
LAURAVILLE BATTERY

Location

MANSFIELD-WOODS POINT ROAD GAFFNEYS CREEK, MANSFIELD SHIRE

Municipality

MANSFIELD SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8123-0029

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 12263

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

The original Drysdale and Co. battery was constructed on Homeward Bound Reef, Raspberry Creek in 1864. The 12-head (Lloyd says 8-head) battery was said to be the most modern then in the ranges, and its 35-ft waterwheel was probably the largest in Victoria at the time. The mine failed to strike the rich stone found in adjacent claims. The battery was still in place and considered useable in 1894, when it was moved 600 yards up Raspberry Creek, to the east bank, near the new Lauraville GMC tunnel. The dilapidated battery was sold and removed in 1905. In 1924, a 15-head battery (ex-Wood's Point) was erected on the old battery site. It had a large waterwheel drive and a 45ft-high timber trestle carried ore from the mine tunnel across the road and creek to the battery. The mine gave good crushings in 1925, 1927 and 1929, and small, less successful crushings continued until 1934. The battery remained in place until at least 1940. Hunts Consolidated Co. worked the Lauraville mine from 1946-8. A battery was erected and the adit extended, but the mine proved too wet.

References:

Lloyd & Combes

Mining & Geological Journal, 1946

Mining Surveyors' Reports (Gaffney's Creek Subdivision), March - December 1864

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/>