
Broken Hill Mining

location Broken Hill, New South Wales.
owner Line of Lode Association

the plaques

types **National Engineering Landmark
and Centenary of Federation
Plaques**

location Line of Lode Museum, Broken Hill, New
South Wales.

plaque text

Broken Hill Mining

Following discovery of the Line of Lode in 1883, mining at Broken Hill contributed immensely to engineering knowledge and to the welfare, prosperity and industrial growth of the Nation. Developed by many eminent engineers, the mining and minerals processing technology led the world in the early 20th century, with the flotation process considered a most outstanding achievement. Provision of infrastructure, particularly rail and water, challenged the creativity of the many engineers involved, and the struggle for improved working conditions influenced the history of industrial relations and politics in Australia.

Dedicated by The Institution of Engineers, Australia and the Line of Lode Association, 2001 — The Centenary of Federation.



Guillame Daniel Delprat (1856–1937)

Delprat was born in Holland and trained in science and engineering there and in Scotland. In 1879 he began a mining career in Spain. He joined the Broken Hill Proprietary Company in 1898 and became general manager the following year. He played an important part in the mining and processing of silver-lead-zinc ores at Broken Hill including a leading role in perfecting the flotation process.

In 1911 he turned his attention to the establishment of a steel works to exploit the company's Iron Knob deposit. The Newcastle steel works, opened in 1915, were his crowning achievement.

Delprat resigned his position as general manager in 1921, but remained as a consultant to the company for two more years.