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# ALFRED GULLY MINING LANDSCAPE

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## Location

NORTH OF MAIN DIVIDE ROAD, WEST OF WESTERN HIGHWAY, ARARAT HILLS BLOCK, ARARAT REGIONAL PARK ARARAT, ARARAT RURAL CITY

## Municipality

ARARAT RURAL CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7423-0092

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 13, 2022

### What is significant?

The site is an alluvial mining landscape connected with the Snake Hill Water race and has been extensively mined since the Ararat goldrush. Gold was first discovered in the Ararat Region in 1854, with the first workings consisting of alluvial gold sites. After the initial Ararat Rush, shallow alluvial mining in the area slowed and the majority of gold resources were coming from reworked gullies and creek beds by sluicing or puddling parties, or alternatively by shallow shafts.

The stream bed of Alfred Gully was historically mined through shallow shafts and the use of sluices and puddling machines. Evidence of this phase of gold mining consists of earth embankments of small dams and sections of water channels. Most of the extant mining features are shafts, filled or open, associated with extracting gold from the cement beds contained in elevated terraces. Parts of Alfred Gully are obscured by thick scrub. The gully and its tributaries most likely were worked by sluice or puddling machines. There are at least four small dams, their earth embankments either going across of the gully or located on the gully's northern bank. The largest of the dams was fed by the Snake Hill Track water race. Based on this, the site has moderate archaeological potential to provide an understanding of the Ararat Goldfields during the Victorian Gold Rush era.

The Alfred Gully alluvial mining landscape is historically significant as a shallow alluvial mining landscape in the Ararat goldfields. The site is also significant for illustrating sluicing and shaft mining technology and techniques

associated with different periods of alluvial gold mining.

**How is it significant?**

**Why is it significant?**

Hermes Number 208977

Property Number

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*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/>*