intact hut was published in Hall-Jones (1994: 174).

A pair of iron wheels can be found about 100 m upstream from the hut, lying beside a pile of corrugated iron sheets. The intended use for these is unclear.



Figure 44. The collapsed remains of Ted Carrington's Maori Bay supply hut in 2002.
Photo: P. Petchey.

13.2 NORTHERN GROUP, SMITHS STREAM, SMITHS CREEK, CARRINGTONS FLAT

13.2.1 Hut site

NZAA Site No. D49/74

G.R. 122 287

This hut site is located beside one of the tributaries of Smiths Creek on the eastern flank of the Tin Range (Fig. 45). The wide, flat creek bed beside the hut is bare and rocky and it seems likely that the original thin layer of gravel and soil has been worked and washed away.

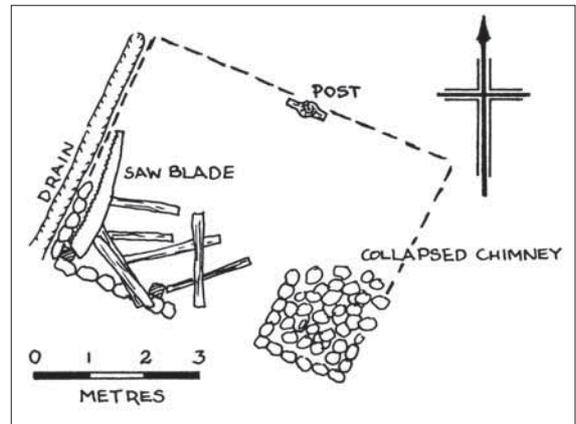


Figure 45. Hut site on east flank of Tin Range, Site D49/74.

The hut site measures 5.9 m × 4.8 m, and has a large collapsing stone chimney at one end. Several timber posts of the hut are still standing, and leaning against one of these is a large saw blade (Fig. 46).

The hut site was in Section 3, Block VIII Pegasus District (Application 42). This claim was originally held By George Waddell (also given as Waddel), and was visited in 1890 by H.A. Gordon (Gordon 1890: 96). He described it thus:

‘There has been a considerable amount of work done, and faces opened out which show in places 6ft. of wash-drift, but the prospects obtained by washing with the tin dish were not encouraging... There is a head-race constructed from Hendersons and Waddels Creeks, but the supply of water is very limited.’

The features as described by Gordon were not relocated during the archaeological survey, but the scrub in the area is low and thick, and could easily hide an area of workings.



Figure 46. Hut site (Site D49/74), with a saw blade amongst the ruins. Photo: P. Petchey

13.2.2 Worked and channelled creek bed

NZAA Site No. D49/76

G.R. 131 282

The small creek that drains Carringtons Flat runs out to meet Smiths Stream through a valley that becomes increasingly narrow, before descending steeply in a waterfall in a small, gorged section. This creek has been worked for about 100 m, with the stream channelled and tailings stacked and piled up on the banks. Some of this work may have been mining, but it also appears that some work was undertaken to drain Carringtons Flat.

The site was within Section 26 Block VIII Pegasus District (Application 66). No listing was found for this claim, but the area of Carringtons Flat was held by G. Swain, who was one of the original group of prospectors that found tin in Pegasus Creek.

13.2.3 Ted Carrington's hut site

NZAA Site No. D49/77

G.R. 129 286

This is the hut used by Ted Carrington in the 1940s. It was probably still complete when the first Kakapo Project workers were in the area in the 1970s (I. Turnbull, pers. comm.), but by the early 1980s it had collapsed (Best & Powlesland 1985: 12). It is set in the head of an earlier set of ground sluicings (D49/78, see Section 13.2.4), and is likely to have been rebuilt by Carrington on an existing hut site. The hut measured 4.5 m × 3 m, with a large stone chimney at one end (Fig. 47). The hut itself has completely collapsed, although Carrington's table still stands amongst the wreckage (Fig. 48). This table was built on two timber posts set into the ground, so was once very strong (presumably to allow it to be used as a workbench), but it is now quite rotten and beginning to disintegrate.

The hut site is scattered with a very large amount of artefactual material, of both a domestic and an industrial nature (see Appendix 3 for a list of visible artefacts). A small cutting into the bank beside the hut was apparently a tool shed, and still contains a shovel and several tailings forks (Fig. 49).

The presence of a pelton wheel, dynamo, water pump and electric cables on the site suggests that Carrington

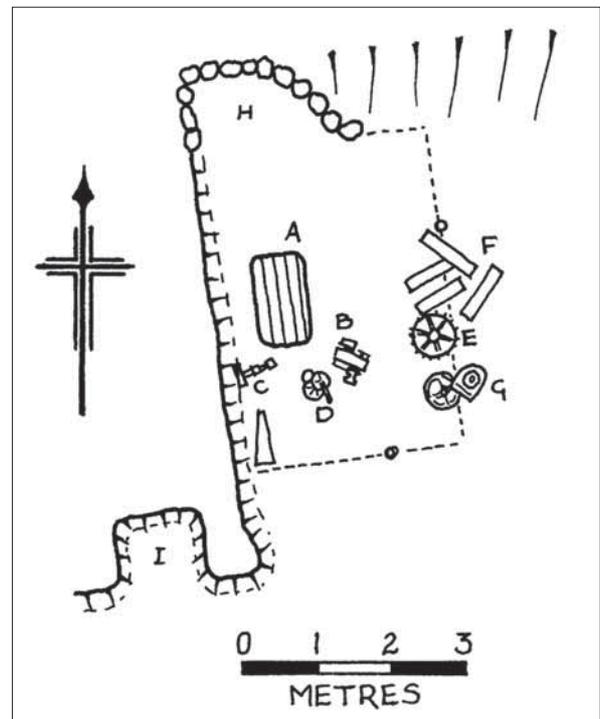


Figure 47. Carrington's hut site. Site D49/77.

The letters in the diagram refer to the following: A = table, B = geared rope winch, C = water pump, D = hand-wound grinding wheel, E = pelton wheel, F = galvanised sheet iron pipes, G = dynamo, H = fireplace, I = tool shed.

Continue to next file: Part 8