
REFORM MINE

Location

ALICE STREET MYRTLEFORD, ALPINE SHIRE

Municipality

ALPINE SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8224-0042

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

SiteCard data copied on 03/07/2024:

What is significant?

The surface workings - namely a large stope - of the Reform Reef. first quartz mining of any consequence in the Upper Ovens goldfields.

How is it significant?

The site is significance because of it remains in a condition that demonstrates a key aspect of underground quartz mining - stoping. However its condition has been greatly compromised by bulldozing and as a result the site has poor archaeological value.

Why is it significant?

The site is associated with the Reform Reef where the first quartz mining of any consequence in the Upper Ovens goldfields took place..

Interpretation of Site	The Heritage Inventory extent covers the large surface stope. There is evidence of a considerable amount of bulldozing around the site. Signposted walking tracks cross the site and there are interpretations installed.
Hermes Number	10893
Property Number	

History

The Reform Reef was discovered in 1854 and worked from that time. It was the first quartz reef of any consequence worked in any of the Upper Ovens goldfields. The results of early rich crushings from the large reef were poorly recorded and records were not kept until 1867. The total recorded crushings yielding something over 21,000 ounces is considered only a fraction of the actual yield. The mine sustained the township of Myrtleford for over 30 years, until it closed in 1888. The mine worked a reef that was up to 20 feet wide, to a depth of 700 feet. Crushings were carried out at a stamp battery down in the township and this battery also undertook public crushing for local miners. The mine was briefly re-opened in 1900.

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/>