
OLD LEAD RUSHWORTH

Location

BENDIGO-MURCHISON ROAD WARANGA SHORES, CAMPASPE SHIRE

Municipality

CAMPASPE SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7924-0036

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

SiteCard data copied on 04/07/2024:

What is significant?

Landscape of shallow diggings - depressions surround by low heaps.

How is it significant?

The site is significance because of it has:

Intactness: retains evidence one of the most symbolic physical evidence of the Victorian gold rush - shallow alluvial diggings.

Integrity: a compact arrangement of shallow alluvial diggings which demonstrates the human scale of the Victorian gold rush - the mining of 8ft/12ft claims.

Condition: retained fabric in a condition that can be understood and interpreted

Why is it significant?

The Victorian gold rush was a transformative 19th century global event. Shallow alluvial diggings are direct evidence of the human scale of a spectacular mid nineteenth century mass migration event.

Interpretation of Site	Shallow alluvial mining landscape that reflects gold rush spacing of 8ft/12ft claims. The diggings are pronounced and visible but no puddling machine or hut sites were found during the survey. There also are no water races. These landscapes provide an understanding of the human scale of the Victorian gold rush.
Hermes Number	10474
Property Number	

History

Workings on the Old Lead, Rushworth, began in 1856 with a rush of 5000 miners to the ground. A hotel and a store were opened on the diggings but the rush only lasted about 6 weeks. It was rushed again in 1857. Work continued through the 1860s and in 1870 several claims were reporting good yields from the puddling machines. In late 1877 another rush of up to 700 men was reported, working a rich narrow lead between 25 and 30 feet deep. Around £3000 worth of gold was raised from the lead in that year. A final small rush to the Old Lead occurred in 1889.

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/>