STEWART’S RESIDENCE & GARDEN SITE

Location

BUCKLAND RIVER ROAD BUCKLAND, ALPINE SHIRE

Municipality

ALPINE SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8224-0070

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 18, 2022

What is significant?
The site is of local historical significance, being a tangible link to the common (tragic) story of life on the Buckland goldfield. Highlighting the range and type of work (both alluvial and quartz reef mining) undertaken by many individuals, and the loss of family through living within a mining landscape.
The Stewart story, through the remnant dwelling and garden features, also highlights the social and economic networks that once operated in this semi-industrial landscape in a remote and mountainous corner of Victoria.
The features and archaeological values of the site have some scientific and technological potential to provide insight into the daily domestic life on a remote mountain goldfield.
The site also has high interpretation values; the history, if told in context of the apparent remote ‘wilderness’ forest landscape setting today, can be a powerfully engaging experience for contemporary audiences. In particular, the site has high presentation and interpretation values in association with the proposed formalisation of the camping area by DELWP Ovens District.
How is it significant?
Why is it significant?

Interpretation of Site	The site represents a permanent dwelling, typically held under Miner's Right by many families and individuals on the Buckland. The occupation site has many direct associations with adjacent work sites. Particularly in connection with reef workings such as the Kangaroo, Leinster and the New Chum Group of workings. The historical record also shows working/collaborative connection between adjacent occupier George Shippen (Shippen Flat) and Stewart. Both holding shares in the Kangaroo quartz reef claim in Couchie's Creek. The significance of the dwelling site and its associations with the surrounding historic landscape become more apparent when understanding the historic record. The locality and its associated sites combined form a distinct and tangible goldfield connection.
Archaeological Significance	Due to the apparent long period of occupation of the site (late 1860s – 1880s and beyond?), the locality has high potential to reveal much through its archaeology, despite being pilfered and targeted by relic hunters. Much of the archaeology of the site still appears to be relatively intact, as evident in the rock edging/footing features. The site has potential to reveal features and artefacts that may still be in some context and define extent, type and architecture of any buildings on the site. The site also has good potential to reveal artefacts that may indicate the daily occupation of former occupants, including; • Personal items • Tools or objects relating to outlying places of and types of work • Daily domestic items, food storage vessels, diet, table and cooking ware items, etc., • Gardening and horticultural implements.
Hermes Number	208371
Property Number	

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/