
SALTPETRE CREEK ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Location

LOWER TABLELANDS ROAD NARIEL VALLEY, EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8424-0023

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site Heritage Inventory Interpretation:

Hermes Number 11612

Property Number

History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

Alluvial mining was in progress on Saltpetre Creek as early as 1866-7, when terraces on the spurs above Hatter's Creek were worked. The creek itself was considered too deep to work. In 1868, Saltpetre and Sassafras creeks were rushed by about 150 diggers. A rush to Sassafras Creek ten years later caused a track to be cut from Omeo by the Mines Department. That, in turn, led to an influx of miners to Saltpetre Creek and other creeks to the north: there were 300 diggers in the area by September 1879. The discovery of reefs in the district soon after saw the the alluvial diggings eclipsed. Just a handful of sluicers were at work on Saltpetre Creek in the mid-1880s, using

sluice boxes and small water wheels. Steady small-scale working is suggested by a further reference, in 1905, to a few individuals and small parties working the creek.

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/>