CORNISH TOWN HOUSE SITE (4)

Location

SPRING GULLY CHEWTON, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7723-0788

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO972

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 1, 2005

The Spring Gully Gold Puddling Site consists of the remnants of one puddling machine complete with dumps of washed gravels, water dam and two house sites. The site comprise a good characteristic example of the puddling technology developed in Victoria from 1854 in response to the need to process enormous amounts of clayey soil which needed to be broken up to get at the gold. Horses were used to drag harrows around a circular ditch in which the soil and water were mixed.

The Spring Gully Gold Puddling Site is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Spring Gully Gold Puddling Site is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of a site associated with the earliest forms of gold mining which, from 1851, played a pivotal role in the development of Victoria. Puddling machine technology is particularly important in the history of Victorian gold mining as the only technology or method developed entirely on Victorian goldfields.

The Spring Gully Gold Puddling Site is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts which will be able to provide significant information about the cultural history of gold mining and the gold seekers themselves.

[Source: Victorian Heritage Register.]

Hermes Number   11216

Property Number