

---

# HAN KEE'S WATER RACE

---

## Location

PETTICOAT ROAD AND STANDARD ROAD CRESWICK, HEPBURN SHIRE

## Municipality

HEPBURN SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7623-0329

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

---

This race is associated with small scale alluvial mining undertaken by Chinese miners

### Interpretation of Site

during the 1850-70s. The race transported water from a dam along a steep gully to Han

Kee's small alluvial mining claim at Cabbage Tree Flat.

This site has a high level of archaeological significance.

The race is well preserved for most of its entirety and is a representative example of an

19th century water race that was utilised by Chinese miners. Archaeological features

include the race alignment, negative cut features, spoil and sediment deposits, dams,

diversions, sluice points, nearby puddler and potential gauges, flume remains, pipes, and

sluice lining materials.

Although water races are common on Victorian Goldfields very few races in Victoria have

been documented and mapped in detail and the integrity of remaining goldfield water

management complexes is largely under researched.

The site has a HIGH level of historical significance at a local level. Due to the excellent

preservation of a large part of the Creswick goldfield, the intertwined narratives of mining,

water supply, environmental consequences and rapidly evolving legislation can be read in

the landscape. At a state level the site contributes to broader narratives of water supply

and mining (Victorian Historical Theme 4.5 & 4.6) and informs the development of both

mining and water management laws for the State of Victoria.

The race system is one of many on the Creswick alluvial goldfield that together make up

an important and well preserved cultural landscape of water management.

Combined with Creswick's strong forestry education facilities and proximity to Melbourne

and Ballarat, an increased awareness in this well preserved mining complex could provide

Creswick with excellent educational and tourism opportunities illustrating mining techniques and how mining shaped Victoria's water laws.

#### Archaeological Significance

#### Historical Significance

#### Hermes Number

195086

Property Number

---

## History

Little is known in historical terms about this race, which extends from Petticoat Gully northeast towards Tavistock Hill and on to Slaty Creek below Humbug Hill. The race is indicated as current on a lease map post-dating 1876 (VPRS 14969/1), which shows the race as approximately three kilometres in length leading to Han Kee's alluvial lease at Cabbage Tree Flat

*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/>*