
Surface Hill Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Pit



Source: Victorian Heritage Register

Location

Surface Hill Historic Area SMYTHESDALE, Golden Plains Shire

Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1226

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO90

Heritage Listing

Golden Plains Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Source: Victorian Heritage Register -

The Surface Hill Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Pit consists of a large excavation containing a network of pebble dumps, tail races and drainage adits. Water for sluicing would have been delivered to the site by water races and then directed at the gold bearing deposits. The technology was introduced into Victoria in about 1855. The main period for hydraulic sluicing at Surface Hill was the 1870s. The Surface Hill Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Pit is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Surface Hill Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Pit is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of an early form of gold mining. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria.

Hydraulic sluicing of alluvial gold deposits is an important key ingredient in an understanding of gold mining technology as it was employed in country where water was plentiful and perennial. The Surface Hill Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Pit is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts and evidence which will be able to provide significant information about the cultural history of gold mining and the gold seekers themselves.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Golden Plains - Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Phase 1, Lorraine Huddle P/L, 2003;
Hermes Number	23755
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/>