
HAUNTED GULLY DIGGINGS, UPPER BEACONSFIELD

Location

HAUNTED GULLY ROAD BEACONSFIELD UPPER, CARDINIA SHIRE

Municipality

CARDINIA SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7921-0100

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Haunted Gully Diggings has archaeological potential to provide evidence relating to the alluvial gold mining works and associated activities. The integrity of some of the shafts has been compromised through wombat burrowing. The site retains evidence of gold mining operations and habitation within a narrow creek gully.

This area is locally significant as a small sample of alluvial mining activity in the Beaconsfield area, and is a visible indicator of the intense human activity required for this type of mining. The evidence found helps to complete the story of alluvial mining within the locality. The site is of local social significance. Oral records remain from a later mining foray which is associated with the 1890s depression period when mining became a major source of work for large numbers of unemployed in the area.

Interpretation of Site Alluvial mining activity earthworks. Settlement area.

Hermes Number 24196

Property Number

History

December 1860 - Gold discovered on Cardinia and Tarneit Creeks, known as the Eything Goldfield

March 1872 - Auriferous ground discovered in Haunted Gully, 4 miles east of Berwick

March 1873 - At Haunted Gully, Berwick, several claims paying well

June 1873 - Discovery of payable auriferous ground called Sailor's Gully, west of Haunted Gully

September 1873 - At Pakenham (Cardinia Creek), near Berwick, two new auriferous gullies found - Welcome and Burke's. Walkers, Mayfields and Barnes gullies opened soon after.

December 1873 - Alluvial tunnelling claim at Haunted Gully, Berwick

June 1931 - Haunted Gully (except for a few chains of the upper portion) is now included in a water reserve and is closed to mining. Head of the alluvial gold in Haunted Gully is just north of the water reserve fence - area was recently prospected, by cuts and trenches, but nothing payable found. Several old shafts to SW, including one 90ft deep. Old alluvial three-compartment shaft at junction of Welcome and Sailor's gullies - about 50 ft deep with NE drive of about 200ft.

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/>