
PROSPECTING WORKS, HORSESHOE BEND

Location

COOPERS CREEK TRACK COOPERS CREEK, BAW BAW SHIRE

Municipality

BAW BAW SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8122-0112

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Local significance. Historical & archaeological significance, associated with a site showing well-preserved gold prospecting features of a type that are commonly represented in the mountain and other goldfields of Victoria.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Heritage Victoria (Projects) - Horseshoe Bend Gold Mining Area : Historic Heritage Survey, Rob Kaufman / LRGGM Services, 2010;
Interpretation of Site	Workings are typical of prospecting for shallow or surface leads, consisting of trenches and shafts. Wash obviously existed in a shallow lead across the hillside here, but the works are limited to testing and it would be reasonable to assume that no commercial values were located.
Archaeological Significance	Local significance. Archaeological significance associated with a site showing well-preserved gold prospecting features of a type that are commonly represented in the mountain and other goldfields of Victoria

Historical
Significance

The sluice and tunnel workings on the leads are fairly well-preserved examples of their type, but are commonly represented in mountain goldfields throughout Eastern Victoria and elsewhere. The diggings do not carry the level of technical information relating to this form of mining, or the level of archaeological potential to illuminate life on the diggings of places that have been elevated to the Victorian Heritage Register (eg Butchers Gully in the Castlemaine National Heritage Park). They are therefore of local historical and archaeological significance. It is likely that similar lead workings and remnant cultural features exist in similar environments all along the Thomson River.

Hermes Number 155673

Property Number

History

The history of these prospecting works at Horseshoe Bend diggings is unknown, but their story is wrapped in the general accounts of gold mining on the Thomson River.

The prospecting works (trenches, shafts) have not been dated, but it is assumed that they are contemporary with the lead workings below. That is, 1870s.

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/>