
RED ROBIN MINE

Location

HOTHAM HEIGHTS, ALPINE SHIRE

Municipality

ALPINE SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8324-0035

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 25, 2006

State significance (included in Victorian Heritage Register VHR no. 1881). Has scientific significance (range of well-preserved features), historical significance (triggered last 'gold rush' in Victoria) and historical associations (Spargo, and the publicity surrounding the discovery)

Hermes Number 11873

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

In 1941, after several years of prospecting the country between Mts Hotham and Feathertop, Bill Spargo opened up the Hotham Heights field, which comprised two reefs: the Red Robin and One Alone. The Red Robin was fabulously rich where it outcropped: a sample crushing yielded an average 112 oz per ton. Small, rich crushings continued through the 1940s. In 1949, a road into the Red Robin mine was completed and a 3-head battery brought in. Three years later the mine was purchased by the owners of the Sambas mine at Harrietville. They cut

an improved track down to the mine and reconditioned the battery, also adding a hopper and self-feeder. At that time, the Red Robin was one of the richest in Victoria in terms of its yield per ton, not total production and was the highest mine in the State. Being well above the snow-line, the mine could only be worked seasonally, and its crushings remained small. In 1954, the mine crushed 49 tons for a gold return of 48 oz. From 1956 stone from the Red Robin was sent to the government battery at Bright for crushing. A 10-head battery (formerly the Bairnsdale government battery) was erected at the Red Robin mine in 1966, lower down the valley than the earlier plant had been. The mine and battery are still in operation.

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/>