
CEMETERY ROAD GOLD MINING LANDSCAPE

Location

CEMETERY ROAD MARONG, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7724-0644

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 6, 2023

What is significant?

Archaeological features, deposits and historic landscape modifications that are preserved at the site and are associated with alluvial and/or deep lead gold mining during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (c.1880-c.1912).

How is it significant?

The site is of historical and archaeological significance at a local level.

Why is it significant?

Historical Significance:

The site is historically significant as it demonstrates a key historic phase of Marong's gold mining history – a significant period of gold exploration and extraction during the period c.1880-c.1912 – including by individuals operating small-scale independent mining claims and larger company claims.

Archaeological Significance:

The site has archaeological significance for its potential to contain historical archaeological features, deposits and artefacts associated with the gold mining activities during the period c1880-c.1912. The site has been assessed as having varying degrees of archaeological potential, ranging from moderate to high.

Archaeological and landscape features preserved at the site represent a relatively small part of a once extensive historic gold mining landscape in the local area – i.e., is a remnant archaeological landscape.

Interpretation of Site	The site extent encompasses a high number of landscape and archaeological features that are associated with a significant period of alluvial and potentially deep lead gold mining in the Marong region during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Additional details are provided in the attached Supporting Documentation (refer to Table 2 in Crotty and Dolling, 2023a).
Hermes Number	209458
Property Number	

History

Historic background research conducted as part of this assessment indicates that the site (Gold Mining Landscape, Cemetery Road, Marong) is associated with, and likely dates to the period of late-nineteenth and early twentieth century gold mining at Marong between c.1880 and c.1912. The earliest significant period of gold mining activity in the vicinity of Marong occurred during the period c.1867 to c.1870 when various deep lead gold reefs and gold-bearing alluvial deposits were being actively mined. While the precise location of this early gold mining activity is currently unknown, primary and secondary source material suggests that it was focused in areas to the north and northeast of the site (Gold Mining Landscape, Cemetery Road, Marong); specifically, at Wilsons Hill (north), and in the vicinity of the Marong Township reserve (northeast) (Bannear 1993, pp. 11-20). Given that gold mining is evidenced at Marong during the 1860s, there is some potential that mining was carried out within the boundaries of the site during that time; however, with consideration given to the history of later mining periods (see Crotty and Dolling, 2023), it is considered likely that the archaeological and landscape features associated with historic gold mining evidenced within the site extent post-date c.1870. Land encompassing the nominated site includes several original Crown Allotment's (CA's); specifically, CA 4, CA 5A, CA 5B and CA 5C, Section 5; Parish of Marong, County of Bendigo. The results of historic background research indicate that this area of land was: occupied under pastoral lease from 1846 to 1870; subsequently occupied by selectors under government lease agreements from the early 1880s; and was progressively purchased outright as freehold land during the 1880s and early 1890s. Research carried out to date suggests that gold mining activity was carried out on allotments encompassing and in the immediate vicinity of the nominated site during the period c.1880 to c.1912. Additional details are provided in the attached Supporting Documentation (Crotty and Dolling, 2023a & 2023b). *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/>