
BIPLANE BATTERY SITE

Location

OFF ALPINE ROAD HARRIETVILLE, ALPINE SHIRE

Municipality

ALPINE SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8324-0026

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site Heritage Inventory Interpretation: Heritage Inventory Present Use:

Hermes Number 11602

Property Number

History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

Located in the 'Black Hole', up the east branch of the Ovens River, the Biplane mine was discovered in 1919. The Biplane GMC worked the mine from 1920, erecting a 10-head mine in 1921. The mine was worked from three adits, the ore conveyed to the battery by aerial ropeway. Also operating were the North and South Biplane mines. After 1921, production from the Biplane mine fell away sharply, and it gave its last crushing in 1925. The next year, a fire destroyed huts at the mine. Prospecting continued for some years, but there is no record of further gold production. In total, the mine yielded 3,762 oz of gold. In 1937, concrete cyanide vats were erected and the mine tailings treated.

According to Kaufman, a 10-head and 5-head battery were removed from the Biplane site during the 1980s. The 10-head is now in the possession of E. Cook of Bright and is to be donated to the Shire for heritage display purposes. The 5-head battery is in the possession of P. O'Donnell of Wandiligong, who plans to use it as part of a 'tourist mine'.

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/>