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# WOOLSHED ROAD FOUNDATION RUINS

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## Location

WOOLSHED ROAD BEECHWORTH, INDIGO SHIRE

## Municipality

INDIGO SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8225-0133

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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### Interpretation of Site

The two feature clusters were inspected briefly from Woolshed Road. The chimney remains appear to have been built out of sandstone, available locally and were therefore in terms of material type at least, consistent with the types of structures built closer to the town of Beechworth. The relatively large size of the dry stone adjacent wall (~5 metres east), while reminiscent of commercial or industrial features, was more add-hoc and typically ephemeral.

### Archaeological Significance

If this was a commercial establishment, the nearby platform/artefact scatter is likely to represent the remains of a domestic settlement relating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The sandstone chimney remnants and nearby platform are significant as surprising rare examples of the archaeological domestic, commercial structures relating to the Woolshed and other mining settlements north of Beechworth. Further archaeological assessment may provide evidence of sub-surface structures and artefact material, from which to identify the relationship between the two clusters of features; as well as a comparative reference to other Victorian goldrush places.

Historical Significance 19th century mining settlements.

Hermes Number 162331

Property Number

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## History

The house site is located in Woolshed Valley is located between Beechworth and Eldorado saw a mining rush in the 1850s with communities established at the rush sites.

It is probable the stone house is located in an area indicated as Sydney Flat in the 1871 Geological Sketch Map of the Parish of Beechworth. Kangaroo Falls appears to be what is now known as Woolshed Falls. The creek adjacent to Sydney Flat is Reedy (Reids or Woolshed) Creek. However the ruins could also have been located on the Johnson claim. Johnson built a hotel in 1856 that in 1858 was described as the 'best finished House on the Woolshed' (Patterson 2009:302).

A search of the Parish and geological plans, as well as general histories provided no further information regarding the origins and history of this site.

*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/>*