

Dights Mill Complex (head race, turbine house base, tail race and basalt retaining wall), & Dights Falls, Yarra River



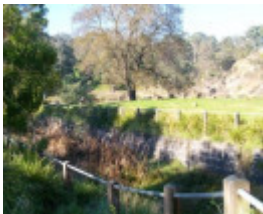
Dights Mill complex



Dights Mill complex



Dights Mill complex



Dights Mill complex - mill race



Postcard approx. 1905-1910



Dights Falls



MMBW Map 1228 - 1905

Location

off Trenerry Crescent, ABBOTSFORD VIC 3067 - Property No 114215

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1522

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO48

Heritage Listing

Yarra City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 6, 2008

This property is on the Victorian Heritage Register - H1522.

For more information on this property, refer to the Victorian Heritage Register information.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Yarra - City of Collingwood Conservation Study, Andrew Ward & Associates, 1989; Yarra - City of Collingwood Conservation Study, Andrew Ward & Associates, 1995; Yarra - City of Yarra Heritage Review, Allom Lovell & Associates, 1998; Yarra - City of Yarra Review of Heritage Overlay Areas, Graeme Butler & Associates, 2007;
Construction dates	1862,
Hermes Number	102806
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The remaining structures of the former Dight's Falls include the head race, the base of the turbine house, the tail race and a basalt retaining wall.

The inlet to the head race is marked by two large basalt and concrete piers between which a timber sluice gate was originally located. The piers are constructed in a combination of large squared blocks of basalt with a rock faced finish to the upper courses and a picked finish to the upper courses. The core of the piers is a combination

of scoria rubble and boulders, and later concrete. This structure dates from at least 1862 and probably earlier.

The base of the turbine house is constructed of machine made bricks and is believed to date from the 1887 works designed by architects, Twentyman & Askew. Within the walls the shafts of two turbines are still visible above later fill. Massive riveted wrought iron or steel beams extend in a grid across the top of the walls and a lower single timber beam passes through the structure.

A substantial basalt lined tail race is indicated on the Board of Works Plan of c. 1895 has recently been exposed. Excavation in this area revealed the existence of a basalt floor to the race, approximately 3.2m below the existing ground level. The age of the race is uncertain, although it was clearly constructed after 1869 and is most likely to have been built during the refurbishment of the mill in the late 1880s.

The remains of a basalt retaining wall is visible on the north side of the island of land formed between the race and the river. The wall is in part visible in the 1869 photograph of the site and again in the Nettleton photograph of c. 1880s. It is constructed of squared rock faced basalt blocks and originally ran from the end of the tail race to the gates of the head race. Sections of the wall were either rebuilt or exposed during recent works. The turbines were also exposed and conserved.

Integrity

not assessed

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/>