
MOUNT CLEAR MINING LANDSCAPE

Location

44 LAVERY STREET MOUNT CLEAR, BALLARAT CITY

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0452

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

The site dates from approximately the 1850s. The site developed with the increase of gold mining in the Ballarat area.

Interpretation of Site

A few ounces of gold were discovered in 1851 which led to three eras of mining in the Ballarat Goldfields. The first era was from 1851 to 1852 where at the peak of the gold mining there were 20,000 diggers working the shallow alluvial deposits. During this time serious mining commenced at Canadian Gully along the White Horse Range to Mount Clear. High rainfall and gently sloping hills made gold extraction easy and was possible with little more than a pick, shovel, gold pan and handmade cradle. Early discoveries were dug up from a very shallow depth with mining by techniques associated with placer mining such as panning and sluice boxing. The second era was between 1853 and 1875 where the men worked deep alluvial deposits.

Historical Significance

The area contains historical significance connected to the period of gold mining in Victoria and in particular the Ballarat area.

Archaeological Significance The significance is low. There is limited research potential, the integrity of the site is medium and provides an insight into the activities associated with mining, there has been no archaeological content found to date.

Hermes Number 183759

Property Number

History

The first era of gold mining in the area (Canadian Gully along the White Horse Range to Mount Clear) was from 1851 to 1852 where at the peak of the gold mining there were 20,000 diggers working the shallow alluvial deposits (Strange, A.W. 1971 . Ballarat - A Brief History. Lowden Publishing Co. Kilmore, Victoria).

During 01.07.1870 and 30.09.1870, the Star of the East Co. operated a shaft mine in the site; VicMine ID 379592. The gold produced from this mine was 19 ounces.

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/>