
GAFFNEYS CREEK TOWNSHIP

Location

MANSFIELD-WOODS POINT ROAD GAFFNEYS CREEK, MANSFIELD SHIRE

Municipality

MANSFIELD SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8123-0001

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 10801

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: From Lloyd and Combes, "Gold at Gaffneys Creek". The Gaffney Creek goldfield was opened up by men who came across from the Buckland to the Big River in 1857, and then climbed over the Mt Terrible Range to the Goulburn watershed in 1859. There followed a few lawless years of rich alluvial mining before the reefers got to work. Permanent and law abiding settlement followed. The speculative quartz mining boom of Gaffneys Creek and Woods Point in the 1860s was followed by decades of depression, with most of the mines closed or on tribute. The only miners to prosper were the tributers at the A1 and even they endured many years of barely subsistence earnings. The mining revival at the turn of the century saw some years of prosperity at Dempseys and Rose of Denmark, but by WW1 the A1 was the only profitable mine. After the gold cut out there in the mid-twenties, more years of depression followed until the Victory Reef was discovered in the early years of WW II. The 1940s were rich in gold and dividends for the A1 but then, with rising costs and the price of gold fixed, the mine struggled on against mounting odds, until it closed in 1976 only to be reopened again

in the 1980s.

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/>