
HARDY AND CHUNG 'VICTORY' HOUSE SITES AND MINING LANDSCAPE

Location

742 GEELONG ROAD CANADIAN, BALLARAT CITY

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0464

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 17, 2022

What is significant?

The site has the potential to contain historical archaeological deposits and artefacts (including sub-floor deposits) associated with the construction and occupation of the former miner's residence (c.1880) and Victory House (c.1906). The yard, garden, outhouses, and other parts of the site also have the potential to contain archaeological remains associated with the occupation of the place, and the operation of the You Hing (Woah Hawp Canton) mine, which was part of the rich Canadian Gully mining landscape.

How is it significant?

Hardy and Chung 'Victory' House sites and mining landscape is of local historical, social and archaeological significance.

Why is it significant?

The archaeological heritage from the site has the potential to provide information about the initial gold rush of the Canadian Gully area and the development of Geelong [formerly Plank and Main] Road. The site has the potential to contain information relating to the Hardy occupation of the site from c.1889 and the layout and relationship Hardy had with the Woah Hawp Canton Mine. The site will likely contain archaeological evidence from the Chung occupation period of the site and can inform archaeologists of lifestyle and status a twentieth century Chinese Australian family.

Other Names VICTORY HOUSE,

Hermes Number 209215

Property Number

History

The site is currently considered to be 472 Geelong Road, Canadian VIC 3350. The background history has been adapted from Robyn Ballinger's 2022 available report.

Canadian is a residential suburb 3km southeast of central Ballarat. The suburb is located between Buninyong and Ballarat and the is fronting Geelong Road. It adjoins other historically significant areas, including Golden Point and Eureka.

Geelong Road has formerly been known as Buninyong Road, Main Road, and Plank Road. Main Road is known to have been formed within a natural gully, causing a number of disastrous flooding events. The levels of the road are known to have been altered. Contemporary Ellsworth Street was the municipal boundary between Ballarat City and Buninyong Borough. A lepers camp was situated north of Ellsworth Street and south of Golden Point, this resulted in there being limited amenities in the area. Canadian was the focus of mining by the Chinese, there is evidence of Chinese camps surrounding Ballarat and two were situated in proximity to Canadian.

The site is in close proximity to Prince Regent Gully and the Woah Hawp Canton mine (H7622-0126) Which was a profitable and prominent Chinese-owned mine. It is also significant in that the Chinese stakeholder also chose to employ primarily Chinese workers.

The Prince Regent Gully would have been mined as early as 1852, with residences and structures forming around the gully and miners' rights as early as 1855.

The first known occupation was in 1889 by a person named Hardy, who was likely the manager of the Woah Hawp Canton mine. Figure 3 below shows a number of residences fronting Buninyong [Geelong] Road. To the south of Hardy's property was S Stalls. To the north, three properties were owned by the Tinsworths.

In c. 1902 James Wong Chung was made manager of the You Sing goldmine (formerly Woah Hawp Canton) and he and his wife Margaret and six children moved to Geelong Road in 1903. The family likely moved into the existing structure. In 1906 the valuation books show an increase in the value of the property, indicating that this is when 'Victory' was constructed.

The house was named 'Victory' after the horse 'The Victory' that won the Melbourne Cup in 1902 (see Figure 5). The Chungs used their winnings on the horse to contribute toward the cost of the construction of their home and had the name 'Victory' inscribed into the fanlight over the front door (Chung 1983). Members of the Chung family continued to live in the subject residence until 2007 (Bindy Trembath 2022).

The earlier building is believed to have been converted into a washhouse and sewerage was not connected to the property until 1973. Other outbuildings may have included a chicken coupe and garden. The facade and presumably the interior of the structure were renovated in the 1920s. There are detailed records of the layout of the house and residence.

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/>