

# RICHARDS & SONS LOGGING WINCH SITE



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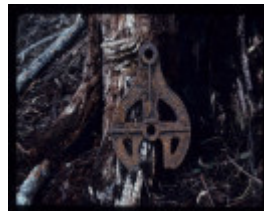
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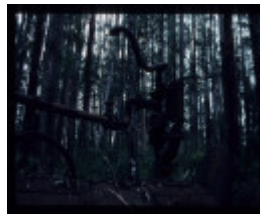
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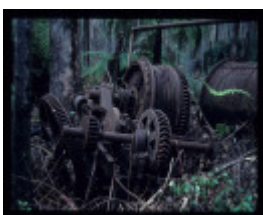
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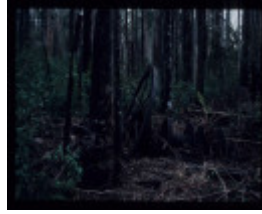
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## Location

ROAD 5M MCMAHONS CREEK, YARRA RANGES SHIRE

## Municipality

YARRA RANGES SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8022-0104

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 17, 2005

### What is significant?

Richards & Sons carried on logging and sawmilling operations in the Starvation Creek area from 1916 to 1938. Their last steam log winching station was established on Roy Spur c1936. The family abandoned the remaining plant after access tramways to it were destroyed in the 1939 bushfires.

### How is significant?

Richards & Sons Log Winching site is of historical, archaeological, and scientific significance to the State of Victoria.

### Why is it significant?

The Warburton district was Victoria's premier logging area for the first three decades of the twentieth century, and the district's sawmillers played an important role in the introduction of new methods and technology. Richards & Sons log winching site is important for its manifestation of this facet of the State's forest industry.

Richards & Sons Log Winching site is scientifically significant because of its extraordinary intactness and being one of about a dozen in situ historic steam winches still surviving in Victoria. The site is especially unique in

containing two different types of winches illustrating the replacement of old adaptive technology with new purpose built imported machinery. Only one other single cylinder steam logging engine is known in the State and the Russell Allport double drum outrigger steam logging winch is rare in Victoria.

Richards & Sons Log Winching site is archaeologically significant because of its potential to yield information on the technological development of Victoria's sawmilling and logging industry.

[Source: Victorian Heritage Register]

Interpretation of Site	Heritage Inventory Interpretation: Last steam log winching operation to be carried out by Richards and Sons in the Starvation Creek area. The plant was abandoned in 1938 and has remained more or less undisturbed since then.
Archaeological Significance	Med to High. Extraordinary intact site with machinery and associated infrastructure. Only known in situ historic steam winch in Victoria which illustrates the replacement of old adaptive technology with new purpose built imported machinery.
Historical Significance	Associated with the Richards family who lived and worked in the area for over 20 years in early 20thC
Hermes Number	10621
Property Number	

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## History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: In March 1916 W. Richards & Sons were granted milling rights to 1000 acres of forest at the head of Starvation Creek, near Powelltown. They established a saw mill and a logging tramway. Log winding was carried out along the railway, the last site for the winches was on Rob Spur, c.1937. The plant was abandoned when the family left the area in 1938.

*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/>*