
TALLANGALOOK CREEK ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Location

HELLS HOLE CREEK ROAD BONNIE DOON, MANSFIELD SHIRE

Municipality

MANSFIELD SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8024-0007

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 11650

Property Number

History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

Gold first found in Hell's Hole Creek (the steep upper reaches of Tallangalook Creek) in 1851. The diggings were for a short time called 'Wilkenson's'. In 1860, Hell's Hole Creek was rushed for about four miles down from its source, with digging confined to the creek bed and banks. Glen, Dry, and Brankeet creeks also formed part of the Hell's Hole diggings. The creeks were largely deserted by the end of 1861. In the late sixties and early seventies, Hell's Hole Creek again received attention and gave steady returns to sluicers. Hell's Hole Creek was little mentioned in the records of this period, and it seems likely that it was included under the general designation of Dry Creek. The Dry Creek area thrived during the early-mid seventies, with Chinese miners in the majority. Alluvial mining was on the wane by 1877, as reef prospecting on the highlands proved successful. In 1888, Hell's Hole Creek was renamed Tallangalook Creek. Quartz mines came and went, and a small handful

of persevering alluvial miners persisted along the creek into the 1890s. A Sludge Board inquiry in 1906-7 found that hydraulic sluicing, without elevation, had been carried out for years in Tallangalook and Dry Creeks. These activities presumably continued. Records show that sluicers were active on Dry and Glen creeks during the 1930s, and some mining is likely to have occurred on Tallangalook Creek at that period.

References:

Department of Mines Annual Report, 1907, pp. 74-6

Flett, J., The History of Gold Discovery in Victoria, Poppet Head Press, Melbourne, 1979 pp. 120-21

Mining Surveyors' Reports (Kilmore Division), January 1861; (West Buckland Subdivision), August & October 1861; (Jamieson Subdivision), March & September 1867; (Jamieson North Subdivision), September 1869; (Dry Creek Subdivision), June 1874, September 1888

Wylie, A., Gold in the Shire of Mansfield: An outline of the smaller discoveries, Mansfield Historical Society, 1987, pp. 5, 8, 22, 24

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/>