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# Blue Jacket Reef Historic Area - Blue Jacket Reef (Blue Jacket Gully) Mine & Alluvial Workings and Blue Jacket Reef (One Eye Gully) Mine & Alluvial Workings



Blue Jacket Reef (Blue Jacket Gully) Mine and Alluvial Workings



Blue Jacket Reef (One Eye Gully) Mine and Alluvial Workings

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## Location

CA 22C Lenton Road EAGLEHAWK, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO351

## Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

[Blue Jacket Gully] The site contains representative examples of three of shallow reef workings, and later re-working of the surface alluvia with improved technology. It is easily accessible and has the potential to educate and illustrate several important periods in the development of Bendigo mining (criterion C). It forms the central portion of a network of workings along, and in the vicinity of, Blue Jacket Reef which was one of the early reef systems worked in the area.

[One Eye Gully] The site contains examples of three of the main phases of mining in the Whipstick area: early shallow alluvial workings leading to later reef workings, and eventually re-working of the surface alluvia with improved technology. It is easily accessible and has the potential to educate and illustrate several important periods in the development of Bendigo mining (criterion C). It forms the southernmost end of a network of workings along, and in the vicinity of, Blue Jacket Reef which was one of the early reef systems worked in the area.

## Theme

### 4. Transforming and managing the land

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Marong Heritage Study 1999, Andrew Ward and Associates, 1999;
Construction dates	1857, 1856,
Hermes Number	199934
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

[Blue Jacket Gully] On the eastern side of Blue Jacket Gully there is a line of shallow reef workings several hundred metres in extent. The mullock heaps are from 3 to 4 metres high and the shafts have been partially filled. Some of the holes have since been used for the dumping of domestic rubbish. To the west of this line of workings, extending down the slope towards the bottom of the gully the ground has been extensively hydraulically sluiced to bedrock. [One Eye Gully] At the head of one of the many branches of One-Eye Gully there is a short line of shallow reef workings along the southern extension of Blue Jacket Reef. The mullock heaps are from 2 to 3 metres high and the shafts have been partially filled. Some of the holes have since been used for the dumping of domestic rubbish. To the south and west of this line of workings, extending down the slope and across the road the ground has been extensively hydraulically sluiced to bedrock. At the southern end of this sluiced area, on the fall into the main gully and to the west of the road, there is a small patch of shallow alluvial workings.

## Physical Description 2

[Blue Jacket Gully]The Blue Jacket Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lennon Road between Prowse Road and the junction of One Eye Gully and Opossum Gully, on the south by an eastern branch of One Eye Gully, on the east by a line 75 metres east of the reef workings in one of the northern branches of One Eye Gully, extending northwards to the reef workings in Blue Jacket Gully and then further north and east at the same distance along Blue Jacket Gully and Peter the Great Gully to a cross track between the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road and Whipstick Road, on the north by this cross track, on the north west by a line 75 metres north west of Peter the Great Gully and Mosquito Gully to a point on the line of Lennon Road extended. [One Eye Gully] Site included within the boundaries of the Blue Jacket Reef Historic Mining Area.

## Physical Description 3

[Blue Jacket Gully] Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district.

The area is close to housing and is already being used for recreational purposes. There is already a track to the east of the reef workings which is in use by pedestrians.

[One Eye Gully] The shallow alluvial workings are very weathered and are almost certainly a remnant of the original workings in the 1850's. The reef workings are undated and there are no records of any gold production. Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district.

As One-Eye Gully was known to be where puddling machines were in use in by 1857, it is possible that the area may contain some early examples, although most of these were probably lower down the gully where the area has been redeveloped for housing.

The area is close to housing and is already being used for recreational purposes.

The Blue Jacket Reef was one of the main sources of alluvia later worked in One Eye Gully.

*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/>*