

MIRANDA CREEK HUT RUIN

Location

MIRANDA CREEK, WILSONS PROMONTORY NATIONAL PARK WILSONS PROMONTORY, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8120-0006

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site	The structure may relate to either the whaling or timber milling industries that operated in the area in the 19th century. Some of the glass fragments retain diagnostic features including manufacturer's mark and finishes and can be broadly dated to the 19th century. The structure was found to be similar in design and nature to a Sealers Cove structure.
Archaeological Significance	As no known historical documentation exists of any settlement in the area, the site is of high archaeological significance for its ability to demonstrate activities in the area in the late 19th century. The site may relate to timber milling activities or sealing activities. The features and deposits can be used to determine the nature and age of the site.
Historical Significance	The site is of high historical significance as it is one of the few remaining standing structures (although ruinous) representing the industrial history of Wilson's Promontory.
Other Names	MIRANDA CREEK 6,
Hermes Number	10688
Property Number	

History

Sealers and whalers were among the first Europeans to make use of the resources of Willson's Promontory. From the late 18th century, they established bases for their activities along the coast at Sealers Cove, Refuge Cove and Waterloo Bay, all located south of Five Mile Beach and Miranda Creek. Timber fellers also occupied Sealers Cove. Timber mills operated in the 1850s and again in the early 20th century.

Previous archaeological surveys have revealed evidence of their occupation including the remains of the basic huts and living quarters, as well as artefact scatters and whale bone dumps. Archaeological evidence of timber milling exists in wooden structures, earth works, brick and stone structures and the remains of a jetty.

At Miranda Bay in 1852, the brig Miranda ran aground and can still be seen when uncovered by sand. In 1986, a storm exposed what is thought to be the barque Elm Grove, wrecked at the northern end of Five Mile Beach, in the Miranda Creek area, in 1876. In the mid to late 19th century, pastoralists occupied large areas of the Promontory, with several cattle runs known to have operated in the area.

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/>