
LORD HARRY MINE

Location

221 BEACONSFIELD ROAD SMEATON, HEPBURN SHIRE

Municipality

HEPBURN SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7623-0027

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 7078

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: The following history was extracted from The Berry Deep Leads: an historical assessment, CF&L, October 1986, Charles Fahey. The Lord Harry was floated in August 1879. When shaft sinking commenced, problems with water were soon encountered. In August 1883 capital was increased to £36,000. By March 1884 only 900 ounces of gold had been won from the payment of £24,364 in calls. In March of the following year the company was obliged to suspend operations pending the installation of additional capital. Nominal capital was increased to £72,000. The mine remained idle until the last quarter of 1885 when preparations were made to begin pumping. By the following February six weeks of pumping had been undertaken but, without help from adjoining claims, this proved to be of little effect. In the second half of 1887 pumping was recommenced, and by September 1888 the directors reported they had opened up 'an extensive field of payable wash.' Six months later the wash had not proved 'equal to expectations.' By February 1891, shortly before its closure, the mine had produced gold worth £43,896 and shareholders had contributed £59,600. Working

expenses had reached almost £109,000 but no dividends had been paid. By the date of its closure in 1891, the Lord Harry had produced only 6,850 ounces of gold and paid £2,250 in dividends. Machinery Information extracted from *The Significance of Some Mining Machinery Sites in the Creswick Division, 1859-1927*, P. Milner, March 1988. September 1886: 45,000 gallons per hour pumped out but barely able to lower water level. 10 x 7 foot strokes required on pump to keep water at Level 1015, 50 feet above the plat. Water pumped into Bullarook Creek. Tangye steam engine used to pump mine water for use in the boiler. 1886: Continuously pumping then with 18 inch pumps (6 million gallons per week); water 40 feet up shaft which is 620 feet deep. 1901: 26 inch cylinder non-condensing steam pumping engine 18 inch pumps, 7 foot stroke, 9 stokes per minute to 600 feet. Significance As a gold producer Lord Harry was insignificant. It does illustrate the difficulties posed for profitable mining

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/>