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# OLD TOM REEF GOLD PUDDLING SITE



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PUDDLING SITE SOHE 2008



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1 old tom reef gold puddling  
site eaglehawk landscape

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## Location

WHIPSTICK PARK, OLD TOM ROAD WHIPSTICK, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1251

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO675

## VHR Registration

December 19, 1996

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 1999

The Old Tom Reef Gold Puddling Site consists of the remnants of one puddling machine complete with water race. The puddling machine site, which was operated in the 1930s, is very rare in that the puddling trench still has traces of its timber lining. The site lies close to the remnants of a quartz mine known as the Old Tom Reef. The site is a good characteristic example of the puddling technology developed in Victoria from 1854 in response to the need to process enormous amounts of clay soil which needed to be broken up to get at the gold. Horses were used to drag harrows around a circular ditch in which the soil and water were mixed.

The Old Tom Reef Gold Puddling Site is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Old Tom Reef Gold Puddling Site is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of a site associated with the earliest forms of gold mining which, from 1851, played a pivotal role in the development of Victoria. Puddling machine technology is particularly important in the history of Victorian gold mining as the only technology or method developed entirely on Victorian goldfields.

The Old Tom Reef Gold Puddling Site is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts which will be able to provide significant information about the cultural history of gold mining and the gold seekers themselves.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1854,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place, Registered archaeological place,
Hermes Number	4975
Property Number	

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## Extent of Registration

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under Section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1251 in the category described as a Heritage and Archaeological Place:

Old Tom Reef Gold Puddling Site, Old Tom Road, Whipstick State Park, (9.0 kms north of Eaglehawk), Greater Bendigo City Council.

#### EXTENT:

1. All of the land including one puddler and other gold mining relics within a 100 metre radius of the point with Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E550 N413 on 1:100,000 map sheet number 7724 Bendigo.

Dated 7 November 1996

RAY TONKIN

Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G50 19 December 1996 p.3291]

*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/>*