
TUNNEL BEND STREAM DIVERSION TUNNEL

Location

TUNNEL BEND TRACK KEVINGTON, MANSFIELD SHIRE

Municipality

MANSFIELD SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8123-0023

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 11639

Property Number

History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

The tunnel that gives this bend in the Goulburn River its name was constructed by the Goulburn Valley Sluicing Co. in 1866 to divert the river flow and enable the working of the bed: " a party has been formed for working the bed of the River Goulburn below Gaffney's Creek. The bed of this river has long been known as highly auriferous, but up to the present time has only been partially worked by means of 'wing dams' from its banks (Chinamen being the principal adventurers hitherto); but this party purpose diverting the stream from its course for a distance of about a mile in length, a highly favourable bend of the river has been secured, across the isthmus of which the current will be carried by means of an open channel, terminated by a short tunnel."

In mid-1867 the company had fourteen men employed sawing timber for boxes, building a dam for raising water into a head ditch for sluicing purposes. They had stripped two large paddocks, but were unable to bottom without

the aid of a Californian wheel and pumps, which were expected to be in action shortly. A couple of months later, heavy floods carried away their dam and 'injured' the company's works to the tune of £700 or £800. They planned to rebuild and resume operations when the flooding subsided, but there is no evidence that this happened.
References: Mining Surveyors' Reports (Gaffney's Creek Subdivision), September 1866, June & September 1867

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/>