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# ORIENTAL CLAIMS HYDRAULIC SLUICING SITE



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SOHE 2008



1 oriental claims sluicing  
omeo cliffs view

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## Location

GREAT ALPINE ROAD OMEO, EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1225

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO234

## VHR Registration

November 28, 1996

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 1999

The Oriental Claims Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Site consists of a vast network of sluicing faces, pebble dumps, tail races and water races. Water for sluicing would have been delivered to the site by high pressure pipelines and then directed at the gold bearing deposits. The technology was introduced into Victoria in about 1855. The name for the Historic Area comes from the name of a sluicing company which worked the area from 1876-1904; but the term also acknowledges the significant contribution of Chinese miners to the area's history.

The Oriental Claims Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Site is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Oriental Claims Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Site 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 Oriental Claims Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Site 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.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### Specific Exemptions:

#### EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)

No permits are required for the following classes of works provided they are

carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Conservation Plan For Historic Mining Sites prepared by David Bannear in 1996.

- \* Mineral Exploration
- \* Fire suppression duties
- \* Timber production
- \* Weed and vermin control
- \* Public safety
- \* Rehabilitation

Construction dates        1851,  
Heritage Act Categories   Registered place, Registered archaeological place,  
Hermes Number            5010  
Property Number

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## Extent of Registration

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under Section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1225 in the category described as a Heritage and Archaeological Place:

Oriental Claims Gold Sluicing Site, Oriental Claims Historic Area, Omeo, East Gippsland Shire Council.

Extent:

1. All of the land known as the Oriental Claims Historic Area including the sluicing faces complete with pebble dumps, tailraces, and dams and any other gold mining relics in the vicinity of the point with Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E509 N928 on 1:100,000 map sheet number 8423 Omeo.

Dated 7 November 1996

RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director  
[Victoria Government Gazette No. G47 28 November 1996 p.3072]

*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/>*