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# BATESFORD FLOUR MILL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

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## Location

BATESFORD QUARRY, 240 FYANSFORD-GHERINGHAP RD, FYANSFORD VIC 3218

## Municipality

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7721-0550

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 5, 2023

### What is significant?

The Batesford Flour Mill was built in 1857 by the Hope Brothers. The mill site retains the archaeological remains of a masonry and timber, flour mill, powered by a steam engine and water wheel. It has a 300m long water race and masonry dam on the Moorabool river, with the site of the millers cottage nearby.

### How is it significant?

Batesford Flour Mill is of historical and archaeological significance to the State of Victoria.

### Why is it significant?

Batesford Flour Mill is of historical significance as evidence of the industrial endeavours that often were an intrinsic part of pastoral squatting activity and essential to the supply of goods to the young Port Phillip colony. The remains are of archaeological significance for their potential to reveal information on the design and technology employed in early industrial undertakings and the historical and social material of the people who operated and lived on the site.

Interpretation of Site	The mill site, water wheel pit, head race, tail race and chimney are all evident, along with scattered small artefacts and the site of the miller's cottage. Fragments of slate indicate the roofing material, while shell lime mortar, shaped bluestone and hand made bricks are scattered around indicating the structural material of the buildings. These are most likely to date from the mid 1850s, and the building was demolished in 1880, after damaging floods, possibly the 1870 super flood.
Hermes Number	210066
Property Number	

## History

Dr. Robert Culbertson Hope, (1812-1878), MD, MLC was born at Templehall, Morebattle, near Kelso, Roxburghshire, in the Scottish Borders in an old Roxburghshire landed family. He was son of Robert Hope, landowner, and Joan, nee Culbertson. He studied medicine, surgery and midwifery and won a prize in surgery at the University of Edinburgh (M.D., 1834). He then worked as an assistant to John Douglas at Hawick in Roxburghshire. On 18 April 1838 he sailed from Leith as surgeon in the Lady Kennaway and arrived in Sydney on 12 August. He practised medicine in Campbelltown for eight years and in 1847, overlanded to the Port Phillip District to join his brothers George and James where he practised medicine at Geelong. He established the Darriwill grazing property and with his brother Robert, built the Carrah flour-mill at Batesford on the Moorabool River and another on the Barwon River near Inverleigh. The brothers represented landed gentry, Robert being elected to the Legislative Council and represented the men of property against selectors. Dr Robert Culbertson Hope (1812-1878) was from an old, landed family from Roxburghshire in the Scottish border region. Hope studied medicine, surgery and midwifery and won a prize in surgery at the University of Edinburgh (M.D., 1834). Travelling as ship's surgeon on Lady Kennaway, he emigrated to Sydney in August 1838 and in 1847 he joined his brothers George and James who held grazing leases in the Port Phillip District. Robert and George took up land at Batesford, near Geelong, where Robert built Lynnburn and George built Darriwill. They erected a water and steam powered flour-mill at Batesford on the Moorabool River 1857. In 1868 it was described as being powered by both a large water wheel and large steam engine, with steam being required only for the four driest months of the year. It had three pairs of stones smutter, silk dressing machine and elevator. In 1866-7 the mill was run by the Shaw Brothers. Floods on the Barwon undermined the foundation of the mill and resulted in it being demolished around 1880.

*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/>*