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# Pink Cliffs Gold Sluicing Site

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## Location

Pink Cliffs Road, HEATHCOTE VIC 3523

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1352

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7824-0067, H7824-0049

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO473

## Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

*See also Heritage Victoria Hermes entry # 5248*

*What is significant?*

Hydraulic sluicing operations on the site were carried out under the direction of James Hedley from the late 1870s through the 1880s. Hedley's gold mining operations were finally banned because of damage wrought to grazing land. Water for the sluicing was delivered to the site by water race and high pressure pipelines and then directed at the gold-bearing deposits. The associated water race, which runs for some 26 miles, is largely intact. The gold sluicing site is dominated by one large sluice hole, which, due to the highly coloured granite bedrock exposed by the mining, presents a unique and a very dramatic scenic landscape.

### *How is it significant?*

The Pink Cliffs Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Site is of historical and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

*Why is it significant?* The Pink Cliffs Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Site is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of a redundant form of gold mining. Hydraulic sluicing was an important late nineteenth century development in mining technology, which enabled the continued and more efficacious exploitation of Victoria's dwindling alluvial gold deposits. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria. The Pink Cliffs Hydraulic Gold Sluicing Site is also significant because of its association with Thomas Hedley, who, as a pioneer in the development of sluicing and dredging in Victoria, was a prominent figure in the State's late nineteenth century gold mining industry.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008;
Construction dates	1870,
Hermes Number	32854
Property Number	

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## **Physical Description 1**

No information held

## **Historical Australian Themes**

4 Transforming the land

4.5 Gold Mining

4 Transforming the land

4.5 Gold mining

*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/>*