

---

# BREAK O'DAY CO

---

## Location

BOYLES ROAD CORINDHAP, GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0196

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

---

Hermes Number 11959

Property Number

---

## History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

Elder's Estate, Rokewood, (June 1868 report notes that this mine is on private property) No. 4 Division, Ballarat

BREAK-O'-DAY GOLD MINING COMPANY

BREAK-O'-DAY COMPANY.

31.05.1865: first lease taken out

06.1865: prospecting their claim by sinking shafts and boring; a little gold has been found at shallow levels.

05.09.1865: tenders called for puddling plant and machinery

26.09.1865: German shaft cleared out to a depth of 42 feet; boiler cleaned and steam engine overhauled

12.1865: water scarce; getting their puddling engine and tramway ready.

03.10.1865: water heavy; to fix pumps

17.10.1865: repairing stamp battery; to start crushing in about 3 weeks  
07.11.1865: 2 batteries crushing; to complete third battery shortly  
12.1865: erecting steam puddling engine and tramway  
08.05.1866: steam engine started on 1 March but found not to be powerful enough; new Tennant 22.25 inch cylinder steam engine purchased for £695 and delivered on claim; to be erected for winding; small steam engine to be kept for pumping and puddling. Contract let to Messrs. Martin, Black Hill Foundry, to supply 550 cast metal rollers for £219 for the wire rope to work on  
29.05.1866: erecting the second steam engine  
26.06.1866: erecting 22.25 inch cylinder steam engine and boilers;  
replacing 500 wooden rollers by cast iron ones for carrying the cable up the incline - about a mile in length - from the workings to the machinery. New engine to haul the trucks; smaller engine to be used for pumping and puddling; erecting a third cast iron puddling machine  
06.1866: 35 horsepower steam engine erected; have obtained some good prospects.  
25.09.1866: to fix new plunger pump after sinking 20 feet further  
28.09.1867: 14.5 inch by 36 inch steam engine for puddling  
22.5 inch by 48 inch steam engine for hauling trucks up along an inclined tramway, half a mile long, from the tunnel to the puddling machines; 2 Cornish flue boilers: 27 feet by 6 feet; 3 x 15 foot puddling machines  
main working by a tunnel dipping 24 feet in 150 down to the lead, then 1000 feet of lead drives. Horses used to haul the dirt to the main surface tramway. thence by wire rope haulage  
29.10.1867: 36,279 trucks of dirt raised for the quarter  
03.1868: washed 47894 trucks (each 9 cubic feet) of alluvium for a yield of 2434 ozs 19 dwt for the quarter from a lead 300 feet wide and at a depth of 30 feet.  
06.1868: yield of 2424 ozs 16 dwt.  
09.1868: machinery removed to No. 2 tunnel; steam engines and boilers overhauled; viaduct, 900 feet long, constructed; 2 x 8 inch house lifts erected  
yield of 911 ozs 9 dwt 12 grs.  
06.1869: had an increase in gold from alluviums.  
08.1869: new boiler built in  
06.1870: fall off in the yield.  
1866 to 1877: recorded production of 27,116 ozs 5 dwt 8 gr (or 843.43 kg). [4]  
Break o' Day Co., south of Laidlaws party, Rokewood,  
27.05.1895: a public company which was organised in 1865 to work some ground that had been partly worked over; this company agreed to pay £6000 for the right to mine, £2000 was paid in advance with the balance paid by bills maturing over two years, plus a royalty of 5% on gold obtained and a nominal rent if required; a company of 3000 shares on which each paid £1 with a liability of £9 each in addition; the company's legal office was at Scarsdale; they commenced by putting down bores about 300 feet apart (which were nearly useless), sinking a shaft and erecting a puddling machines; first prospects were worked off with a tub and cradle for a yield of 7 to 8 dwt per load; tunnels were then constructed through the shallow ground and work went on for many years regularly returning 5/- and 10/- dividends; although this company's mining paid so well its profits were not derived from very extensive operations or from expensive appliances; in 1867 its assets were £27,641; all the gold was coarse and nuggety; gold was found everywhere from the surface down to 40 feet, but particularly following a 'mullock bank'; this area must not have been mined very well because it was remined by tributers who sank numerous shallow shafts and found gold on top of the mullock bank and in crevices in the bedrock; other parties in this area also found many nuggets.

*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/>*