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# LAL LAL COAL MINE



Locality plan close Lal Lal

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## Location

COALMINE ROAD LAL LAL, MOORABOOL SHIRE

## Municipality

MOORABOOL SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7722-0066

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 10, 2008

LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE: The Lal Lal coal mine is historically significant as the site of the first discovery of lignite (brown coal) in Victoria, and one that promised important benefits to regional and state industries that were reliant on coal imports at the time. The significance of the site is reduced by the poor state of preservation of the coal mining and processing fabric.

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Interpretation of Site | The site contains little information on the early mining of the deppopsit, and the main mining and plant area appeaers to have been bulldozed in its entirety. The visible branch-line embankment enabled loading of coal onto railway trucks and carriages to the main Geelong-Ballarat line for distribution. The artefacts do not necessarily originate from the site and may have been dumped beside the road. |
| Hermes Number          | 43990                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Property Number        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## History

Lal Lal was the first reported discovery of lignite (brown coal) in the colony of Victoria (1857). A shaft was opened in 1857 and in 1859 a second shaft was sunk and about 200 tons of coal raised. In 1863 a company was formed and the first commercial quantities were raised in 1864, sold to Ballarat, Geelong and Melbourne. Other companies were formed, but work ceased by 1871. In 1873 a better capitalised and equipped company began work, and produced 44,000 tons up to 1892. The mine was re-opened briefly twice in the early 1900's. A small open cut was begun in 1921 but abandoned within a year. The cut was expanded in 1952, without producing more coal.

*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/>*