
MAUDE AND YELLOW GIRL MINING SITE



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Location

KANGAROO CREEK TRACK GLEN VALLEY, EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Other Names Located above and also known as Cooper's Battery,

Hermes Number 11027

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: Gold reefs in the Glen Wills area were worked from 1891, following the failure of the tin lodes. Yellow Girl Reef was opened up in 1892, by adit on the west bank of Mt Wills Creek. The reef gave some phenomenal yields (reputedly up to 42 oz per ton), but the shoots of ore were small. From 1902, the Yellow Girl mine was worked on a larger scale. A 5-head water-driven battery, complete with gold-saving appliances, was installed close to the tunnel mouth in 1905, and its first crushing, of 2,000 tons of ore, returned 4,544 oz of gold. From a shoot of gold 150 ft in length, 121 tons of stone for crushed for 2,860 oz. The mine eventually closed in about 1917, having produced £28,000 worth of gold. The Maude and Homeward Bound mines were first worked in 1892, and by the end of the decade were amalgamated under one company. The company had a steam-driven plant. By 1907, when the mine was let on tribute, £75,820 worth of gold had been produced. In 1912, the Maude Reefs Co. was formed to work the Maude and Homeward Bound. A new steam-driven battery was installed, to be replaced by a water-powered plant in 1916, shortly before the mine closed down. The Maude and Yellow Girl Co. was formed in 1931 to work the former Maude, Homeward Bound, and Yellow Girl ground, and their mine was the focus of a mining revival at Glen Wills. Initially (according to Fairweather), the 5-head Yellow Girl battery was used for crushing, but it was upgraded to ten heads before long. A 20-head battery and new treatment plant including a gyratory crusher, Wilfley tables, Watson & Denny pans, cone classifier, and eight-cell flotation machine - were installed at the Maude and Yellow Girl mine in 1941. Operations at the mine were wound down during the later years of WW2, but by 1948 the battery was operating for two (and occasionally three) shifts daily. The mine closed down in 1952, but work continued by other parties until 1967, and the mine is currently held under lease. The workings that comprised the Maude and Yellow Girl mine yielded a total of 103,556 oz of gold—almost half the total gold production of the Mt Wills field.

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/>