
YACKANDANDAH CREEK GORGE GOLD SLUICING WORKS



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GORGE



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Location

BELLS FLAT ROAD YACKANDANDAH, INDIGO SHIRE

Municipality

INDIGO SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8225-0027

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO214

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 5, 2005

What is significant?

The Yackandandah Creek Gorge Gold Mining Diversion Sluice consists of a 65 metre long stone diversion sluice and associated pebble dumps, and a 200 metre long tail race. The embankment was used to divert the waters of Yackandandah Creek away from its natural bed which was then mined for its alluvial gold. The tailrace was cut in 1882 by the Premier Company when they sluiced Rowdy Flat.

How is it significant?

The Yackandandah Creek Gorge Gold Mining Diversion Sluice is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Yackandandah Creek Gorge Gold Mining Diversion Sluice is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of two early forms of gold mining. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria. Water diversion and sluicing are important key ingredients in an understanding of gold mining technology as it was employed in mountainous country where water was plentiful and perennial.

The Yackandandah Creek Gorge Gold Mining Diversion Sluice 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.

[Source: Victorian Heritage Register]

Other Names GOLD MINING DIVERSION SLUICE,

Hermes Number 10941

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site:

An 1860 map included a notation describing the position of 'One of the expensive tailraces mentioned in my reports blasted thro' granite' . Its position corresponds with that of the present-day upper gorge. A mining surveyors' report of December 1859 appears to refer to the same tailrace: 'Messrs Edwards and party's tailrace at the bridge, near the Bridge Inn, on the road to the township is completed. The greater portion was cut through granite, and boxed throughout its entire length.' In 1854 a sawmill had been erected on Yackandandah Creek, and Edwards' claim (worked from 1857) took in the 'Falls of sawmill tail race'.

The lower gorge was apparently constructed when the Premier GMC (Jessop & Fletcher) excavated a 100m-long tailrace in 1882, cut through hard rock to a depth of more than 2m in places. The Premier Co. had a sluicing lease at Rowdy Flat, on the creek just north of the township. The race was extended in 1885.

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/>