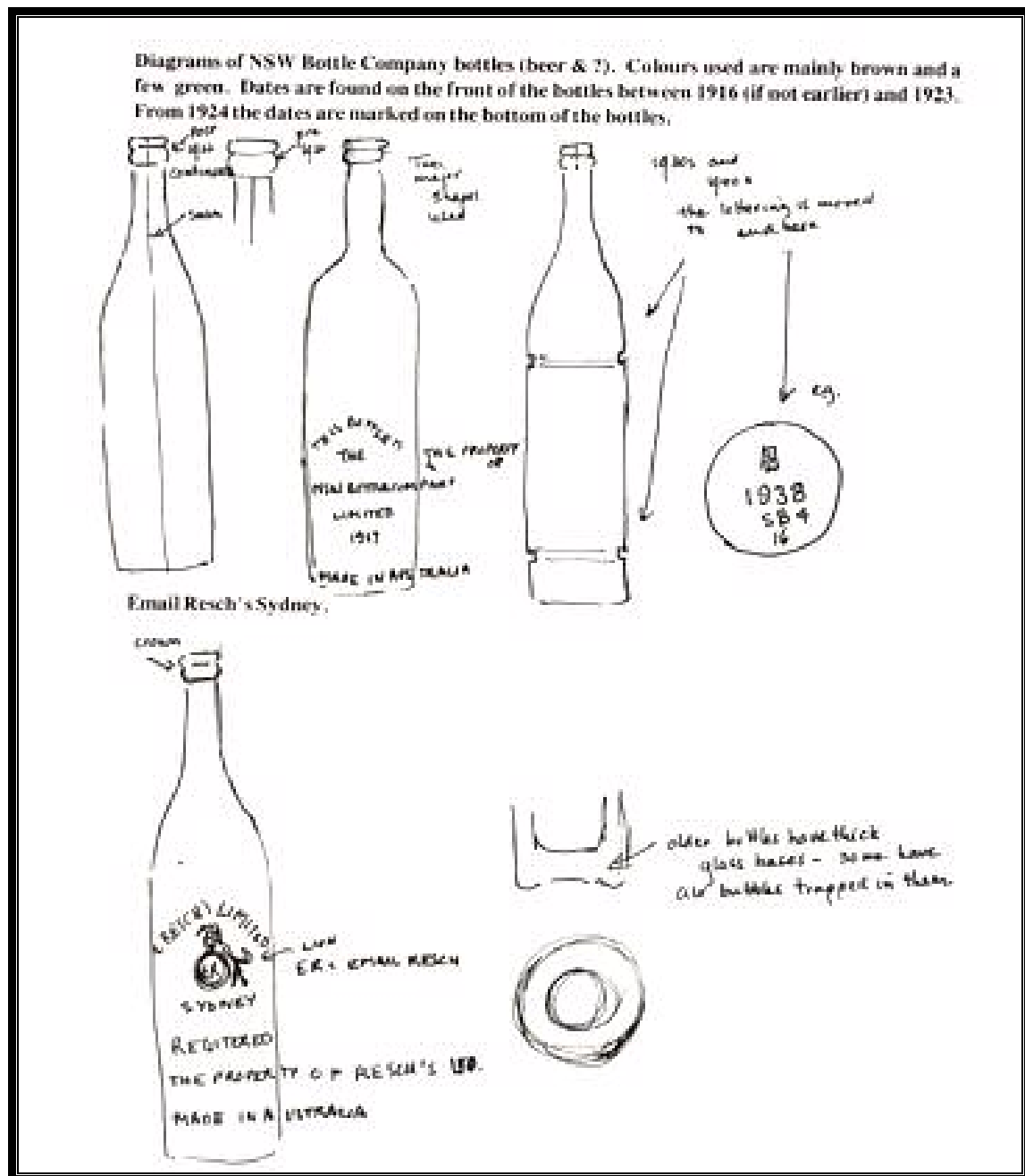


## GLASS, STIRLING PARK BEER & OTHER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BOTTLES.

The majority of broken bottles found in the park that held alcoholic beverages are beer. This was the favoured drink consumed by construction workers and during the period 1913-1928 the major source of this and other alcoholic beverages was Queanbeyan NSW. The territory was dry. The majority of bottles are NSW Bottle Company and Resch bottles. Some from other states including South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia have been found.



The sale of alcohol in the FCT (later ACT) was banned between 1913 and 1928 with the result that alcoholic was brought into the territory by people such as the baker and butcher and the taxi drivers who did a roaring trade carrying both men and alcohol back to the camps and temporary settlements.

Following the opening of parliament in May 1927 the decision was made to allow the people of the territory to vote on whether or not they would permit the return of alcohol to the territory – thus the FCT (now ACT) had its first electoral roll and its first vote. Alcohol returned. This vote took place in 1928.

Hotels had a bar for the men and a ladies lounge for the women. Favoured amongst the ladies was a shandy (half beer and half lemonade) or a sherry. The drinking of hard liquor was considered to be unladylike. I am not sure when 6 0'clock closing was introduced but recall in the early 1960s the hour of closing was extended to 10pm. Pubs were closed on Sundays.

The majority of beer bottles in the dumps in the park are broken. The unbroken ones put in neat piles in the 1920s in the single men's camps were collected by an enterprising bottle-oh from Sydney who made a good profit from his endeavours of collecting the bottles and returning them to Sydney to collect the deposit on each.

As part of the process of identifying bottles I began a collection that over the years I have extended to include examples of beer bottles from most of the Australian States and examples of bottles that held wines and spirits.

The majority of broken beer bottles found in the park are NSW Bottle Company and Email Resch Sydney. A few from other states have been found. My collection of NSW Bottle Company bottles date between 1916 and 1970s. The majority of pieces found in the park date from 1919 to the end of the twenties with smaller numbers that date from the thirties to 1965. The majority of beer bottles are brown in colour. A few are green and during World War 2 a clear glass was also used. Following are some examples including rubbings. The majority of alcohol bottles found in Stirling Park are broken. The following examples of bottles are of the types found in the park. The majority held a liquid 26 and three eighths fluid ounces. In the 1960s the amount was reduced to 26 oz until metric came into being in the mid 60s. The NSW Bottle Co put year dates on their bottles – first on the barrel part of the bottles and later on the base.



Above is a 1924 photograph of the men of No 1 Labourers Camp Westlake (1924-1927). Note the beer bottles carefully arranged in the photograph. The photograph below shows two 1963 beer bottles on the hillside opposite Lotus Bay. They were probably still in the same spot where they were dropped by workers on the way home from the Hotel Canberra to their cottages in Westlake (1924-1965). They are NSW Bottle Company bottles and survived in situ for over forty years. On the next page are details of one of the bottles.





Above 1926 NSW Bottle Company beer bottle base with plate found in the quarry dump (Attunga Point).

The next two photographs are of a base of a beer bottle found on Capital Hill. The source of this bottle is not known. There were camps on Capital Hill from 1909 to 1913. This area was also near Stirling Park – part of the same range of hills – and may have been on the track from camps to work sites (Provisional Parliament House etc). There was also a quarry on Capital Hill that was in use in 1925. The bottles date within the period c1910-1920s.





The base below is a Duff Town bottle – not sure of the content – my guess is whisky. It was found in the Quarry Dump (Attunga Point).



Below are examples of beer bottles found in the dumps in the park.



Above is a photograph of some of the broken glass found in the dumps. The green glass is a NSW Bottle Company beer bottle dated 1920. Just below it in centre foreground is the remains of a glass cake plate.

The next series of photographs show beer bottles of the type found in the area of the park. The majority found are NSW Bottle Company beer bottles and Resch. The majority found have crown seals and are two piece moulds that extend from the base up to the top of the crown (post 1922). Some dated pieces are as early as 1919.



Above is a range of beer bottles from Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. Below left two examples of Manufacturers Bottle Company of Victoria. The one on the left has AGM on the base and M which dates it in the 1920s to 1930 and suggests that the bottle was made in Melbourne. Below right in the centre is a beer bottle with a tiger on the side. This is Richmond NS Brewing Company. On the base is AGM with skirt and a M which dates it 1935. These are from my collection.



[A recent e-bay photograph showed a rare 1930s MBCV bottle that is around 7 and half inches high. The majority of beer bottles are of the size shown above – 26 (and three eights) ounces.





Above second and third from the left are two pick-axe bottles. They were the property of the Adelaide Bottle Co-operative Bottle Company Southwark. The one with the smaller pick-axe motif shown bottom of the bottle second from the left has on its base AGM with an M which dates it in the 1920s and produced in Melbourne. Below is a range of NSW Bottle Company Bottles dating from 1916. The 1916 with 1917 superimposed is second from the left. The clear bottle was a World War 2 bottle.





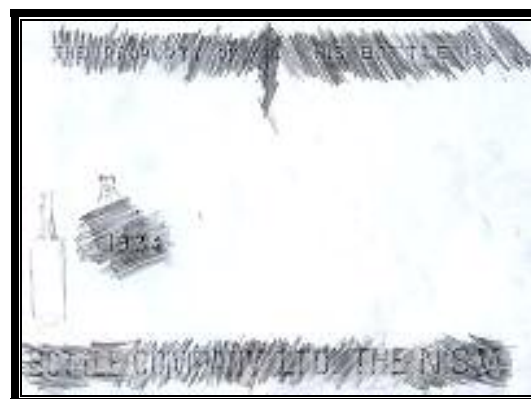


Above: Side view of a few of the NSW Bottle Company Bottles. The one on the far left is a 1930s bottle. Below is another detail of the bottles. The one on the far left below has on the base ZGBW Ltd. This is different to the majority that have either the year or AGM on the base. Zetland Glass Bottle Works Ltd Waterloo 1921-1925. Another researcher mentioned that the Zetland Glass Bottle Works sold out and became part of AGM.

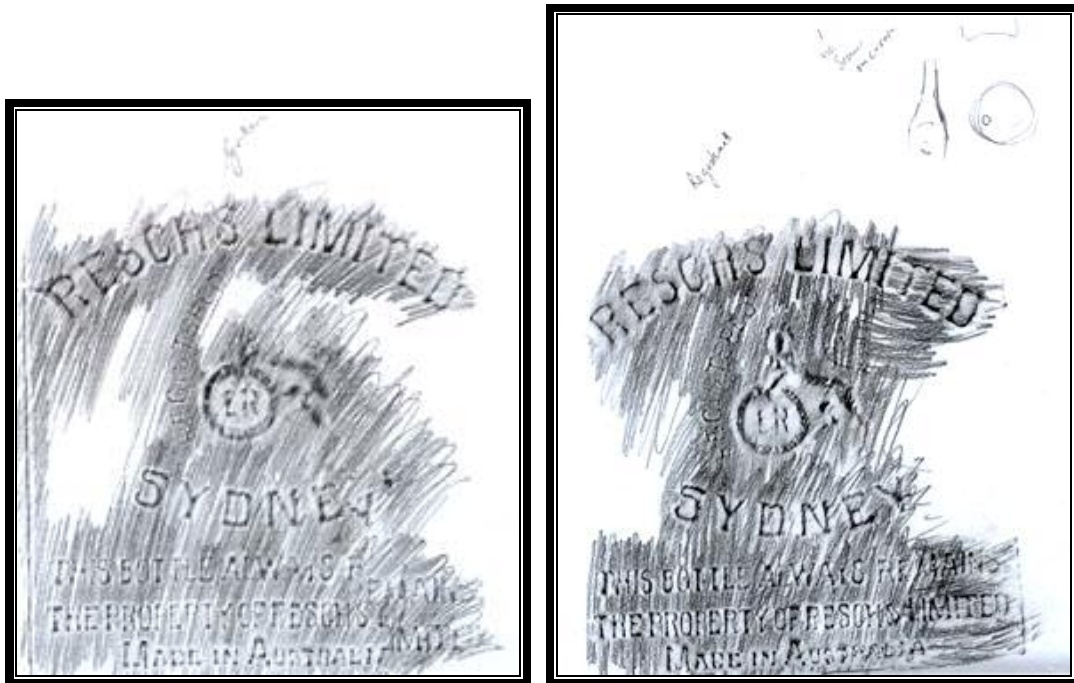




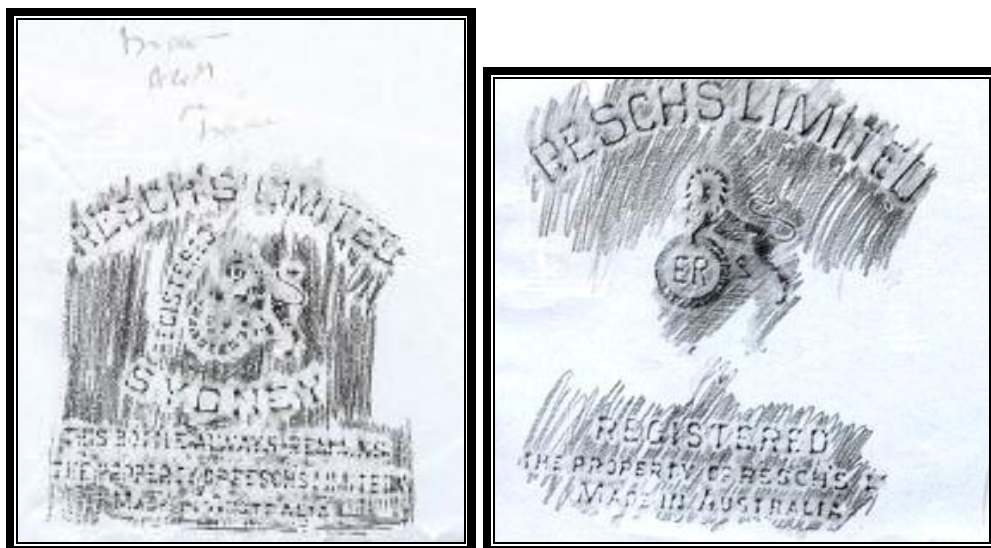
Following are a number of rubbings from the bottles in my collection and photographs of broken bottles dug from dumps. The rubbing below is from one of my collection. It has 1916 with 1917 on top.



The following rubbings are from beer bottles – Resch and NSW Bottle Company bottles which formed the majority of the beer bottles found in the area of the park.



Above and below rubbings from Resch bottles. The majority of these beer bottles are in brown glass. Some green were also produced.



The majority of NSW BOTTLE COMPANY bottles that I have seen are the usual full sized beer bottles that held 26 and three eighths fluid ounces. John Bruggeman, however,



showed me one of his collection that is a small soft drink sized bottle. It is green glass, dated 1919. See next two photographs.



In the background of the above photograph showing John Bruggeman's 1919 bottle is a 1944 NSW Bottle Company bottle dated 1944. Below left & centre are two early Toohey's Beer Bottles. On the right is Toohey's square shouldered 10oz bottle. E-Bay. On the hillside opposite Lotus Bay I found a brown glass Toohey's bottle – crown seal - that is a similar size to the one owned by John Bruggeman.

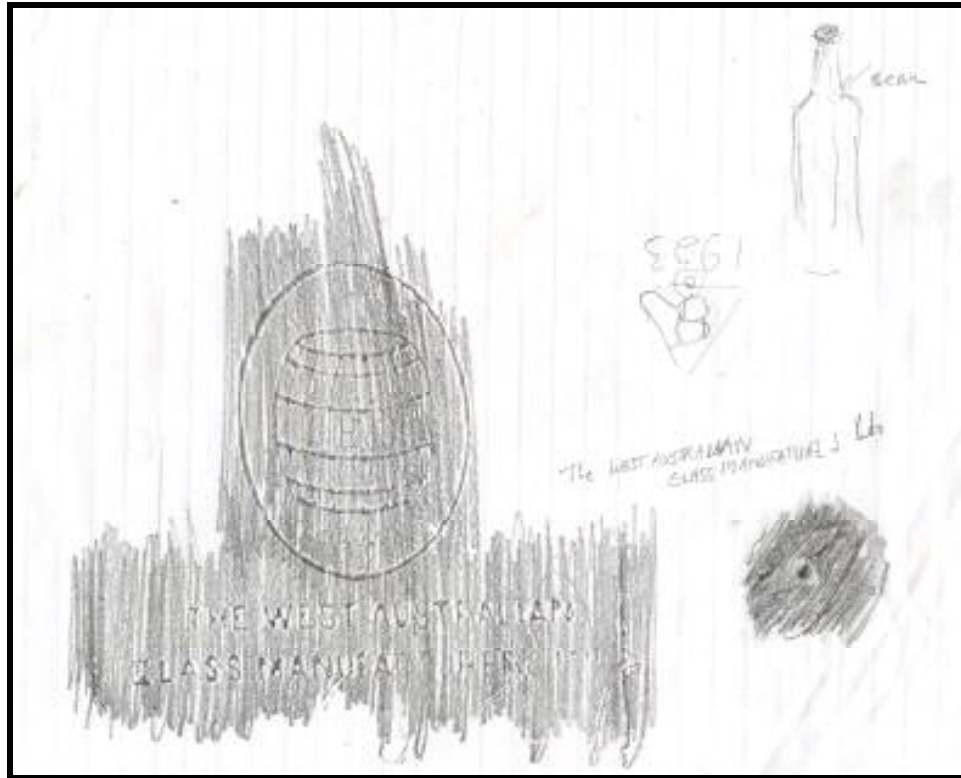






Above is a Swan Lager beer bottle discovered on e-Bay. It is a Perth & Freemantle Bottle Exchange Co Ltd bottle. Below right is a 1923 West Australian Glass Manufacturers Pty Ltd beer bottle that uses the barrel in a circle trade mark similar to the above bottle. In the centre below is a clear NSW Bottle Company beer bottle. The bottle on the far left is a Pick-Me-Up Sauce bottle.





Above is a rubbing taken from the 1923 West Australian bottle.



The above bottle was found hidden in the grass near the site of a Howie's cottage. It is a South Australian Adelaide bottle. The next photograph is of a similar bottle owned by John Bruggeman and below that is a rubbing from the heel of the bottle.

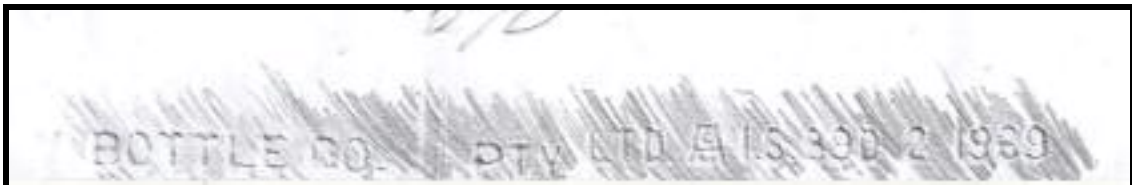


The two bottles above right are beer bottles. They are from the post 1970s? era. These bottles are non returnable ones.





Above is the front of 1922 NSW Bottle Company Bottle and below 1934 base and side of NSW Bottle Company Bottle.



Above is a rubbing from a NSW Bottle Co bottle with the AGM and year on the heel of a brown beer bottle. On the base is a circle of dots thus dating this treatment of the base as



early as 1969. There has also been a recent find of a 1970 bottle with AGM (skirt) on the heel that takes the dating using AGM to that year.



Above is the base of the NSW Bottle Company bottle that has ZGWB on it. This dates the bottle 1921-1925. Below is a photograph of the front of the bottle. Unlike the NSW Bottle Company bottles produced by AGM this bottle does not have a year on the front. It is 7.5 cm across the base and 30 cm tall.

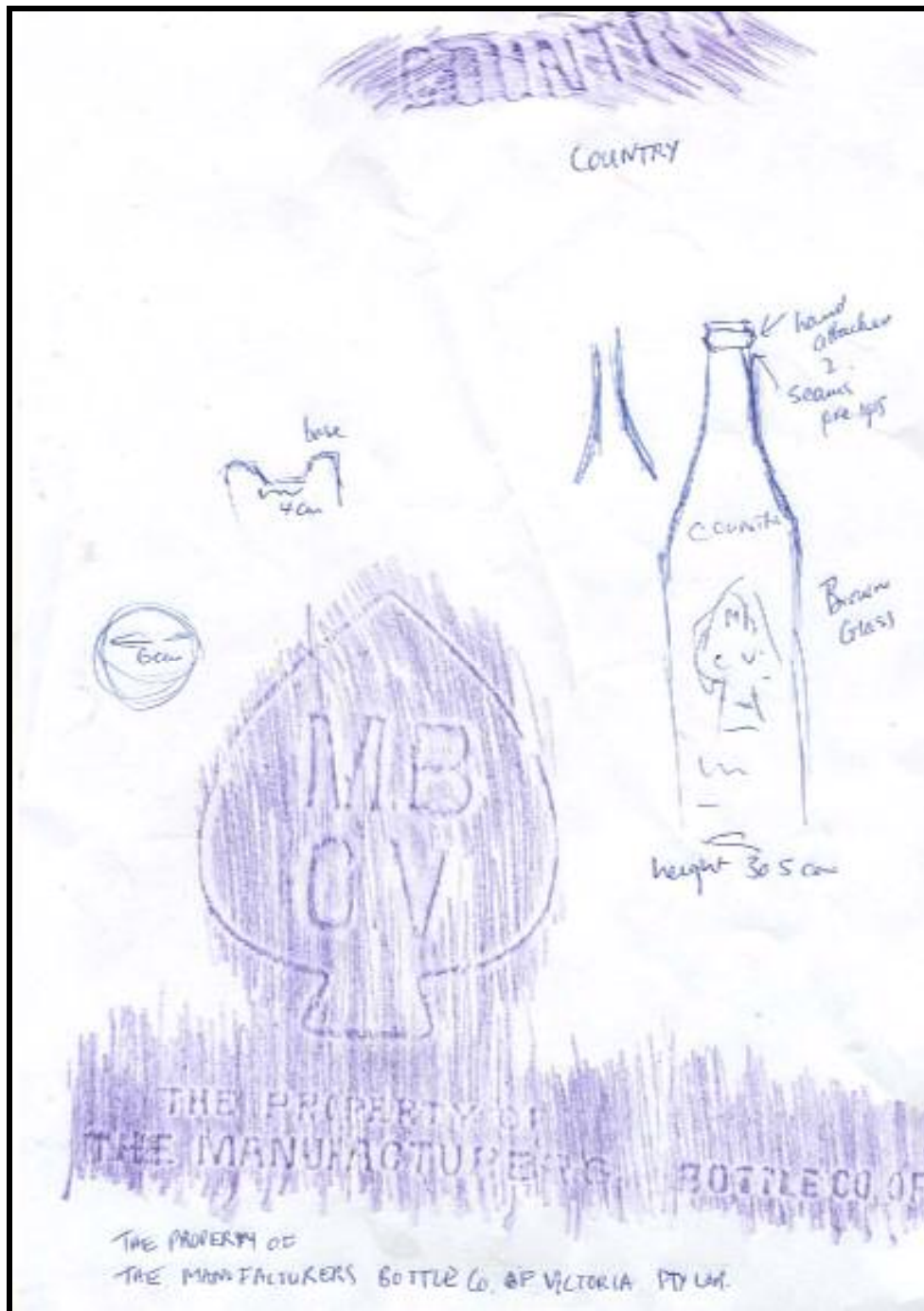


Below is the base and side view of a 1938 NSW Bottle Company beer bottle.



## RUBBINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF BEER BOTTLES FROM OTHER STATES OF AUSTRALIA (1920s-1970s)

MBVC - The Manufacturers Bottle Company Pty Ltd Victoria. The lettering is placed within a spade (cards). Victoria. This bottle has seam lines up to the crown top. This dates it pre-1922.



Above the spade is the word *COUNTRY*. The bottle is quite heavy.



The above are pick-axe bottles 26 oz. The photograph right shows a left and right handed pick-axe. Following is a rubbing from a pick-axe bottle. The firm is Adelaide Bottle Co-operative Company Limited – known as a Pick-Axe. This is a South Australian bottle and the lettering on this bottle differs to the trade mark that is in a small circle. The latter has the same basic information but adds the word – *SOUTHWARK*. My green bottle similar to the one top left in the left side photograph, has a hand turned crown which would date it 1895-1920. The lettering in the oval shape on the front of the bottle on the outer circle states – *THE ADELAIDE BOTTLE CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY LIMITED* and the inner circle lettering states *PICK AXE BRAND TRADE MARK REGd.* Around the base is *THE PROPERTY OF THE ADELAIDE BOTTLE CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY Ltd.* On the base is a 9 or 6.

The next photograph shows the pick-axe motif in a small circle on the heel of the bottle. I have two in my collection showing the smaller motif. One has the sloping shoulders similar to the above bottles and the other has the squarer rounded shoulder. Both have AGM on the base- one has the letters in a straight line and the other curved. One can date the bottles in the 1920s – up to around 1932. One has the letter A on the base and the other M – suggests one was produced in Adelaide and the other in Melbourne? The latter bottle which is quite heavy and is the one with the square rounded shoulders has around the heel – *THIS BOTTLE IS THE PROPERTY OF THE ADELAIDE BOTTLE CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY LIMITED SOUTHWARK.* It also has a 7 on the heel.

I have another pick-axe beer bottle that has the small pick-axe motif in a circle that is placed on the shoulder of the bottle.



Above right is a photograph of the pick-axe small motif on the heel of the bottle. On the left is a photograph of the pick-axe small motif on the shoulder of the bottle. Below right is a green pick-axe bottle similar to the one that I own. On the left is a Resch bottle.





Below Pick-Axe bottle with trade mark on heel. THIS BOTTLE IS THE PROPERTY OF THE ADELAIDE CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY LIMITED SOUTHWARK. The number 7 is also on the heel near the pick-axe trade mark in the circle. On the base is AGM 17 A287. This bottle is quite heavy and is dated in the 1920s up to the early 1930s. I think that the trademark shown in the earlier photographs on the previous page may be the from the teen years up into the 1920s? The smaller circle trade mark seems to have been used up until recent times.



Another beer bottle with what looks like a big S or two lazy S curves on the base – no trademark for pick-axe – has around the heel THIS BOTTLE IS THE PROPERTY OF THE SOUTHERN BOTTLE CO LTD ADELAIDE. It is not a pick-axe but is another Adelaide bottle.

A recent trip to the Tanami Desert where a number of Pick-Axe bottles were found may be dated up to 1954 end of the Korean War or perhaps the year later.

*Details from my Diary Tanami Desert Trip 13-26.8.05*

*After lunch we took a car ride to Hatches Mine. Gold was mined in the area from the late 1800s. However gold was not of great importance in the area and it was Wolderstone (sp) (Tungsten) that was mined during the period of World War 1. Following the end of the war the mine closed and re-opened in the 1940s (World War 2). The mine continued in use until the end of Korean War (1954).*



*Found a big pile of beer bottles – see below. Dotted around the site were numerous other similar bottles, both whole and broken along with a few stubbies. The ones below are all Pick-Axe bottles and have different marks on the bases – PX; ISM; A etc. Because the mine closed in 1954 it is likely that these bottles may be dated no later than that year.*



Below is a detail of the pile showing the pick-axe bottles all from South Australia. A number of the bottles have the pick-axe trade mark in the circle on the shoulder of the bottle with PX on the base. Others have the pick-axe trade mark in the circle on the heel. Another has the AGM skirt with ISM below it and a number below that. All have the THIS BOTTLE ALWAYS REMAINS THE PROPERTY OF ADELAIDE CO-



OPERATIVE BOTTLE COMPANY LIMITED SOUTHWARK. Some of the bottles are a dark brown – see top second from the left.





The example above bottle is of one found in the pile of pick-axe bottles. It has a small circle with numbers that would have identified the year and place where the bottle was made? Similar marks have been found on some of the stubbies in the area. Others found in the area had the AGM with skirt.

Additional photographs of the bottles in the big pile. Note the thickness of the broken glass. All the bottles have a crown seal top.





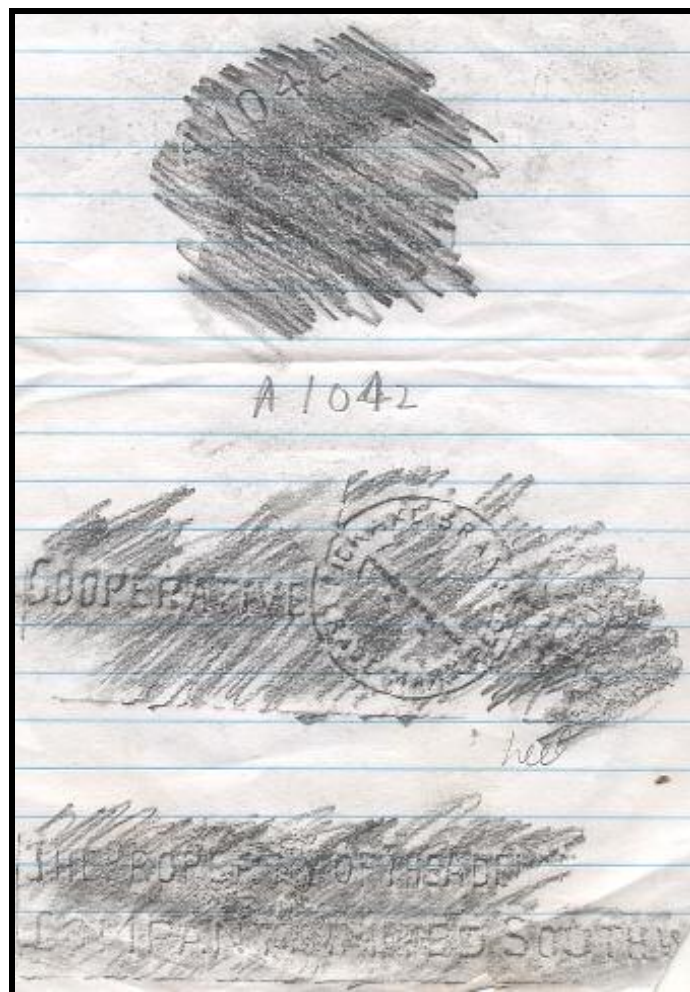








Above is a stubby found at the mine site. Next photograph shows a rubbing from one of the broken beer bottles found on the site. The circle trade mark is on the heel. The base has the letter A followed by the numbers 1042.





A few more Pick-Axe bottles were found at Native Gap. Following are a few details of those bottles.





Below and next photograph shows the bases of two of the bottles found in Native Gap. The PX mark on the base was also found on bottles at the mine site.





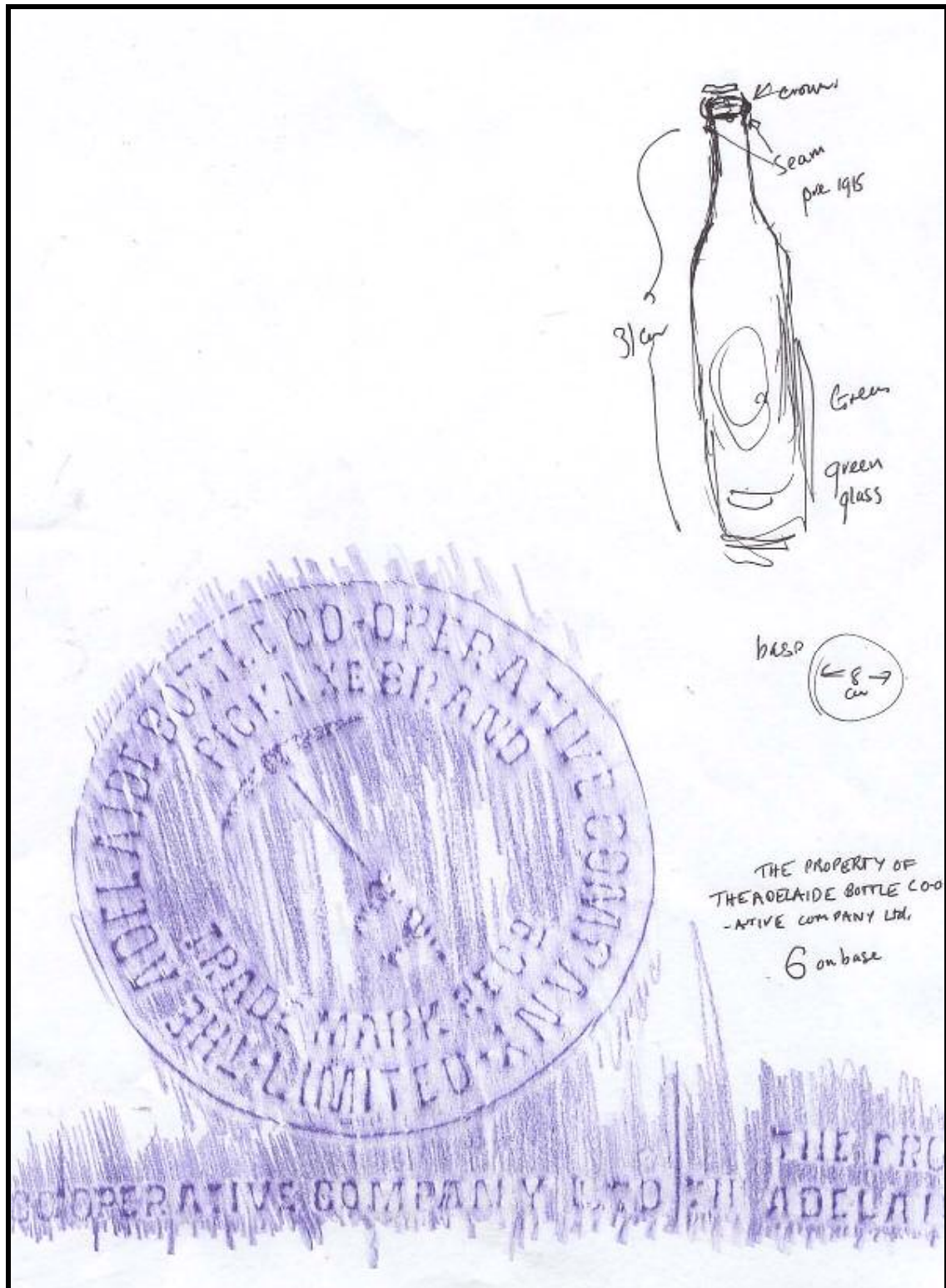


Above are examples of the lettering on the heel of the bottles.

Next series of photographs details of a small pick-axe beer bottle. On the shoulder is the word *RETURNABLE* and on the heel – *PROPERTY OF THE ADELAIDE BOTTLE CO P/L*. There are also a series of 8 dots with different spacing in between. This bottle like the other small beer bottle is from the period (from memory) of the 70s-80s – or later.







Above is a rubbing from my green bottle that may be dated pre 1920.



Above is a rubbing and a photograph of Tasmania Bottle Company Co Ltd beer bottle - TASMA. Several fragments of this type of bottle have been found.

One bottle of this brand and bottle manufacturer was put up for sale. See below.







In the centre is the tiger brand shown above – Richmond NS Brewing Co Pty Ltd. The embossed tiger is unusual. It usually has the letters *RBR* embossed. Below centre is the bottle with the tiger embossed near the shoulder.

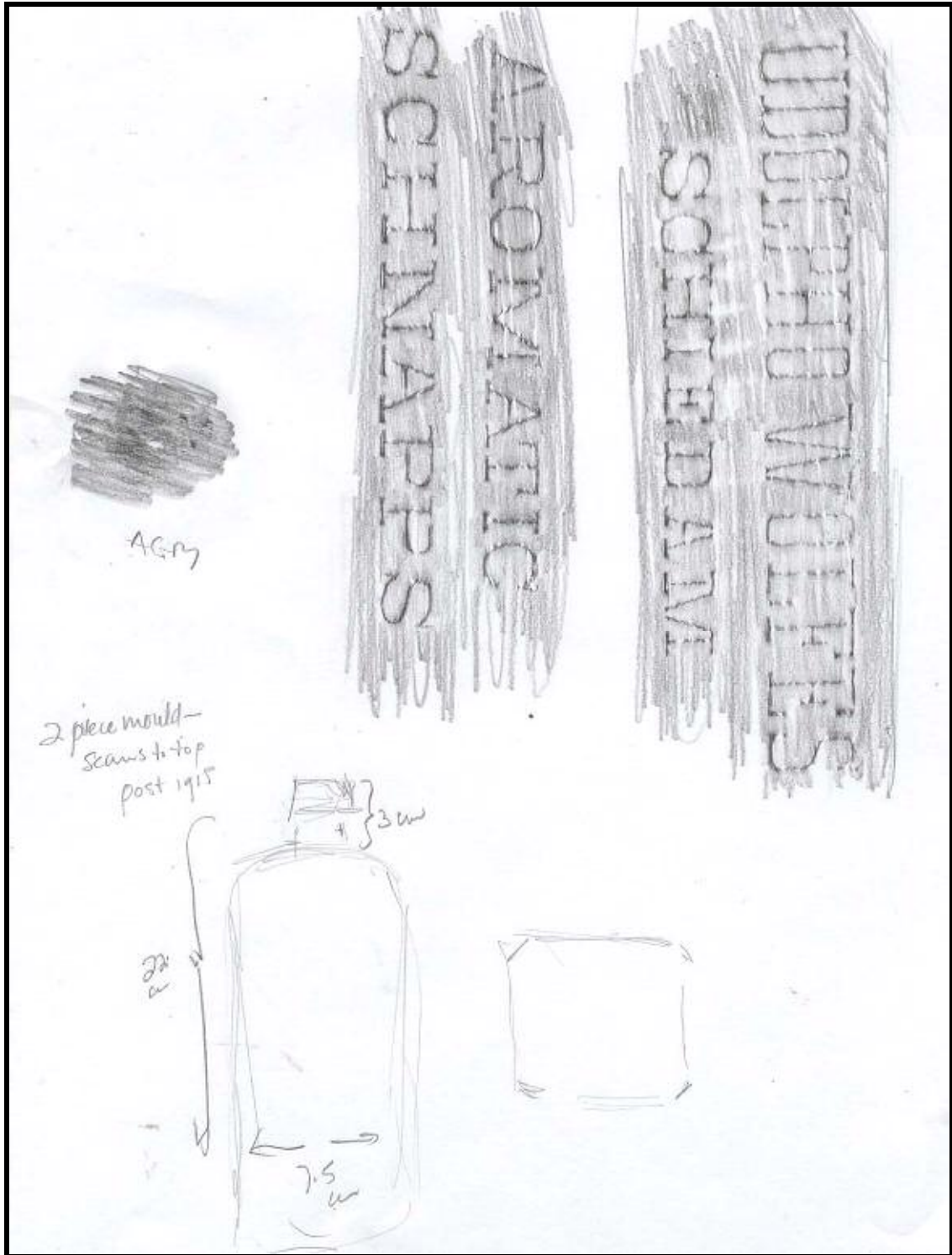


### **WINE, WHISKY, RUM, BRANDY, SCHNAPPS...**

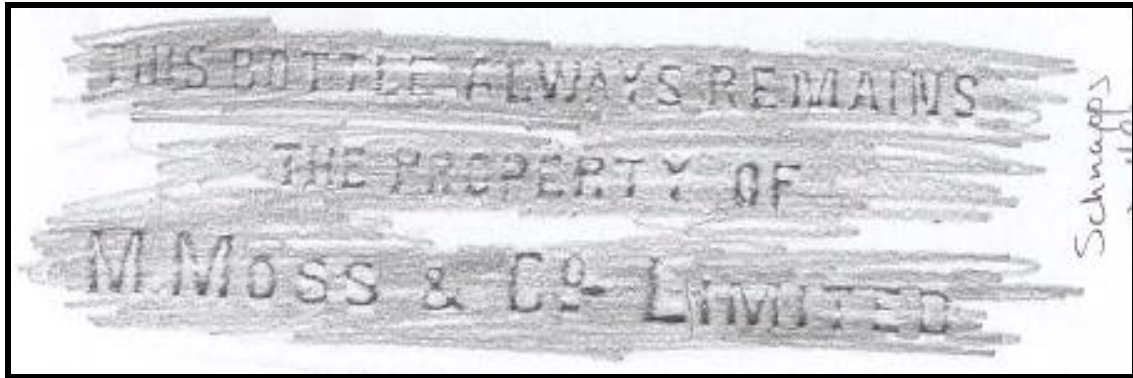
In the quarry dump (1924-1925) a few Schnapps bottles have been found. This dump was used by the Hotel Canberra and Contractor John Howie. The rarity of the Schnapps bottles suggests that it was not a common drink used by all – in contrast to the numbers of beer bottles found. One unbroken bottles was at the bottom of the dump some two and half metres below the current level of the earth. Below are photographs of one of these green bottles.



There are a number of brands for this product. On the next page are rubbings from one other bottles.







Below is a photograph of Schnapps bottles for sale on e-Bay (June 05). It shows a label on a Wolfe's Schnapps bottle.



### **WINE, SHERRY & BRANDY**

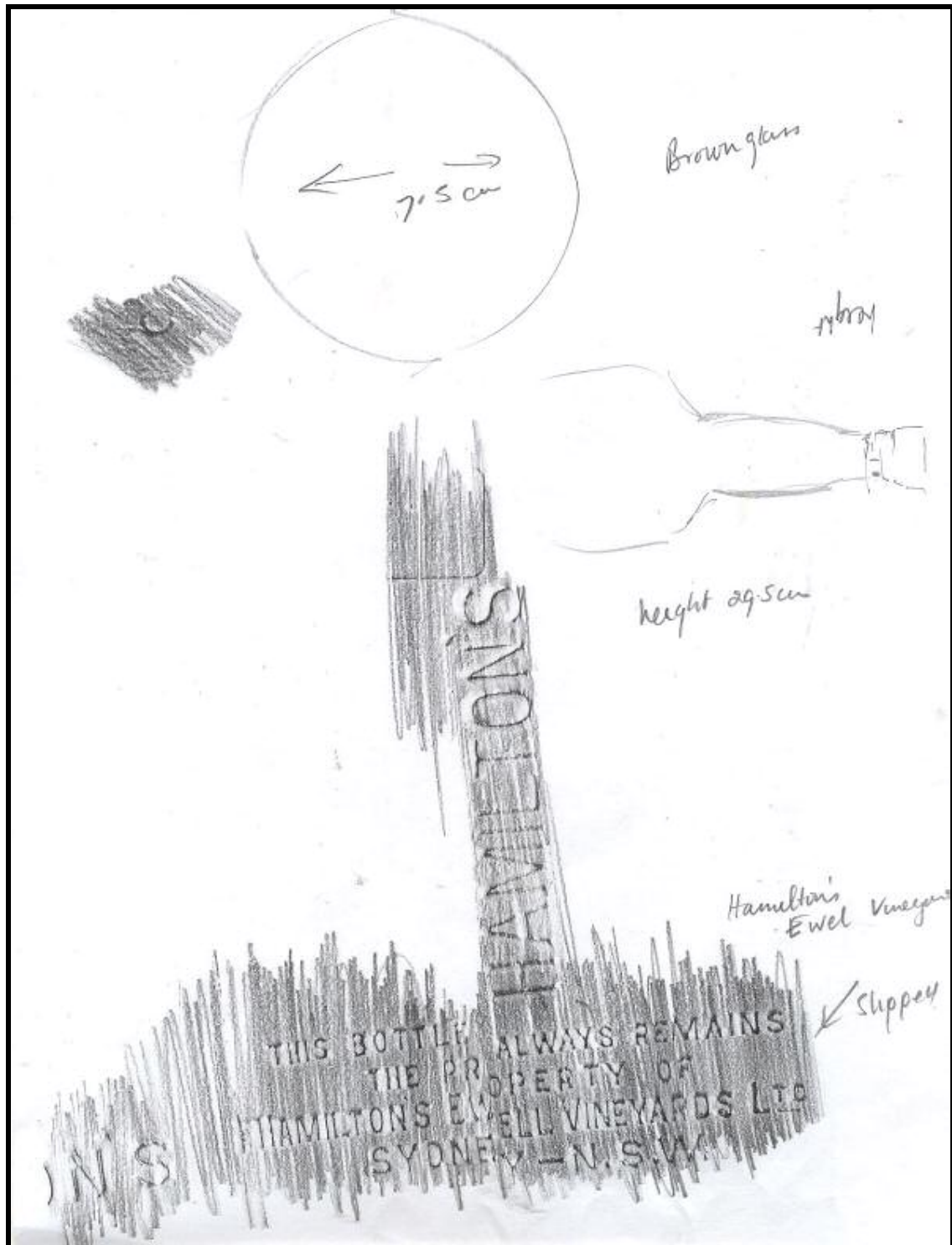
In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century there were a number of wine shops in the cities. Wine was not a common drink used by working class people. Men generally preferred beer as a common drink. The wine bottles found in the park are few in number and the majority are broken. Some have labels still adhering. A few wine bottles belonging to the thirties and post World War 2 era have been found on the hillsides of Stirling Park.

A number of brands of wine have been found. A few of the Penfold Bottles still have parts of labels attached. Other bottles found are McWilliam's and Hamilton's Ewel Vineyard Ltd. The former has on the base an AGM with skirt, N, and IS which dates it post 1947. The N according to the details given re dating by AGM should be 1936. Both bottles had cork to seal in the contents and both are the 26 oz size. The bottle third from the left in the following photograph is the Hamilton's Ewel bottle and next to it is the McWilliams.

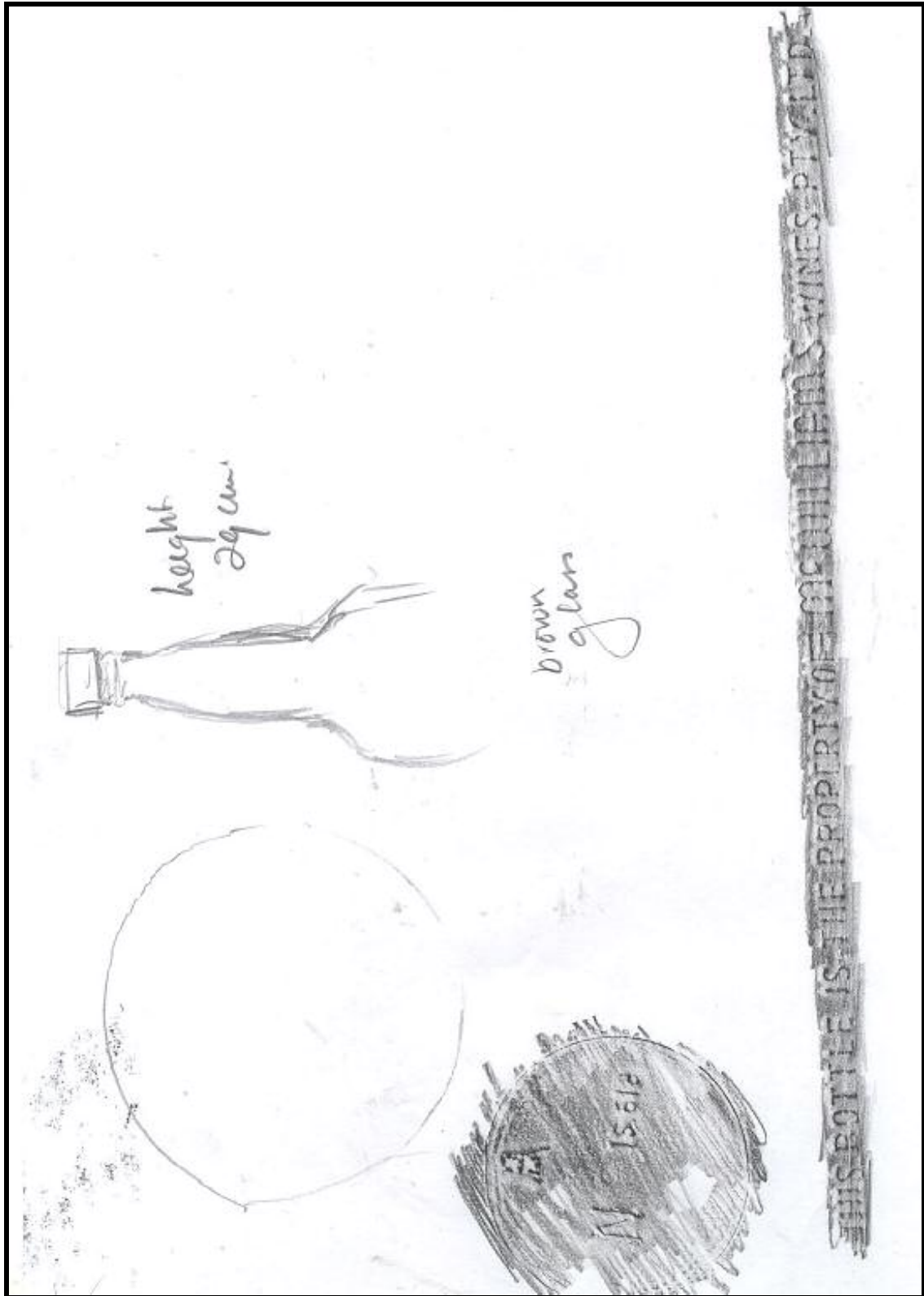


Below centre is a 3 Star Brandy bottle found in the park. It still has part of the label showing.



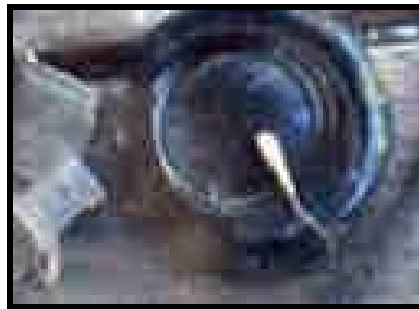






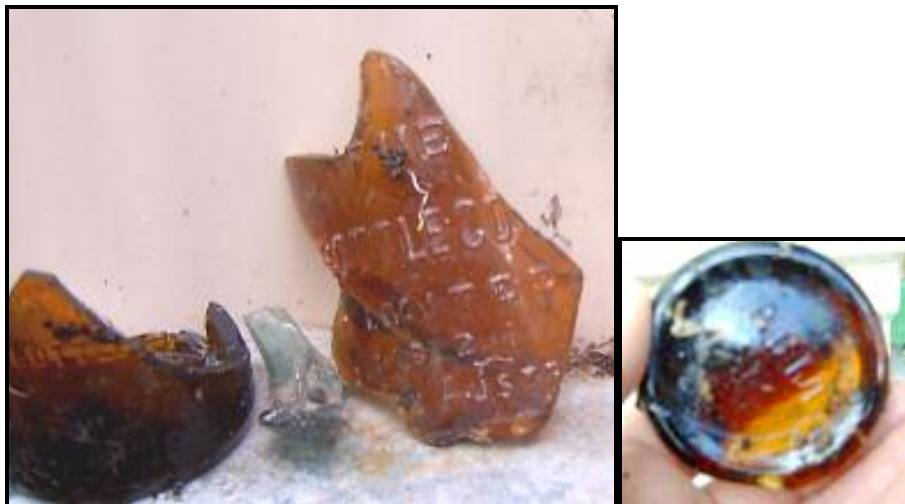


Above left is a wine bottle found in the park. The next four photographs show the heel and base of a Penfold's wine bottle.





Below are details of two small bottles that were Penfold Wine bottles. Both have AGM on their bases. One has larger letters on the heel than the other. Each of the bases measures 6 cm across.



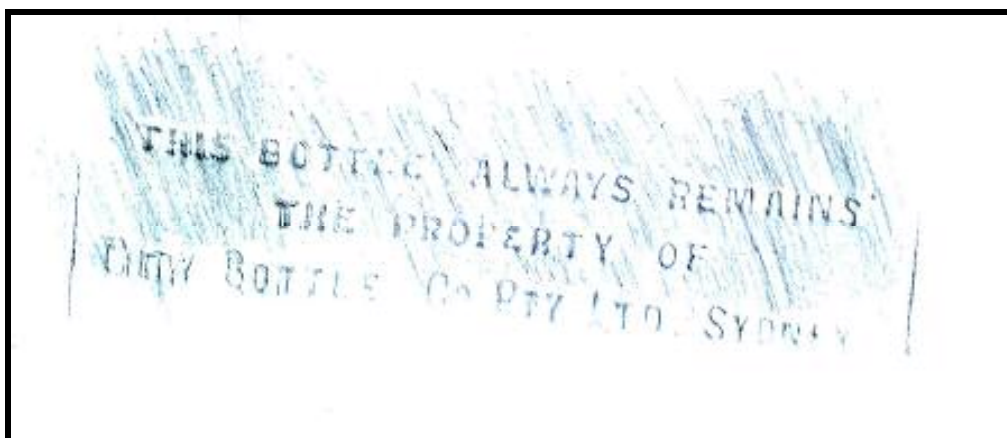
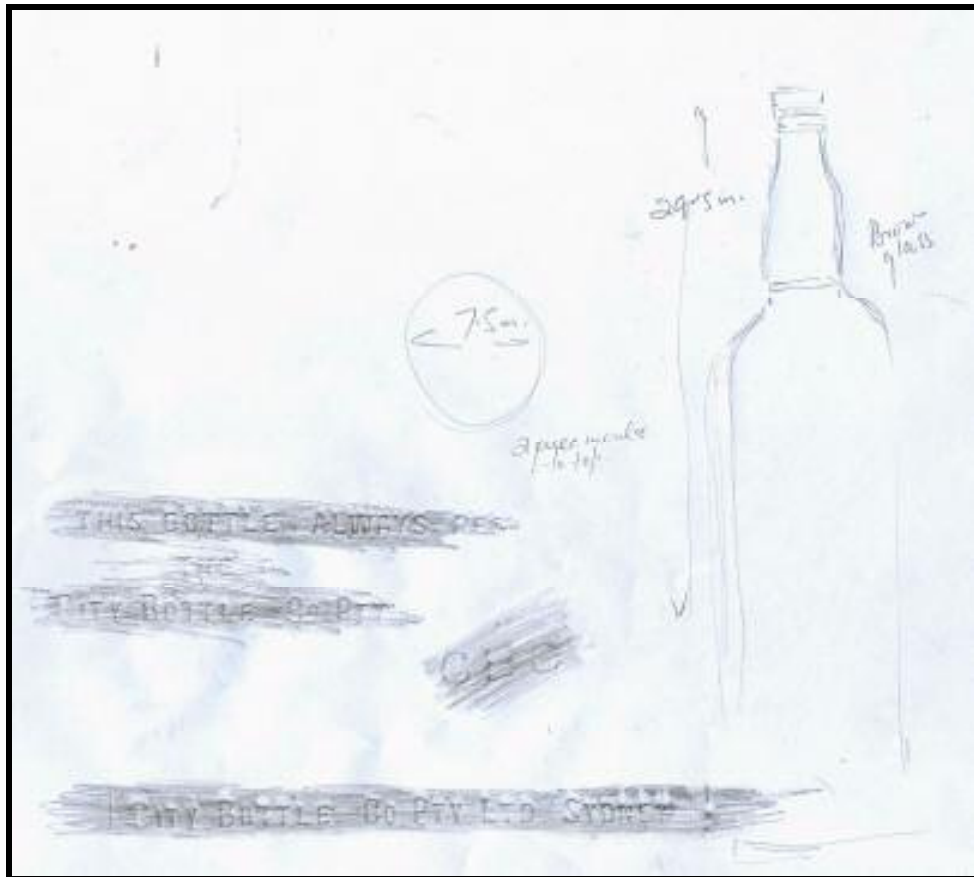
Above photograph on the left shows the Penfold's wine broken bottle on the left hand side and the photograph on the right shows the base of that bottle. The lettering that can be read – *THIS BOTTLE ALWAYS REMAINS THE PROPERTY OF PENFOLDS WINES PTY LTD.*



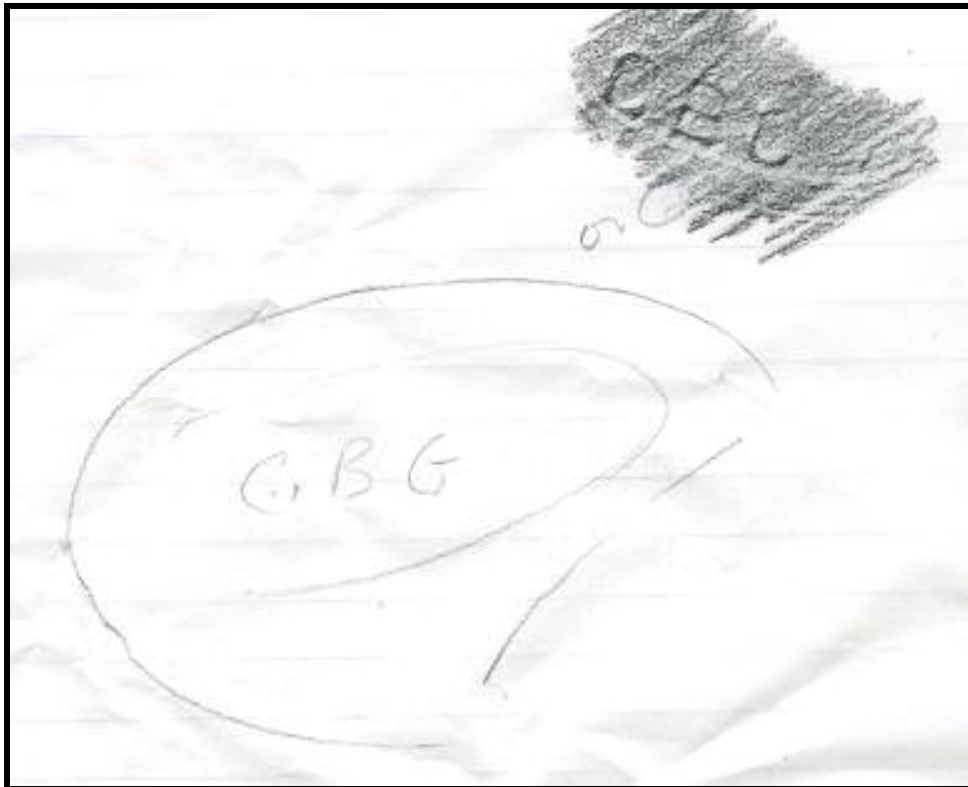
## WHISKY & OTHER

The next series of rubbings are from City Bottle Company Pty Ltd Sydney. One found is of the type that usually contained wines and the second a flask of the style that usually contained whisky or brandy.

Whisky bottles come in a variety of shapes. This next bottle shown may or may not be whisky, but is included here because one is of the shape used for whisky.



Above lettering belonging to the cylindrical shaped brown bottle and next - lettering etc that belonged to the flask shaped brown bottle.



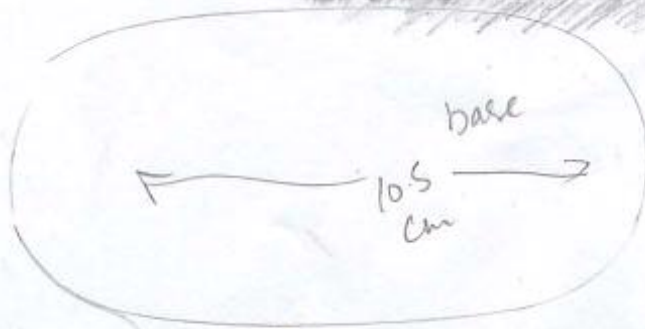
White Label  
DISTILLED IN SCOTLAND

PROPERTY OF  
JOHN DEWAR & SONS LTD

AP'S



DEVIAP'S Reverse

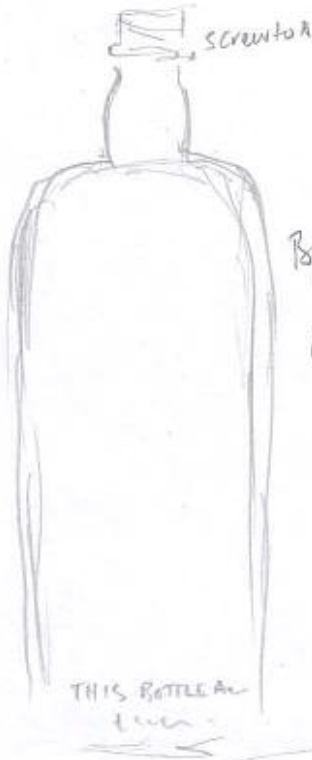


brown glass  
↑  
26 cm  
seams to top



~~THE PROPERTY OF  
TOOHEY'S LTD SYDNEY~~

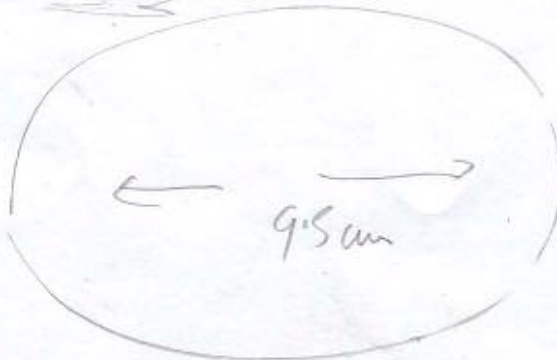
BOTTLE ALWAYS REMAINS  
THE PROPERTY OF  
TOOHEY'S LTD SYDNEY



height  
26.5 cm

Brown  
glass  
Nos on base  
hard to  
read  
with X on  
vhs

THIS BOTTLE AL-  
even



9.5 cm



Above are three photographs of a Toohey's Ltd bottle found in the park. It probably held spirits. The next three photographs show the base of a broken Dewhurst & Halloran

Ltd. On the base which is 11cm across by 6.4 cm is AGM. The glass varies in thickness but is around .5 cm thick.

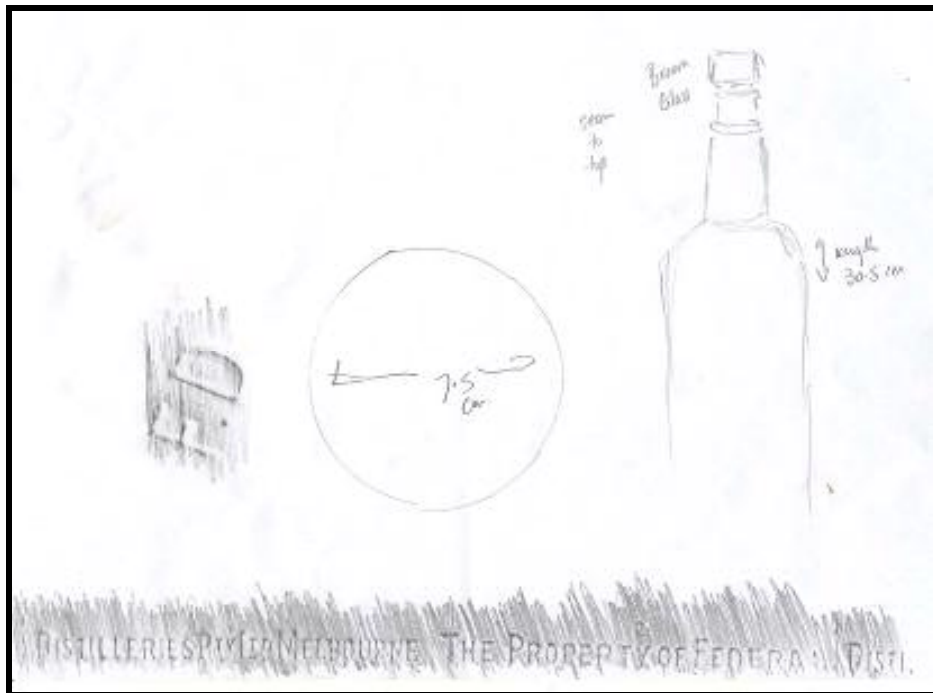






Below two old Johnnie Walker whisky bottle from e-Bay. I have seen another similar to the bottle on the right that is blue in colour and has 1913 on the base.





Above is a rubbing from a bottle that probably contained whisky.



Above are details of a *FEDERAL DISTILLERIES Pty Ltd MELBOURNE* bottle and the next photograph shows a detail of the top of the bottle.



Below is a piece of a whisky bottle found in The Quarry Dump.



Below details of tall green bottle that may have held wine or champagne.







Above left is Gilbey's Gin; centre a Brandy Bottle and right London Gordon's Gin (post World War 2), London England side view. The next photograph shows front view of the Gordon's Gin. Next to it is a Tucker's Bottle (sauce).



Above are the Gordon Dry Gin, London, England; Tucker's and a small jar.

A Harbottlealsop & Co brown bottle was found in the Quarry Dump. It is also broken and distorted in shape by fire. It has a concave curve on its base and a pontil mark. On the right above is a photograph of the base of a Harbottlealsop & Co bottles, Sydney. What liquid this bottle contained was not known until I came across a whole bottle on e-Bay.



Above is the e-Bay Harbottlealsop & Co Sydney. It contained rum and is pre-1922. It is 36cm in height and 7cm across the base.

Below are photographs of a base of a bottle. The glass is black and the lettering that remains show it to be a Resch bottle. On the base is a cross with B on the left side of the cross and 2 on the other. Again, e-Bay answered the question of what the unbroken bottle was like. The photograph bottom right below shows this bottle. As well as having the usual trade mark of the lion etc also embossed on the bottle is *THE PROPERTY RESCH'S LTD MADE IN AUSTRALIA* is on the front of the bottle and on the base is the X mark shown in the broken bottle. The seam line does not go to the top of the bottle thus dating it pre 1922. The height of the bottle is 31cm and 7.5 across the base. The bottom of the base is rased.







Above 1925 NSW Beer Bottle base. Below left AGM monogram on bottle base found on Capitol Hill and right AGM in straight line.





Above are a few examples of bottles found in The Quarry Dump. Below are a number of bottle bases, button and a clear glass Pick-Me-Up Sydney bottle base.





Above is a portion of a blob top bottle that is aqua in colour. Below are pieces of glass found in The Quarry Dump. On the left is a portion of a green beer bottle and next to it a codd (marble) and next a top of bottle that may have held perfume.

