
EXCHEQUER CO

Location

RACECOURSE ROAD CAPE CLEAR, GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0106

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 12001

Property Number

History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

EXCHEQUER GOLD MINING Co., on the Main Trunk Lead, adjoins the southern boundary of the Cape Clear Co.

06.1862: claim taken up

10.1863: have at length found the deep ground after boring in several places.

06.1864: although their bore indicates a long distance from the gutter or else steep reefs, the company are going to commence the shaft at once; also have a large frontage claim on Derwent Jack's Lead.

09.1864: after repeated trial bores during the past two years have decided to sink a shaft and a contract has been let; its value has improved since the contract was let.

12.1864: sinking the shaft and erecting excellent machinery.

03.1865: erecting first class machinery.

06.1865: the machinery is, perhaps, the equal of any alluvial claim in the colony; it will be erected in about 3 or 4 months.

15.08.1865: machinery and plant include: a three compartment shaft 8 feet by 5 feet 8 inches; a 24.25 inch by 48 inch horizontal steam engine for pumping, puddling and crushing cement and quartz; a 16.25 inch by 36 inch steam engine for winding; 2 boilers: 26 feet by 6 feet 6 inches, connected and set in bluestone ashlar; a 12.5 inch draw lift to supply water for puddling and crushing; a chimney stack 65 feet high, 7 feet square at the base and 5 feet at the top; the engine house is being erected, and contracts let: for erecting machinery, building stack, fixing 2 steam engines, setting boilers, constructing bob-pit and pumps for £863 including the materials; for erecting buildings, £65 for labour only; for erecting poppet heads, £198, including materials; for pumping and winding gear, £920

09.1865: splendid machinery erected and ready to start the shaft.

12.1865: 170 feet into the rock; shaft is slabbed up and the water is slightly increasing.

1865: issued 2000 shares of £11 each; erected a splendid plant; company holds 8000 feet on the main lead and 10,000 feet on Derwent Jack's lead.

02.01.1866: shaft down 170 feet in hard rock; slabbed to 160 feet; pumps making 8 x 3 foot 3 inch strokes per minute

06.03.1866: water increasing; pumps working 8 x 4 foot 6 inch strokes per minute

03.1866: shaft bottomed; dip in the bottom indicates that the gutter is close by.

22.05.1866: pumps working 8 - 10 x 4 foot 6 inch strokes per minute; shaft down 265 feet, slabbed and centred all the way. Contract let to supply and erect framing for 2 puddling machines for 250 pounds

12.06.1866: pumps still working 8 - 10 x 4 foot 6 inch strokes per minute; erecting framework for puddling machines; contract let to Martin and Company of Scarsdale for 2 x 17 foot cast iron puddling machines and gearing for 370 pounds, delivered at the claim; and plunger workings for 116 pounds

06.1866: nearly deep enough and are ready to break out.

09.1866: have reached the gutter after having to sink a little deeper.

12.1866: have not yet been rewarded after breaking into the gutter.

03.1867: a new company is being organised and a fresh start will be made.

06.1867: got some very good machine fulls of wash-dirt lately; not yet into the deep ground.

1867: struck gold during the year.

06.1868: may yet find the main gutter.

09.1868: have not yet succeed in getting into the gutter.

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/>