
Gold Discovery Memorial, Cnr Black Range Road & Burgh Street, STAWELL



SL 022 - Gold Discovery Memorial

Location

Cnr Black Ranges Road & Burgh Street STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 18, 2004

The Gold Discovery Monument, Cnr Black Range Road & Burgh Street, Stawell, has significance as a commemoration to the first discovery of gold at Pleasant Creek by William McLachlan, hut keeper (or shepherd) in 1853. The circular bronze plaque was sculpted by Stanley Hammond of Melbourne, with the stonework was executed by G. Robson and Sons, Stawell. It was unveiled on 12 November 1953 as part of the Stawell Progress Association's "Home to Stawell" celebrations.

The Gold Discovery Monument is **aesthetically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates important visual qualities that include the tall pink granite slab with a circular plaque near the top (this plaque shows a miner in a crouching position panning for gold). Other qualities include the rectangular plaque near the base of the

memorial.

The Gold Discovery Monument is **historically** and **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the first gold discovery at Pleasant Creek in 1853 by William McLachlan, a hut keeper (or shepherd) who had been panning in the Pleasant Creek which was then part of Dr. Bluden's Concongella Station. The Monument is also associated with the Stawell Progress Association's "Home to Stawell" celebrations in 1953, when it was unveiled. The circular bronze plaque has associations with the sculptor, Stanley Hammond, and the pink granite slab with G. Robson and Sons, monumental masons, Stawell. The Monument is also recognised and valued by the local community for its commemoration of the first gold discovery in the local area.

Overall, the Gold Discovery Monument is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	112019
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Gold Discovery Memorial, Cnr Black Range Road & Burgh Street, Stawell, is situated beside the Pleasant Creek near the bridge. The memorial consists of a tall pink granite slab with a circular plaque near the top. This plaque shows a miner in a crouching position panning for gold. A rectangular plaque near the base of the memorial reads:

"Erected by the Stawell Progress Association near the spot in Pleasant Creek where the first gold was found by William McLachlan, May 1853."

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/>