

All Communications should be addressed SECRETARY FOR MINES. Telephone: F0234.

WF:JC

Dear Mrs. Coulson,

Thank you for your letter

MINES DEPARTMENT,

TREASURY GARDENS.

30th July, 1952.

MELBOURNE, C.2.

of the 18th July.

I am afraid, however, that this Department's records do not include a detailed cover of the first gold discoveries in the Dandenong distric to the extent of mentioning Menzies Creek, Macclesfiel or the names of the miners you have in your letter.

The diggings at Emerald comprised the only area that could be termed a "goldfield", and, indeed, from September 1859 the whole Dandenong field was called the "Emerald goldfield". I am able to verify your date (November 1858) for the discovery of that field and could, should you desire it, supply further information on Emerald that might be of interest to you.

But I am afraid that other discoveries in the locality as a result of spasmodic prospecting have not been officially recorded.

Yours faithfully,

Ren R. Neel Secrifitary.

Mrs. Helen Coulson, 21 Baillie Street, HORSHAM.