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# BET BET REEF GOLD PUDDLING SITE



1 bet bet gold puddler dunolly  
landscape

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## Location

MARYBOROUGH-DUNOLLY ROAD DUNOLLY, CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS SHIRE

## Municipality

CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1247

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO41

## VHR Registration

December 19, 1996

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 1999

The Bet Bet Reef Gold Puddling Site is an unusual example of a puddling machine. Instead of the usual timber slats, the puddling trench is retained by corrugated iron and stone, and has a concrete floor. The puddling machine most probably operated in the twentieth century. The puddling machine is an excellent and late example of the puddling technology developed in Victoria from 1854 in response to the need to process enormous amounts of clay soil which needed to be broken up to get at the gold. Horses were used to drag harrows around a circular ditch in which the soil and water were mixed.

The Bet Bet Reef Gold Puddling Site is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Bet Bet Reef Gold Puddling Site is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of a site associated with the earliest forms of gold mining which, from 1851, played a pivotal role in the development of Victoria. Puddling machine technology is particularly important in the history of Victorian gold mining as the only technology or method developed entirely on Victorian goldfields.

The Bet Bet Reef Gold Puddling Site is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts which will be able to provide significant information about the cultural history of gold mining and the gold seekers themselves.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

**Places of worship:** In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

**Subdivision/consolidation:** Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### Specific Exemptions:

General Conditions:

1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance

with it.

4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

No permits are required for the following classes of works provided they are carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Conservation Plan For Historic Mining Sites prepared by David Bannear in 1996.

- \* Mineral Exploration
- \* Fire suppression duties
- \* Timber production
- \* Weed and vermin control
- \* Public safety
- \* Rehabilitation

Construction dates            1854,

Heritage Act Categories    Registered place, Registered archaeological place,

Hermes Number                4971

Property Number

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## Extent of Registration

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under Section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1247 in the category described as a Heritage and Archaeological Place:

Bet Bet Reef Gold Puddling Site, Junction of Maryborough and Bromley Roads, Dunolly, Central Goldfields Shire Council.

### EXTENT:

1. All of the land including one puddler and other gold mining relics within a 100 metre radius of the point with Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E447 N126 on 1:100,000 map sheet number 7624 Dunolly.

Dated 7 November 1996

RAY TONKIN

Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G50 19 December 1996 p.3290]

*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/>*