
New Bendigo Company Mine, Sunraysia Highway, ST ARNAUD



SD 256 - Swanwater North
XE 992 473

Location

Sunraysia Highway ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7524-052, H7524-053, H7524-0054

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 30, 2004

The New Bendigo Company Mine area features relics and remains from the 1880s to the First World War, including a well preserved machinery site, a collapsed iron chimney stack, shaft, battery site and a treated tailings dump. It also features a modern processing plant. The site has good integrity and historical significance because of its importance as a mine over a long period. It also has scientific significance due to the survival of well

preserved features belonging to the last, large scale mining operations to occur on the site.

The New Bendigo Company Mine site is **historically** and **scientifically** important at a **LOCAL** level as a substantially intact example of an important gold mining technique. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria.

Overall the New Bendigo Company Mine site is of LOCAL significance

Hermes Number 111978

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Site 73.0. New Bendigo Co. (Foundations would date to the last period of mining which commenced in 1911).

Site 73.1. New Bendigo South No. 1 (Mine was operating in 1880s). Mine site. Small largely bulldozed mullock heap near the junction of Sunraysia Highway and Woolpack Dry Weather Track. Shaft has been filled and no machinery footings visible.

Site 73.2. New Bendigo South No 2 (open cut probably dates to the earliest mining period c.1854/1860s).

INTEGRITY/CONDITION:

Only Site 73.0 (New Bendigo Co.) has any integrity. This site also has archaeological potential.

CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Sites 73.1 and 73.2 have poor integrity and little historical significance and hence low cultural significance.

Site 73.0 has:

- . Historical Significance, due to its importance as a gold mine from the 1880s until the First World War.
- . Scientific Significance, due to the survival of a range of well preserved features belonging to last, large scale mining operations to occur on the site.

Physical Description 2

Machinery site. Set of well preserved concrete beds that stand 4 ft high. The southern bed in the set is roughly U shaped and measures 19 ft x 8 ft. The northern bed is rectangular and measures 23-1/2 ft x 4 ft. Both beds have 1 inch iron mounting bolts. Iron chimney stack. Lying near the south-east corner of the concrete machinery beds is a collapsed 13 metre long iron stack. After 8 metres the riveted iron stack narrows down from 3 ft to 2-1/4 ft diameter.

Physical Description 3

Shaft. 17 metres from the concrete machinery beds is an open 3-compartment shaft. The wooden bearers, slabbing and collar of the shaft are starting to rot. Battery. The battery is located 40 metres north-east of the shaft and its remains are largely hidden by large pepper trees and long grass. On the upper concrete floor of the battery (north end) two rows of 1-1/2 inch iron mounting bolts are visible and to the south of these (9 metres away) are two sets of wooden stamper blocks and associated wooden bearers and concrete footings. It would be likely that more of the stamper foundations lie buried by rubble and vegetation. The lower concrete floor of the

battery is mostly obscured but enough is visible to suggest it is fairly intact.

Physical Description 4

Modern processing plant. To the north of the battery side, on the south-west corner of a massive raised tailings dump, is a disused processing plant. The remains consist of a loading ramp (earth retained with sleepers), various concrete pits and mounting beds, wooden bearers and wooden posts.

Physical Description 5

Treated tailings dump. The above dump of treated tailings measures approximately 130 metres x 60 metres, and stands some 10 metres high.

Physical Description 6

Open cut. 350 metres south-east of New Bendigo South No. 1, on the east side of the track, is a partly filled open cut. The open cut measures approximately 40 metres x 5 metres and is about 5 metres deep. At the southern end of the open cut is a stope that has been used as a night soil dump and is littered with sanitary pans. The open cut has been fenced

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/>