
SIR JOHN FRANKLIN MINE SITE

Location

KELLY CREEK TRACK MATLOCK, MANSFIELD SHIRE

Municipality

MANSFIELD SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8122-0013

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO41

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 10733

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

The Sir John Franklin at Gooley's Creek emerged during the 1860s as one of major reefs on the Wood's Point/Matlock field. After the quartz mining slump of the mid-sixties, it was one of the few mines in which methodical development of deeper ground continued through the next decade.

Another quartz mining revival took place towards the end of the 1890s. One focus of this revival appears to have been Gooley's Creek where several companies commenced work , including the Comet, Little Comet, Sir John

Franklin and North Sir John Franklin. All these companies appear to have erected water-powered batteries. The most successful of them was to be the Sir John Franklin Company. In 1899, this company erected new works, including a tramway and a 10-head battery. The new battery was powered by a 45ft diameter water-wheel. As the new mill was sited on the opposite side of Gooley's Creek to the mine, a high wooden flume had to be erected. This company worked from 1899 to 1909 and produced 6,267 ounces of gold.

The 1930s saw major mining operations kick off on two mines: the Sir John Franklin and Morning Star. The New Sir John Franklin Company commenced work in 1932. It installed new plant consisting of a diesel engine and five-head battery; the old boiler, foundations and smoke stack of an earlier stage being bulldozed to make way for the new plant. The company only had a few crushings between 1940 and 1941; the plant was sold in 1949.

References:

Holliday, pp. 5-6

Milner

Mining Surveyors' Reports, March 1872

Supple et al

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/>