
BUCKEYE BATTERY SITE

Location

BUCKEYE GULLY HARRIETVILLE, ALPINE SHIRE

Municipality

ALPINE SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8324-0014

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 11014

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

The Buckeye Reef was discovered in mid-1860 in the bed of the creek (a tributary of Upper Morse's Creek) near Richardson's Reef. It was one of several neighbouring reefs held and worked at that time by the partnership of Chalmers & Gitchell, who owned a battery at Morses Creek and another (erected late in 1860) at Richardson's Reef. It appears that the Buckeye Reef failed to develop beyond the prospecting stage at this time, as it disappeared from the records after a few months and just a couple of small crushings.

In about 1878, the Buckeye QMC (Page, Jones & Co.) took up the claim. A battery was erected in 1881, but was idle after less than a year. The battery house was burned down by bushfire in 1890, by which time the mine was long abandoned.

The Buckeye was taken up again in 1900. A 10-head Thompson's battery situated at Smoko was purchased, and the Buckeye ore carted there for crushing. In 1904, rich stone was struck, and the Harrietville GMC was formed to

work it. The company installed a 5-head battery closer to the mine, on Morse's Creek - probably, according to Lloyd, the site of the earlier Buckeye battery - in about 1907. A small oil engine powered the winding machinery on the Buckeye shaft, and in 1909 a blower was fitted for ventilation. The Harrietville GMC had its last crushing in 1909. The Buckeye mine was recently held under lease.

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/>