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# FORMER SANDERS AND SONS EUCALYPTUS DISTILLING WORKS

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## Location

ULEY STREET BENDIGO, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7724-0624

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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Interpretation of Site      Eucalyptus distilling site

Archaeological Significance      Photos taken c.1967 show that the site will contain brick foundations associated with Eucalyptus distilling, including those belonging to smoke stacks, flues and circular steaming vats. According to local knowledge when the site was levelled for car parking, artefacts (mainly bottles) were unearthed and the Council had problems with illicit digging by bottle hunters.

Historical  
Significance

Bendigo and district was the epicentre of Victoria's eucalyptus distilling industry. The distilling of eucalyptus oil has been carried out in the Box-Ironbark forests of Victoria since the 1870s. Its expansion in the 1890s into a significant industry was a local response to the declining fortunes of the region's quartz gold mines. Thrown out of work, some miners turned to eucalyptus oil production, finding all the necessary ingredients in their backyards. The forests around Bendigo, Inglewood, Wedderburn, and St Arnaud contained large tracts of oil-rich Blue and Green Mallee, as well as steam boilers and large dams abandoned by quartz miners. By 1900 the 'eucy' industry was firmly established, with the oil being exported to the United Kingdom, USA, Canada, India, China and New Zealand. The eucalyptus industry reached its peak in the late 1940s.

Hermes  
Number

162647

Property  
Number

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## History

According to local knowledge, eucalyptus distilling took place on the site from 1873 until 1967. The buildings (GI sheds), brick chimney stacks & boiler settings, and brick steaming vats were demolished to ground level for car parking.

*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/>*