
PEARL CO.

Location

BAILEY STREET LONG GULLY, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7724-0193

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

SiteCard data copied on 08/07/2024:

What is significant?

Remains of a 1930s quartz mine that still retains some concrete machinery beds and foundations. It does have an impressive tramway embankment which is a relatively rare type of historic mining feature.

How is it significant?

The site has significance because of its:

Intactness: retains evidence of the key aspects of a quartz mine – mullock heap, an arrangement of machinery mounting beds and a tramway formation

Condition: retained fabric in a condition that can be understood and interpreted

Why is it significant?

The site is of local significance as an example of the type of quartz mine that existed during the 1930s.

Interpretation of Site 1930s mine site which still retains some concrete machinery beds. It does have an impressive tramway embankment which is a relatively rare type of historic mining feature.

Hermes Number 8494

Property Number

History

In the mid 1870s, the ground owned by the Pearl Company was reported as extending for about 500 yards along the line of reef. The lease was originally held by the Nil Desperandum Company, who worked it for about ten years, viz from 1866 to 1876. The Pearl Co. was formed into 24,000 shares. Operations were commenced immediately after the formation of the company, by cutting down an old shaft and re-timbering it. This is now the main or engine shaft, and is doubled-centred in three compartments, with a permanent ladderway, and now is down a depth of 1,400 feet. After cutting the shaft to a depth of 162 feet, a double-winding plant was erected at a cost of £4,400, including an air-compressor, subsequently erected. They continued prospecting by sinking and driving, and it was not until the depth of 1,000 feet was reached that gold was first seen. The reef being worked was from 60 to 70 feet in width, and from June 1887 to December 1888, yielded profits to the amount of £15,600, which was paid to shareholders in the way of dividends. In addition to this, a very complete and extensive crushing plant was erected at a cost of £6,740, and a dam constructed which cost £415. The crushing plant consists of six batteries of five stampers each. Bendigo Goldfield, Dept of Mines, information states that in the 1930s mining revival, a new company worked from a main shaft, a south shaft and an east shaft, obtaining 48,700 oz. of gold, and paying £25,800 in dividends. The main shaft was sunk to 1,630 feet, a saddle reef being worked at 827 feet, and a system of spurs at 1,000 feet. The south shaft was sunk to 1,560 feet, and spurs of an east back were worked, these being 30 feet wide from 934 feet to 1,200 feet.

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/>