
CHAMPION WORKINGS & BATTERY SITE

Location

STANDERS CREEK WOODS POINT, MANSFIELD SHIRE

Municipality

MANSFIELD SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8122-0018

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 10737

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

The Champion Reef (or claim) was one of a bundle discovered in the Black River/Stander's Creek vicinity in 1865. A 16-head water-powered battery was installed the next year, and the first crushing yielded an average of 15 dwt per ton. The mine was worked by open cut and the supply of stone for crushing 'may be said to be almost unlimited', but the claimholders (or shareholders) were said to be disappointed and the lease went unworked until 1868. Being reliant on water for crushing, the Champion Co. spent a lot of time waiting for rain; when it came, their stone yielded only poorly. In 1871, the Oriental Co., also on Black River, struck good stone and laid a tramway from their mine to the Champion battery. Nothing more was heard of mine or battery for many years. In 1886, pioneer 'loamer', William Wye, found a reef (called the New Standard) crossing a narrow ridge 'on which runs a track long in disuse' leading to the Champion mine. At the same time, the Golden Fleece Reef was struck a short distance to the south. In 1888, the Champion battery was removed by the Golden Fleece Co. a distance

of two miles ('but this is equal to fully 200 miles in the lower country') to a new site on Stander's Creek, where it crushed for the two new mines. The Champion mine itself is not known to have been worked again.

References:

Milner, p. 3

Mining Surveyors' Reports (Wood's Point Division), March & December 1865, March & June 1866, September & December 1868, March 1870, June 1871, September 1886, June 1888

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/>