

Prospects for placer tin around the Dindings Area, Perak: T. Suntharalingam, Geological Survey of Malaysia, Ipoh, Perak

The Quaternary Geology Division of the Geological Survey of Malaysia have been carrying out systematic mapping of the unconsolidated sediments in the coastal areas of Taiping - Beruas - Lumut, since early 1977. Three stratigraphic units namely the continental Simpang Formation (equivalent to the Old Alluvium of Walker), Gula Formation (a Holocene marine unit) and the continental Beruas Formation (equivalent to the Young Alluvium of Walker) have been delineated in the area.

The thickness of the unconsolidated sediments varies from a few metres in the east to more than 90 metres to the west. Cassiterite occurs in economic quantities only in the lower sand member of the Simpang Formation. Trace or small amounts of tin are found in the Gula and Beruas Formations.

The occurrence of angular cassiterite of more than 200 mesh size (BSS) with the poorly sorted, angular gravels of a variety of rock types have been generally found not far from the granitic hills. Most of these deposits (alluvial and eluvial) are concentrated in small pockets in the granitic margins in river valleys. They have been mined by gravel pump methods.

The study revealed the existence of palaeochannels in the area. The likely prospects are located at Sungei Sepetang, Port Weld, Kampong Matang Pasir (Taiping) and Hutan Simpang Sungei Tinggi (Beruas).
