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# HOUGHTONS FLAT GOLD DIVERSION TUNNEL



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2008



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1 houghtons flat gold  
diversion tunnel nicholson  
river deptford front view

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## Location

SLAUGHTER WALKING TRACK DEPTFORD, EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1262

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO290

## VHR Registration

December 19, 1996

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 1999

What is significant?

The Houghton's Flat Gold Diversion Tunnel is a diversion which was probably excavated in 1873 by the Nicholson River Sluicing Company. The tunnel was used to divert the waters of the Nicholson River in order to work ground 'hitherto inaccessible to the individual miner'.

How is it significant?

The Houghton's Flat Gold Diversion Tunnel is of historical, and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Houghton's Flat Gold Diversion Tunnel is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of an early form of gold mining. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria. Water diversion and sluicing are important key ingredients in an understanding of gold mining technology as it was employed in mountainous country where water was plentiful and perennial.

## 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      | 1873,  |
| Heritage Act Categories | Registered place, Registered archaeological place, |
| Hermes Number           | 4987   |
| 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 1262 in the category described as a Heritage and Archaeological Place:

Houghton's Flat Gold Diversion Tunnel, Nicholson River, Deptford, East Gippsland Shire Council.

### EXTENT:

1. All of the Crown Land including the diversion tunnel and remains of alluvial workings within a 200 metre radius with Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E619 N388 on 1:100,000 map sheet number 8422 Bairnsdale.

Dated 7 November 1996

RAY TONKIN

Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G50 19 December 1996 p.3294]

*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/>*