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# LESLIE'S GULLY MINING LANDSCAPE

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## Location

SOUTH OF CREBBINS LANE AND HAWK TRACK, ARARAT HILLS BLOCK, ARARAT REGIONAL PARK.

## Municipality

ARARAT RURAL CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7423-0087

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 13, 2022

### What is significant?

The site is an alluvial mining landscape. Gold was first discovered in the Ararat Region in 1854, with the first workings consisting of alluvial gold sites. Early newspaper refers to Leslie's Gully as one of the earliest workings in Ararat. The stream bed of Leslie's Gully was mined during the gold rush period by shallow shafts and through the use of sluices and puddling machines. After the initial Ararat Rush, shallow alluvial mining in the area slowed and the majority of gold resources were recovered from reworked gullies and creek beds by sluicing or puddling parties, or alternatively by shallow shafts. Mining in the area continued into the early 20th century.

The alluvial mining landscape is currently mostly covered by thick scrub and most of the extant features are open or filled shafts associated with the extraction of gold from the cement beds contained in elevated terraces. The gully was most likely worked by sluice or puddling machines, however, no evidence of these mining methods was found. At the head of the gully are two small dams and near the top north-side dam there is evidence of a possible mud-brick structure.

The site contains archaeological remains that relate to the activities of the Ararat Goldfields during the Victorian Gold Rush era.

This site is of historical significance as one of the earliest alluvial diggings in the Ararat Goldfield. The site is of scientific significance for its potential to provide information about mining methods and techniques utilised in the

Ararat goldfields.

**How is it significant?**

**Why is it significant?**

Hermes Number 208972

Property Number

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*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/>*