

RAVENSWOOD DOMESTIC SITE

Location

BEILHARZ ROAD HARCOURT, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7724-0618

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site	Domestic dump site possibly associated with a dwelling. May be related to early settlement at Ravenswood and/or gold mining activities. Today the homestead is used as a bed and breakfast, while the Run although significantly smaller in size, is still in use for sheep grazing.
Archaeological Significance	The dump site may provide significant and potentially datable archaeological material that may reflect on early settler and mining activities in the area. There may be value excavating this site for information relating to the Ravenswood Ruin and associated settler activities.
Historical Significance	May have historical significance relating to settlement of Harcourt region.
Hermes Number	124376
Property Number	

History

The first known squatter, Charles Sheratt, occupied the Mount Alexander 2 (Ravenswood Run) run in 1839 but did not take out a licence (Story 1993). He subsequently sold the property to Benjamin Heape and Richard Grice in 1843 or 1844, which are commonly referred to as the first owners of the Run. In 1841, Grice who was known to have been living on the property in 1841 was attacked and wounded by local Aborigines (Story).

In the first few years of the Run, no structures were built, Charles Sheratt applied for permission to erect three huts on the run. However, it is unknown whether the huts were ever constructed. In the 1850s cheap fencing was installed on much of the run by Grice and Heap, this was a result of staffing difficulties owing to the gold rush (Story).

Following the Second World War, the Soldier Settlement Commission bought a total of 6110 acres of the Ravenswood property to establish five farms. In the early 1950s, the occupants of the homestead (since 1891) deserted the property. In 1961 the run was purchased and restored.

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/>