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# DEADMANS HILL SLUICE PIT

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## Location

WEST OF POVEY TRACK, DEADMANS HILL, WOMBAT STATE FOREST

## Municipality

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7723-1263

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 27, 2023

### What is significant?

Intact sluice hole/pit with tailraces

### How is it significant?

Significance comes from its intactness, integrity and condition.

### Why is it significant?

Historic remains associated with the Victorian gold rushes and the technology/heritage of mid to late 19th-century ground sluicing.

Interpretation of Site Sluice hole produced through ground sluicing

Hermes Number 209434

Property Number

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## History

In June 1855, the news of gold discoveries by Edward Hill as a spot called Red Hill saw a large rush set in along

the course of the Lerderderg River and its tributaries. When the Blackwood Rush peaked in September 1855, there were some 13,000 diggers along the river and its tributaries. By the end of 1856, the bulk of Blackwood's mining population had left for the Fiery Creek (Beaufort) Diggings. For those that remained, less than one tenth of the old population, profitable alluvial mining proved to be a struggle. Most of the alluvial miners focussed their attention on the bed of the Lerderderg River, which was worked time and time again using sluice boxes, pumps and water wheels. At first, the sluicing along the Lerderderg was carried out by a mixture of Chinese and European miners, but by the 1870s, it was increasingly monopolised by the Chinese.

*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/>*