

Mt Wheeler Nugget's

TELEGRAPHIC. (1869, July 16). *The Brisbane Courier* (Qld. : 1864-1933), p. 2. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1290917>

ROCKHAMPTON

July 15

A nugget was brought to the Union Bank this morning from Mount Wheeler, Cawarral diggings, where it was found one foot from the surface. It weighs 258 ozs. 11 dwts., and is all gold.

The 258 ozs nugget was found by a boy named Cadden, who was working with his father.

Another nugget, weighing 180 ozs, was found in an adjoining claim, by a boy named Luckman, and, with the other, has been lodged in the Union Bank.

Both of the nuggets were found just under the grass.

ROCKHAMPTON. (1869, July 16). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842-1954), p. 5. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article13185346>

ROCKHAMPTON.

THURSDAY.

A nugget was brought into the Union Bank, this morning, from Mount Wheeler, Cawarral; it was found one foot from the surface, and contains 258 ounces 11 dwts. pure gold. This splendid nugget was discovered by a boy named Cadden, working with his father. Another nugget was found just underground, in an adjoining claim, by a lad named Luckman, weighing 180 ounces, and also placed in the Bank.

Latest by Telegraph. (1869, July 17). *The Queenslander* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866-1939), p. 5. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article20325007>

The remains of Troopers Power and Cahill have arrived in town. A public funeral will be accorded them on Sunday next. The monument will be erected over the grave in the cemetery.

July 15.

A nugget was brought to the Union Bank this morning from Mount Wheeler, Cawarral diggings, where it was found one foot from the surface. It weighs 258 ozs. 11 dwts., and is all gold. The 258 ozs. nugget was found by a boy named Cadden, who was working with his father. Another nugget, weighing 180 ozs., was found in an adjoining claim, by a boy named

Luckman; and, with the other, has been lodged in the Union Bank. Both of the nuggets were found just under the grass.

July 16. Gold was struck on Tuesday last in No. 1 east, Spencer's reef, Crocodile. Since then ten pounds weight of gold has been taken out of the claim.

A rush has set in to Mount Wheeler. The Sydney steamers have taken one thousand four hundred and seventy ounces of gold this week. A large funeral procession took place yesterday, on the occasion of the interment of the remains of Power and Cahill. One thousand persons were at the grave.

IMPORTANT GOLD DISCOVERIES! (1869, July 17). *Rockhampton Bulletin and Central Queensland Advertiser* (Qld. : 1861-1871), p. 2. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51576185>

IMPORTANT

GOLD DISCOVERIES!

This week has been a memorable one for Rockhampton. It becomes our pleasant duty to chronicle the discovery of two monster nuggets at Mount Wheeler, Cawarral. The first nugget was found on Wednesday by a boy, aged twelve, the son of a man named Cadden, who was well known as an upholsterer here. Cadden has been employed for the last twelve months in keeping a store at Cawarral township for Mr. Sharples, grocer, of Rockhampton.

He has only recently taken up the claim at Mount Wheeler. He got about £20 worth of gold from the claim before the big nugget was found, mostly of small gold. The end of the claim, where the nugget was found, runs in like a wedge between two other claims. The boy was working in his father's claim, and struck something hard with his pick, which turned out to be a nugget of pure gold, weighing 258ozs. 11 dwts. The boy did not appear to be very much excited when he saw the nugget. He attempted to lift it, and failed to do so; a man looking on went after Mr. Cadden. When he came he proposed that they should take it off directly to the township, but the boy very coolly said he would like to finish that piece of ground first. He evidently had an eye to business, and did not wish to leave any nuggets behind. Mr. Cadden waited until sundown, and then brought the nugget in with two other men.

It is rather peculiar looking in shape, oblong, and slightly curved. It is about nine inches long and three or four inches broad. It presents a very jagged appearance, a few particles of quartz adhering to it. From the shallow depth at which it was found and the appearance of the nugget, we should suppose it had only recently broken away from a reef and rolled down the side of the mountain. It is a note-worthy fact that it was not resting on a rock, but on alluvial just covered by the grass. This was brought into the Union Bank early on Thursday morning. The Bank advanced £3 12s an ounce on it, but with some security, believing the advance they made about the Mint value. It is very good looking gold, and from being in a mass it will probably fetch a better price than the fine alluvial.

This nugget was found just within the boundary of Cadden's claim. The second nugget was found about ten or eleven o'clock on Thursday morning, only six inches from the first, but in an adjoining claim, owned by Luckman, whose son, a boy about sixteen, was working in the claim with his pick. Both nuggets were found on a little ridge at the foot of Mount Wheeler.

The second is somewhat similar in appearance to the other, but not so long, and of a darker colour. It weighs 179ozs. 14dwts., making, with the other, 438ozs. 5dwts. This nugget, though not so clean outside, is supposed to be of equal value per ounce. Though so close together, there was no dispute as to ownership. The boundary line clearly separated both. Luckman had a small fruit shop in Quay-Lane some time ago. Before the discovery of the nugget he had been working his claim about a fortnight, and making a bare living. There are about six claims at Mount Wheeler doing very well, and a number of others only making tucker. We have heard exaggerated reports of the richness of some of the claims, but we have no authentic information beyond what we gave on Thursday morning, and what we now supply.

All the alluvial gold found at Mount Wheeler, in common with these nuggets, is of a deep colour, similar in appearance to the Morinish, Ridglands, and Stoney Creek gold, whilst all the reefs tested in the neighbourhood of Mount Wheeler contain gold of a very pale colour, which fetches an inferior price, owing to the admixture of sulphides. This alluvial proves that there must be a different class of reefs to any yet discovered there. The presence of small quantities of quartz in the nuggets would seem to prove that they came from a reef, and were not formed by depositions from meteoric waters, according to a theory propounded by Mr. Daintree.

The nuggets were shipped on Thursday evening by the "Saxonia" for Sydney. The total value of both nuggets, supposing them to fetch £3 12s. per ounce, is £1578. We have it on good authority that not less than £3000 worth of gold, including the crushing's from the machines, has come from Cawarral this week. Mr. Wilder has taken a photograph of the two nuggets they are laid together in pyramid shape on a white ground, and their points are well shown. The largest of the nuggets looks like a shaggy terrier with his fore paws resting on the shorter nugget. The idea of photographing these nuggets is a good one, and no doubt Mr. Wilder will have a ready sale for the photographs.

There has been an important find also at the Crocodile during the week. In No 1 East, Simpson's Reef, situated at the head of Gavial Creek, nearly at the top of the mountain, gold was struck on Tuesday last.

TELEGRAPHIC. (1869, July 20). *The Brisbane Courier* (Qld. : 1864-1933), p. 2.
Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1291267>

ROCKHAMPTON.

July 19.

A nugget of twenty-six ounces, and two others weighing together thirty ounces, were brought in from Mount Wheeler on Saturday evening. Captain Hunter was there on Saturday, and saw sixteen pounds weight of gold in the hands of one miner, and on Sunday morning saw fourteen pounds belonging to another digger.

Young Cadden has found another nugget weighing two and a half pounds. The diggers on the ground are stated to be doing very well.

MINING NEWS. (1869, September 2). *Rockhampton Bulletin and Central Queensland Advertiser* (Qld. : 1861-1871), p. 2. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51576522>

We are informed that Cosgrove took out a pound weight of gold from two dishes of stuff last week, at Mount Wheeler. His claim lies above Cadden's, and has proved very rich.

ROCKHAMPTON GOLD NUGGETS. (1903, September 22). *Morning Bulletin* (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878-1954), p. 4. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article52996182>

ROCKHAMPTON GOLD NUGGETS.

The discovery of gold slugs at the Dee rush has caused considerable controversy in the district as to the weight of the largest nuggets found in the district. The largest of which there is any record was one found at Mount Wheeler in July, 1869, by young Cadden, which weighed 258 oz. 11 dwt. It contained a little quartz. A few inches away, on the following day, young Luckman found another nugget weighing 179 oz. 14 dwt. In September, 1870, Hannon and Burke found a nugget of pure gold at Rosewood weighing 97 oz. 12 dwt.

Other large nuggets were also found at Rosewood, and possibly one larger than that referred to. In August, 1857, Edward Longstaff found a nugget at Raglan which weighed 56 oz. when cleaned from dirt, and quartz.

WEEKLY EPITOME. (1869, July 24). *The Brisbane Courier* (Qld. : 1864-1933), p. 5. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1291614>

A rush has set in to Mount Wheeler, fifteen miles from Rockhampton.

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Nuggets weighing respectively twenty and thirty ounces have been brought into Rockhampton from Mount Wheeler. Young Cadden, the finder of a large lump last week, has since found a piece weighing two and a half pounds.

THE ROCKHAMPTON GOLD-FIELDS. (1869, August 2). *The Brisbane Courier* (Qld. : 1864-1933), p. 3. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1292265>

THE ROCKHAMPTON GOLD-FIELDS.

THE Bulletin of Tuesday states that the news from Mount Wheeler is not very important Cadden, and one or two other parties on the ridge, are getting good gold and doing well, but the majority of the diggers are idle, not being disposed to undertake the drainage of the flat.

A considerable number of diggers are on the road to the new diggings and there will soon be men there of spirit and practical knowledge to give the ground a thorough testing. A reef has been taken up by Andre Grasse, which promises to turn out well. It is situated on the mountain slope, about a quarter of a mile immediately above Cadden's claim, and thin leaders

can be traced from it down the hill and through Cadden's and other claims which have proved very rich.

THE CAWARRAL FIELD. (1931, February 23). *Morning Bulletin* (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878-1954), p. 3. Retrieved February 4, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article54693234>

THE CAWARRAL FIELD

Some Ancient History

HISTORY OF THE BIG NUGGETS

The recent discovery of several nuggets near Mt. Wheeler by Mr. "Bill Laurie" have brought that place and Cawarral under the spotlight again, and it is interesting to recall that in by gone years much gold was won at these places.

In his "Early History of Rockhampton" Mr. J. T. S. Bird, who with Arthur Hosking discovered the Ridgeland's goldfield in 1867, has this to say about the places named:-

In the early months of 1868 news was received of gold being found near Cawarral station, some distance from Ross's rush of 1863. In May two brothers brought into town 10 oz. 7 dwt. 6 gr., for which they obtained £35 odd. This was coarse nuggetty gold and was said to have been obtained in a fortnight. This news, of course, sent out a lot of men and prospecting went on in various directions. The ground was mostly patchy and one man named Judge, and his mate, made £50 in one week. This was an exceptional case, for comparatively few were on really payable gold. From alluvial diggings to reefing was an easy transition and it was not long before reports of good reefs at Cawarral were received in town.

Among the first discovered reefs at Cawarral were the Helena, Royal Alfred and Hibernian. The last named is now (1904, when Mr. Bird's book was written) known as the Long Tunnel. The Hibernian was opened by Messrs. Judge, Dobbins, Donnelly and Kelly, the reef extending from the ground to near the top of the hill, a few hundred feet above. The Hibernian was a good reef and turned out a large quantity of gold for some time after it was opened.

Other reefs which followed were the Dan O'Connell, Hill's and the Annie, the last-mentioned being named after Mrs. James Atherton. The Annie was laid off in November, 1868, and therefore like the Helena, has been worked with short spells, for 36 years. It still (1904) turns out good crushing's on occasion.

The proprietors of the Helena gave half their claim to Messrs. Ferguson Beed and Co. (the company including Mr. T. S. Hall), who engaged to put up a machine. This was done with all expedition, and the mill started on stone from No. 1 South Helena on November 27th, 1868. The yield was 1 oz. 19 dwt. per ton. Another machine was erected a few weeks after and consequently mine-owners were able to get their stone treated without much difficulty. A great number of reefs, in addition to those mentioned, were taken up and worked, most of them giving results that appeared to be payable.

The township of Cawarral was laid out by Mr. A. H. Campbell in December, 1868, the population at that time being about 400.

It was estimated that about £15,000 was spent in crushing mills in the Rockhampton district during 1868, and others were erected, at the beginning of the following year.

In April, 1870, there was a rush to Cawarral flat, between what is now Tungamull and Cawarral township. It was termed the Garibaldi diggings, probably because a man with that name was one of the prospectors. One or two of the gullies turned out a good deal of gold of a coarse, nuggetty description. The prospector found one nugget that weighed 40 oz. Another slug of 15 oz. was got by a man named Buxton. Two men named Heap and Donoghue found a nugget weighing 91 oz, which came from their claim on Dobbin's Flat about 18 ft. of sinking. For a time a considerable quantity of gold was got in about a dozen claims, but most of the ground proved very patchy. Other big slugs reported were from Long Mick's Gully, where two men named Nicholls and Dupain found one of 75 oz. and another of 12 oz.

A little gold was found at Mt. Wheeler about the middle of 1868, but the rush died away again, though two young fellows remained to test a big reef. The claim, however, did not turn out well. But in July, 1869, Rockhampton was thrown into a state of excitement by a report of the discovery of two large nuggets at Mt. Wheeler. It seems that Mr. W. Cadden, an upholsterer, had gone to Cawarral to take charge of a branch store owned by Mr. Robert Sharples. Apparently he was one of the first to hear of the gold discovered on the surface near the mountain and marked out a claim for himself. He soon began to get gold, which included some small nuggets. On the morning of July 14th 1869, his son, a boy 12 years of age, was working on his father's claim when he stuck the pick into a block of metal which proved to be a nugget of gold weighing 258 ozs. 11 dwt. The boy soon uncovered the nugget and tried to lift it, but was unable to do so. A man, whose attention was called to the discovery, went for the boy's father, whose feelings of joy can be easily imagined. The nugget was about 9 in. long and 3 in. or 4 in. wide, with only a few small pieces of quartz attached. It was found resting on the alluvial soil, just under the grass, and not on the "bottom" as might be supposed. It was found right on the boundary of the claim. This is believed to be the largest nugget ever found in the Rockhampton district.

The following morning a boy named Luckman, about 16 years of age, who also was working in his father's claim dug out a nugget within about 6 in. of where Cadden's prize was found. The second nugget was not so large as the first, but it weighed 179 oz. 14 dwt., making, with the other, 438 oz. 5 dwt. The bank advanced £3 12s. per ounce for the nuggets, which gave them a value of £1578. There was no dispute about the boundary line as might have been expected, for a line drawn from peg to peg showed clearly that each nugget was entirely in one claim and not a portion across the line.

These nuggets were by no means the only gold obtained at Cawarral and Mt. Wheeler, for the value of the gold brought into town that week from those fields was estimated at £3000. The discovery of the two nuggets caused a lot of people from town to go out to the diggings, but the ground containing gold was of small extent and only about a dozen claims were really good. A few days later young Cadden found another nugget which weighed 26 oz., while Luckman found two that together weighed 30 oz. One miner is said to have had about 16 lb. weight of gold of a coarse character, and another had about 14 lb. All this was obtained near the surface. Later on the same week a nugget of 36 oz, was discovered, at which time it was

estimated 1000 oz. were in the hands of the diggers, of whom about 400 were on the ground, the greater number doing nothing.

Messrs. Scott, Brennan, and party, the prospectors of Mt. Wheeler, brought into town 259 oz. 14 dwt., the result of five weeks' work. There were nuggets of 7 oz. or 8 oz. down to coarse specks included in the gold. The men applied for a Government reward, which they did not get.

Cadden continued to get more nuggets and coarse gold, the former including two of 12 oz. each. After a few weeks he sold out to a Chinaman for £8. The precise amount Cadden made out of the claim was not made public, but it must have been somewhere about £2000, the result of a few weeks' work.

Mt Wheeler did not prove an extensive alluvial field, but those who got gold there obtained it easily and quickly. In a very few weeks the population had dwindled down to less than 100. One or two reefs were opened, but none of them seemed to be of much account till the Galawa reef was worked by Mr. F. A. Morgan some years afterwards.

ROCKHAMPTON. (1869, July 24). *The Queenslander* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866-1939), p. 5. Retrieved February 5, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article20325101>

ROCKHAMPTON.

July 19.

A nugget of twenty-six ounces, and two others weighing together thirty ounces, were brought in from Mount Wheeler on Saturday evening. Captain Hunter was there on Saturday, and saw sixteen pounds weight of gold in the hands of one miner, and on Sunday morning saw fourteen pounds belonging to another digger. Young Cadden has found another nugget weighing two and a half pounds. The diggers on the ground are stated to be doing very well.

July 23.

The news from Mount Wheeler is not very very stirring. Gold has been struck on the Flat at a depth of fourteen feet, at which depth nearly 2 dwts. to the dish have been got. It is expected that heavy deposits will be reached, but at present there is too much water on the ground, and a tail race must be constructed. A party of three have obtained one hundred and fifty ounces in a fortnight.

MOUNT WHEELER. (1869, September 14). *Rockhampton Bulletin and Central Queensland Advertiser* (Qld. : 1861-1871), p. 2. Retrieved February 5, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article51576608>

MOUNT WHEELER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

My statement last week has been verified, as regards the alluvial. Mr. Cadden has sold out to Chin Foo for the nominal sum of £8, not being able to get a better mark; also, Mr. Scott, of

Brennan's party, has sold out. Now, if the public will but refer to the back issues of your valuable journal, they will see that my reports have never been exaggerated; as they were stated to have been by a letter in your contemporary.

The patch that was struck last week is totally confined to one man's ground, but there is every chance of some payable ground being struck thereabouts.

Messrs. Cadden and Luckman have not made their pile, and worse luck, their exit. Rockhampton seems to have no charms for them. Certainly it behoves every man to do the best he can for himself and family, as the old pro- verb says - "Charity begins at home;" but it should not end there. Mount Wheeler is certainly the spot for a capitalist, although the lucky ones do not think so. I am very glad of being able to state that there are exceptions; for I met Mr. Page (of Sheehy and Page), with 500 bricks, not a bad sign. Mr. Johnson, of Stoney Creek, has built the best and most stylish-looking place yet attempted, and intends opening a reading-room and library, and I trust he will not be disappointed. The post-office granted to Messrs. Sheehy and Page, has been hailed with delight by the miners of Mount Wheeler, and as there has been so many applications, there was no small amount of discretion required on the part of the authorities before they accepted any tender, but I think there will be no cause for regret at their choice.

Weather, rather cold, with every indication of rain up to the time of my writing. Provisions still plentiful and cheap. Bread has fallen 2d. in the 41b. loaf. Gympie and Calliope men are arriving daily, and some from the Gilbert, but if something more payable is not struck before long a great many will be off to Herbert's Creek.

THE MOUNT WHEELER DIGGINGS. (1869, July 26). *The Brisbane Courier* (Qld. : 1864-1933), p. 3. Retrieved February 5, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1291715>

THE MOUNT WHEELER DIGGINGS.

(From the Bulletin, July 20.)

THE Mount Wheeler diggings continue an absorbing topic of interest. Since our last report several fine nuggets have been found - one by Cadden, weighing 26 ozs., and two by Luckman, together weighing 30 ozs., besides several smaller nuggets. Large parcels of gold are said to be in the hands of other claim holders. On Saturday Captain Hunter saw a parcel of about 16 lbs weight of gold in Mr Cadden's hands. It belonged to another digger. On Sunday morning he saw a second parcel, about 14 lbs weight also in Mr Cadden's hands, which belonged to another man. Both parcels consisted of gold, from nuggets the size of beans down to fine gold.

The nugget of 26 ozs., to which we referred on Saturday, was found by young Cadden in his father's claim, close to the spot where the large one was picked up, and was brought into town on Saturday. This is not included in any of the other parcels. We are informed that Luckman got about thirty ounces out of his claim before the large nuggets were discovered, and he disposed of it in small parcels at different times so as to prevent a rush. Cadden has bought in a half share of Luckman's claim for £100.

Captain Hunter says that, as far as he could see, they were all doing well there, he heard one man complain that he only made an ounce and a quarter in a week. From other sources, we hear that there are six claims doing very well. It is the opinion of some diggers that the same kind of ground as that which has proved so rich, extends to the Victoria reef - a distance of two miles. Captain Hunter says, it is difficult to estimate the number on the ground, they are so scattered, but he estimates the number at four hundred, but there is nothing like that number at work.

Mount Wheeler is one of the most remarkable mountains in the coast ranges. It rises abruptly like a wall to a great height. It lies about five or six miles from Emu Park, and all the waters on the eastern slopes of the ranges are drained to the coast. On the western side, the waters fall into Alligator Creek, of which there are several heads, one of them coming up as far as Mounts Archer and Berserker. The site of the present workings is at the western side of Mount Wheeler, which overhangs them. A spur of ranges runs out into a plateau from the foot of the wall-like side of the mountain. This spur forms a considerable area and catching the drainage from the mountain is full of water everywhere. The spur slopes away westerly to a ravine and extensive flat. In this flat there is a succession of large waterholes, being, in fact, the heads of a creek running into Alligator Creek. The finding of nuggets in the spur referred to must puzzle a geologist. For no received theory will account for their presence. There are no quartz reefs visible above the spur nor anywhere near it. The mass of the mountain is stone in which gold has never been found. Some imagine the masses of golden matter must have been projected from below in a state of fusion. The slope of the spur is against the theory of deposits from meteoric waters. There is another theory which ventures to solve the problem by supposing that they must have been shot through the overhanging cliffs of Mount Wheeler, or disgorged from its crater. For there is a crater if it could be only got at, and plenty of nuggets reposing quietly at its bottom. The mountain top has not been yet scaled, and until some adventurous climber has explored the top, conjecture as to the source of the nuggets may be allowed to run its course. Of the actuality of the nuggets there can be no question. We will leave the determining of their cause and origin to Mr Daintree, who is about to survey the district.

The rush to Mount Wheeler has not yet assumed any large proportions. Cawarral is nearly deserted, and when the news contained in Saturday's papers has reached the surrounding diggings, we may expect a regular stampede. On the flat at the bottom of the spur, the prospectors of the Hibernia reef, Cawarral, have taken a claim, and intend cutting a race. The great difficulty is the water both on the flat and on the ranges, and it is felt to be impossible without the erection of extensive machinery, out of the reach of small claim holders, to cope with the water. Mr. Jardine, the Gold Commissioner, started for Mount Wheeler yesterday, and will, we hear, advise an amalgamation of claims, and an united effort against the water by cutting a large tail race a mile down the flat. This plan is well worth the serious consideration of the diggers.

Very little ground is now stripped, the water preventing work, except under exceptional circumstances. A letter was received in town yesterday by Mr. Elliott, from the sergeant of police stationed at Cawarral, stating that he visited Mount Wheeler on Saturday, and that a 3 lb nugget was found that day, and that it was supposed there were upwards of 1000 ounces in the hands of the diggers. One of the most encouraging features about the new rush is that the gold is well distributed, and is not confined merely to the nuggetty claims. Mr. Johns was out on Sunday, and spoke to sixty or seventy persons, all of whom he know well; they assured him they were doing well, and all showed him the gold they were getting.

Mr. Joseph Warren WILDER, Photographer at Rockhampton from 1862 to 1882.

Frisco Photo Co
(George Anthony Tissington) Brisbane St &
Ellenborough St Mar 1878-1882 Tissington previously worked in various NSW towns such as Goulburn, Mudgee and Carcoar. He was living in Townsville in 1877 then became manager of the Frisco Photo Co in Brisbane in that year and then did the same in Brisbane St, Ipswich taking over the premises of Poochee in March 1878. J. H. Lundager operated another branch of the Frisco Photo Co in Rockhampton and advertised reprints from the negatives of his former partner J. W. Wilder (see above). Tissington's photograph mounts advertised "Photographs copied and reduced to fit the smallest locket, or enlarged up to life size." He eventually moved into Ellenborough St where he employed Francis Whitehead who took over the studio in 1882/1883. Tissington opened a studio in Toowoomba in 1880 before moving to Maryborough in 1882. A Tissington Frisco Photo Co photograph mount that does not give a studio location offered reprints from J. W. Wilder's negatives, that may have included those he made in Ipswich cartes de visite

Joseph Warren Wilder Nicholas St 1861-1862 Wilder entered 4 views of Ipswich in the 1862 Queensland Exhibition. He moved to Rockhampton in 1862 where he continued to work until 1882. Towards the latter time Wilder formed a partnership with Jens Hansen Lundager, and eventually sold his negatives to Lundager. Reprints from Wilder's negatives were offered by Lundager Rockhampton and Tissington's Ipswich branches of the Frisco Photo Co.

Wilder entered 4 views of Ipswich in the 1862 Queensland Exhibition. He moved to Rockhampton in 1862 where he continued to work until 1882. Towards the latter time Wilder formed a partnership with Jens Hansen Lundager, and eventually sold his negatives to Lundager. Reprints from Wilder's negatives were offered by Lundager Rockhampton and Tissington's Ipswich branches of the Frisco Photo Co ([see below](#)), He died in 1892.
cartes de visite

The opening in 1861 of a carte de visite photograph studio in Ipswich by **Joseph Warren Wilder** introduced an affordable form of photography for the masses. Wilder moved north the following year but was replaced not long after in 1863 by **John Ness** and **Biggingee Pochee**. While Ness also ventured north after a year in business in Ipswich, Pochee, a Parsee Indian remained and became one of the towns two more long term resident photographers, operating for some fourteen years. Pochee produced the standard carte de visite photographs and full plate landscape views. In contrast to his competitors his portrait work used very basic studio settings, usually devoid of fancy painted backdrops and elaborate props typical of the time. Pochee photographed the visited of Prince Alfred to the Ipswich Grammar School in 1868 and he also produced the second earliest known photographic panorama of Ipswich around 1871. An earlier one from the 1860s is known but the photographer is unidentified.

ON THE TRACK. (1924, May 12). *Morning Bulletin* (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878-1954), p. 12. Retrieved February 6, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article54273624>

Re: the finding of the nuggets by young Bill Cadden, who was somewhat younger than Walter Neil. The latter told me that the Cadden's held a claim a foot wide, and they got it through the men on each side not claiming the ground. Walter Neil was handy when young Cadden found the 258 oz. slug. When young Bill found the second nugget, he was given a lift home, double bank, by the subject of this sketch. Mr. Neil advances a theory that all the nuggets being found so close together, and so close to the surface, was that the blacks had

used them for playthings and dumped them there. Another was that a shipwrecked party had found them and had left them in disgust, when they could not get them away.

THE QUEST FOR GOLD. (1930, November 29). *Morning Bulletin* (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878-1954), p. 11. Retrieved February 6, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article54682537>

Cawarral gained such importance following the rush there in 1868 that a township was laid out and good reefs as well as fine alluvial gold rewarded the diggers. In 1870 there was a rush to Cawarral flat, between Cawarral and Tungamull, where three nuggets were found weighing respectively 91, 75 and 40 ounces, as well as many smaller samples.

The find at Mount Wheeler was spectacular. The place had been abandoned as a duffer, when a 12-year-old lad named Cadden, working in his father's claim, found a nugget weighing 258 ounces 11 dwts. This prize, believed to be the largest nugget ever found in this district, was nine inches long by three inches thick. It was followed by the discovery on the next claim - also by a boy - of a nugget weighing 179 ounces 14 dwts. These finds revived interest in the fields and other diggers found good gold, but nothing so startling as the first two.

MT. WHEELER NUGGETS. (1929, July 26). *Morning Bulletin* (Rockhampton, Qld. : 1878-1954), p. 11. Retrieved February 6, 2011, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article54664467>

MT. WHEELER NUGGETS.

History of Discovery.

WHAT MR. J.T. S. BIRD SAYS.

"Interested" writes: -

The story told to JayMac relative to the Mt. Wheeler nugget, or rather it should have been nuggets, as there were two, is a decided variant to the story told by Mr. J. T. S. Bird in that most interesting book. "The Early History of Rockhampton," which has been used to settle very many disputes regarding the early days. Mr. Bird, by the way, is still alive with all his faculties unimpaired, and has reached the ripe age of 86.

As the story of the Mt. Wheeler nuggets is most interesting, and as two small boys were the discoverers in each instance. I cannot do better than give the story as told by Mr. Bird himself.'

He writes: -

A little gold was found at Mt. Wheeler about the middle of 1868, but the rush died away again, though two young fellows remained to test a big reef. The claim, however, did not turn out well. But in July, 1869, Rockhampton was thrown into a state of excitement by the report of the discovery of two huge nuggets at Mt. Wheeler. It seems that Mr. W. Cadden, an upholsterer, well known in Rockhampton, had gone to Cawarral to take charge of a branch

store owned by Mr. Robert Sharples. Apparently he was one of the first to hear of the gold discovery on the surface near the mountain, and marked out a claim for himself. He soon began to get gold, which included some small nuggets.

On the morning of July 14th. 1869, his son, a boy, 12 years of age, was working in his fathers claim, when he struck the pick into a block of metal which proved to be a nugget of gold weighing 258 oz. 11dwt. The boy soon uncovered the nugget and tried to lift it, but was unable to do so. A man whose attention was called to the discovery, went for the boy's father, whose feelings of joy can be easily imagined.

The nugget was about 9 in. long and 3 or 4 in. wide, with only a few small pieces of quartz attached. It was found resting on alluvial soil, just under the grass, and not on the "bottom" as might be supposed. It was found right on the boundary of the claim. This is believed to be the largest nugget ever found in the Rockhampton district.

The following morning a boy named Luckman, about 16 years of age, who also was working in his father's claim, dug out a nugget within about six inches of where Cadden's prize was found. The second nugget was not so large as the first, but it weighed 179 oz. 14 dwt., making, with the other, 438 oz. 14 dwt. The bank advanced £3 12s. per ounce for the nuggets, which gave them a value of £1578. There was no dispute, about the boundary line as might have been expected, for a line drawn from peg to peg showed clearly that each nugget was entirely in one claim, and not a portion across the line.

These nuggets were by no means the only gold obtained at Cawarral and Mt. Wheeler, for the value of the gold brought into town that week from those fields was estimated at £3000. The discovery of the two nuggets caused a lot of people from town to go out to the diggings, but the ground containing gold was of small extent, and only about a dozen claims were really very good. A few days later young Cadden found another nugget which weighed 26 oz., while Luckman found two that together weighed 30 oz. These nuggets were in addition to other coarse gold and small pieces. Cadden's boy found the 26 oz. nugget close to where he struck the big one. One miner is said to have had about 16 lb. weight of gold of a coarse character and another had about 14 lb. All this was obtained near the surface. Later in the same week a nugget of 36 oz. was discovered, at which time it was estimated 1000 oz. were in the hands of the diggers, of whom about 400 were on the ground, the greater portion doing nothing.

Messrs. Scott, Brennan and party, the prospectors of Mt. Wheeler, brought into town 259 oz. 14 dwt., the result of two weeks' work. There were nuggets of 7 oz. or 8 oz. down to coarse specks included in the gold. The men applied for a Government reward, which they did not get.

Cadden continued to get more nuggets and coarse gold, the former including two of 12 oz. each. After a few weeks he sold out to a Chinaman for £8. The precise amount that Cadden made out of the claim was not made public, but it must have been somewhere about £2000, the result of a few weeks' work. He afterwards went to Dalmorton, in the New England district in New South Wales. Luckman also made a nice rise, as did likewise the prospectors, and Cosgrove, who struck a rich mullocky leader.

Mt. Wheeler did not prove an extensive alluvial field, but those who got gold there obtained it easily and quickly. In a very few weeks the population had dwindled down to less than

100. One or two reefs were opened, but none of them seemed to be of much account till the Galawa reef was worked by Mr. F. A. Morgan some years afterwards.

Such in brief is the history of the Mt. Wheeler field and of the two big nuggets, and as Mr. Bird was writing from first-hand knowledge and as every source of information was exploited when he compiled the material for his very fine book, it may be taken for granted that the facts are substantially correct.

I have been told - the story may not be correct - that there are still one or two who pick up a bit of gold in the vicinity of Mt. Wheeler. A perusal of Mr. Bird's book is interesting in showing in how many places the precious metal was discovered in close proximity to Rockhampton.
