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## FOREST CREEK TOURIST GOLD MINE



FOREST CREEK TOURIST  
GOLD MINE SOHE 2008



h01322 1 forest creek tourist  
gold mine castlemaine and  
chewton road castlemaine  
engine shed side elevation  
she project 2003



forest creek tourist gold mine  
castlemaine and chewton  
road castlemaine engine  
shed front elevation she  
project 2003



forest creek tourist gold mine  
castlemaine and chewton  
road castlemaine engine  
shed close up she project  
2003



forest creek tourist gold mine  
castlemaine chewton road  
castlemaine rear view of  
building

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### Location

DUKE STREET CASTLEMAINE AND HITCHCOCK STREET CASTLEMAINE, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

### Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

### Level of significance

Registered

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1322

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO925

## VHR Registration

June 19, 1997

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 13, 1999

The Forest Creek Tourist Gold Mine possesses a complete and functional hydraulic sluicing plant. The machinery, including a 200hp gas engine and gas-producing plant was installed in 1936. The hydraulic sluicing plant operated from 1948-54, and again in 1957. On both occasions, payable gold was obtained from sluicing cemented gravels of an ancient river bed. The mining lease is now held under a Tourist Mine Authority.

The Forest Creek Tourist Gold Mine is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Forest Creek Tourist Gold Mine is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of a major 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. The Forest Creek Tourist Gold Mine is important because it possesses the oldest functional hydraulic sluicing works in Victoria. The old gold mining machinery, including the Ruston & Hornsby engine and gas-producing plant, are also significant in their own right, as extremely rare industrial artefacts.

The Forest Creek Tourist Gold Mine 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

Works covered by existing Tourist Mine Authority and Occupation licences for the land.

Construction dates            1936,

Heritage Act Categories    Registered place, Registered archaeological place,

Hermes Number                5240

Property Number

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### **Extent of Registration**

1. All the land, buildings and fixed mining machinery including corrugated iron, timber framed shed, Ruston & Hornsby gas engine and pumping gear, wood-fired gas producing plant and steel-framed loading ramp within a 50 metre radius of the point with Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E545 N929 on 1:100,000 Map Sheet No. 7723 Castlemaine.

*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/>*