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# WHITE FLAT OVAL REFUSE SITE

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## Location

HICKMAN STREET BALLARAT CENTRAL, BALLARAT CITY

## Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0442

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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### Historical Significance

High quantities of locally and internationally produced artefacts have been collected; largely bottles and ceramics. Also a small quantity of 19th century mining artefacts were discovered. The site may inform on domestic and mining activities through Ballarat's history. Site is highly disturbed.

### Interpretation of Site

Possible dump site/refuse deposit for domestic rubbish. Likely to contain artefacts representative of 19th century activities, in gold fields region. May reflect ethnicity themes, including Chinese. 2020 updated site card: Possible dump site/refuse deposit for domestic rubbish. Likely to contain artefacts representative of 19th century domestic and possibly industrial activities in the Ballarat as well as the wider goldfields region. May reflect ethnicity themes, including Chinese and Cornish.

### Archaeological Significance

The site is highly disturbed. There is a mixture of 19th and early 20th century material, including modern material. The artefacts are in the top strata, up to 1.5m in depth. Sterile clay layers exist below this.

Hermes Number 124311

## History

May have been 19th century tip/refuse site, perhaps disturbed at some time as part of works to Yarrowee Channel. 2020 updated site card: Mount Pleasant is a suburb established by Cornish miners and their families in 1853 - somewhat removed from the 'rowdy Ballarat gold diggings' (Victorian Places Website, accessed 13/05/2020). Settled in 1836 by the Yuille brothers when they established their sheep run, it became home to a number of shepherds and woodcutters who worked on the property and as such was one of the last areas to be impacted by gold mining. This made it attractive to the Cornish miners who travelled each day to work on the nearby goldfields, and as such it is considered the oldest residential suburb of Ballarat (Mount Pleasant History Group brochure, accessed online 28/05/2020). By 1855, the Cornish community had established a Wesleyan school and a church; however, in 1856 Mount Pleasant became a goldfield itself and a quickly erected town centre was established on Prest Street. Furthermore the length of the Yarrowee River has been heavily impacted by agricultural and market gardens from 1837 onwards; gold mining activities from the mid 1850's; runoff from industrial activities from the early 1870's; and was affected by channelisation works from 1916 (Mount Pleasant History Group brochure, accessed online 28/05/2020). These channelisation works began informally with timber reused from mining activities but over time this was replaced with brick, bluestone and concrete. Previously recovered artefacts are listed as dating to the 19th and early 20th century.

*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/>*