

Mining: Gold was discovered in Ravensthorpe in 1898. Prospectors rushed to the Phillips River District. They camped beside the Cattlin Creek at Hawks Nest while they sought their fortune. Gold mines sprang up, then copper was discovered and bigger companies joined the fray. Smelters were built and a railway to carry ore to ships at Hopetoun.

The district is rich in minerals and still yields nickel, gold, lithium and tantalum to active mines.



A miner's carbide lamp



A collection of crucibles



Jars for acid used in gold separation



A 150 ounce brass bar, resembling a gold bar, made from 303 melted rifle shells.



Moulds into which gold was poured

Instruments used by AJ Stibbs in
Ravensthorpe between 1903 - 1910



*Right:
Prismatic compass*



Microscope and mineral specimen slides



Theodolite and tripod



*Assay scales used at Elverdton gold and
copper mine*



Boiler pressure gauge