
MOUNT MERRIMAC GOLD BATTERY SITE



1 mount merrimac gold
battery site lightning creek
sunnyside front view

Location

LIGHTNING CREEK MITTA MITTA, TOWONG SHIRE

Municipality

TOWONG SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1304

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO9

VHR Registration

March 27, 1997

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 13, 1999

The Mount Merrimac Gold Battery Site consists of the remains of a collapsed 10-head stamp battery, and buried and partly buried piece of machinery. The battery's power plant, a Pelton wheel has been removed. The battery and associated pieces of machinery are remnants of crushing facility that last worked in the early 1890s. The site is badly obscured by blackberry bushes and tree ferns.

The Mount Merrimac Gold Battery Site is of historical, and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Mount Merrimac Gold Battery Site is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of an important form of gold mining. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria. As well as being a significant producer of Victoria's nineteenth century wealth, with its intensive use of machinery, played an important role in the development of Victorian manufacturing industry. The abandoned mining machinery at the Mount Merrimac Gold Battery Site is historically important for its evocation of the adventurousness, hardship, and isolation that was part of mining life in the high country areas of the State.

The Mount Merrimac Gold Battery Site is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts and evidence which will be able to provide significant information about the technological history of gold mining.

Permit Exemptions

General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Specific Exemptions:

EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:

No permits are required for the following classes of works provided they are carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Conservation Plan For Historic Mining Sites prepared by David Bannear in 1996.

Mineral Exploration

Fire suppression duties
Timber production
Weed and vermin control
Public safety
Rehabilitation

Construction dates 1890,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place, Registered archaeological place,
Hermes Number 5052
Property Number

Extent of Registration

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under Section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1304 in the category described as a Heritage Place:

Mount Merrimac Gold Battery Site, Lightning Creek, Sunnyside, East Gippsland Shire Council.

EXTENT:

1. All of the crown land including the remains of the crushing battery and remains of any other quartz mining artefacts within a 200 metre radius with Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E435 N318 on 1:100,000 map sheet number 8324 Bonong.

Dated 6 March 1997

RAY TONKIN

Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G12 27 March 1997 pp.714-715]

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>