
NEW CHUM MINE WORKINGS

Location

BUCKLAND VALLEY ROAD, BUCKLAND VALLEY STATE FOREST BUCKLAND, ALPINE SHIRE

Municipality

ALPINE SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8224-0072

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 9, 2022

What is significant?

The New Chum Mine Workings contain a number of mining features that date from the 1850s to the early twentieth Century. The semi-permanent population would have settled in the locality as long-term modes of alluvial mining was established. The river, adjacent flats and hillsides would have been the location of mine and alluvial working, habitation sites and water management systems (including water races, dams and reservoirs).

The discovery of gold-bearing quartz reefs in the vicinity during the late 1860s and early 1870s saw a further flourish of activity and a more permanent population settle in the area. This activity extended further into the surrounding hills with discovery of gold-bearing reefs among the immediate ranges; with construction of tramways, dray and sleigh roads, erection of stamp batteries and a host of dwellings and associated gardens.

Features of the New Chum workings are; open stopes and adits on several lines of reef, associated level and incline tramways, sleigh tracks and the six-head portion of a twelve head battery.

How is it significant?

The site is of regional historical, archaeological and technological significance.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historical significance for its diverse representation of features as a mining landscape and its potential to reveal information about aspects of mining technologies and mining communities in the Ovens Goldfields.

The site is of significance as a rare example of remnant battery fabric in the Buckland Goldfield. There is only one other known example, at the Nelson battery site. The battery is of scientific (technologically) significance for its unique design; few other 6-head mortar box batteries remain in their original context in Victoria. The site also has the potential to reveal information about early mining settlements, living conditions and material culture.

Hermes Number 209246

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/>