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# CENTIPEDE GULLY MINING LANDSCAPE

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## Location

NORTH OF MAIN DIVIDE ROAD AND 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

H7423-0094

## 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. Gold was first discovered in the Ararat Region in 1854, with the first workings consisting of alluvial gold sites (including Mysterious Gully). 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.

Centipede Gully was sluiced, and in some areas, gold-bearing sediments were excavated for treatment by puddling machines. The very weathered remains of one puddling machine were found on site. A number of shafts, filled and open, extend along both sides of the gully and these are associated with working cement beds. Some of the shafts have been used as rubbish dumps and contain exposed bottles and ceramics dating from the 1940s. Based on this, the site has moderate archaeological potential to provide an understanding of the Ararat Goldfields during the Victorian Gold Rush era.

The site is historically significant as of the shallow alluvial mining landscape in the Ararat Goldfields, presenting good examples of three phases of gold mining including, ground sluicing, puddling, and shaft mining.

### How is it significant?

### Why is it significant?

Hermes Number 208979

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/>*