
JUNGLE CREEK BATTERY SITE

Location

MCMILLANS ROAD COWA, WELLINGTON SHIRE

Municipality

WELLINGTON SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8323-0009

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 10990

Property Number

History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: At the start of 1865, 157 miners were working 39 reefs at Jungle Creek. Two batteries—those of Hartley & Co. (known as the Jungle mill) and the Victoria Co.—were erected in 1865, to crush for reefs on upper and lower Jungle Creek, respectively. Both batteries were driven by steam-power; the Jungle mill had five head of stamps, the Victoria probably eight. The Victoria battery seems to have operated for only a short time: yields from the Victoria Reef itself were 'remarkably poor' and, by the end of 1866, the 20 or so miners remaining at Jungle Creek were on the upper reaches. The battery was removed to another part of the Crooked River field in 1870. The Jungle mill was rented in 1867 by the partnership of Whiting & Willmott, to crush for their mines on the Speedwell, Anchor, and Time-will-tell reefs. The battery continued operating until at least mid-1869. After some time idle, the Time-will-tell Reef was again taken up in 1872, along with the Bismark Reef, and a water-powered battery was erected on Jungle Creek. The Speedwell Reef, 'in the immediate vicinity of this mill', was re-occupied at the same time. None of these reefs yielded at all well, but a new rich reef, the Bright Star, was

struck not far from the Bismark. By the middle of 1875, the Bright Star had run its course, and no more was heard of the battery/s on Jungle Creek.

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/>