

# SPECIMEN GULLY FLAGSTONE QUARRY



SPECIMEN GULLY  
FLAGSTONE QUARRY  
SOHE 2008



1 specimen gully flagstone  
quarry barkers creek  
castlemaine side view



specimen gully flagstone quarry plan

## Location

162 SPECIMEN GULLY ROAD BARKERS CREEK, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## **Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H1411

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO746

## **VHR Registration**

February 12, 1998

## **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - May 19, 1999

The quarrying of stone, gravel and sand for building and construction purposes was widely carried out on all Victorian goldfields. Some localities become notable for a particular material, such as granite and slate. The first gold discovery in the Mount Alexander district was made by John Worley and Christopher Thomas Peters at Specimen Gully in July 1851. Subsequently, the gully was extensively worked for both alluvial and reef gold. Stone quarrying was undertaken in the gully from the late 1850s, with the original slate flagstone quarry being situated quite close to Worley and Peters' claim. The original quarry was extensively worked for more than 40 years. By 1870, it was by far the largest producer of flagstone in Victoria. The stone obtained was found to be highly suitable for paving and was widely used throughout Victoria and in the streets of Melbourne. The belt of the valuable flagstones was about 23 feet wide, and was worked at intervals for a length of 20 chains (400 metres). At the south end, a fault broke up the rocks, rendering them of little value. At its deepest point, the quarry was sunk to a depth of 220 feet (67 metres). When abandoned at about the turn of the century, the quarry filled with water to within 30 feet of the surface. In its heyday, the quarry was equipped with a 25-horsepower engine, a planing and sawing plant, and a railway siding.

The Specimen Gully Flagstone Quarry is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Specimen Gully Flagstone Quarry is historically important, as one of the State's major nineteenth-century stone quarries.

The Specimen Gully Flagstone Quarry is scientifically important for its illustration of nineteenth century quarrying technology. Despite being partly filled, the quarry remains a fine representative of the State's early stone quarrying industry. The quarry plays a special role in the district, as an early artefact of an industry that continues in the district today.

## **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:**

#### **EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:**

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)

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  
Revegetation

Construction dates            1870,

Heritage Act Categories    Registered place, Registered archaeological place,

Hermes Number                5385

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 1411 in the category described as a Heritage and Archaeological Place:

Specimen Gully Flagstone Quarry, Specimen Gully Track, Barkers Creek, Castlemaine, Mt Alexander Shire Council.

#### EXTENT

1. All of the land marked L-1 including quarry sites both sides of Specimen Gully Track, and all archaeological deposits and artefacts on Diagram 608089A held by the Executive Director being part of the Crown Land included in Parcel 121048, Allotment 3C, Section A2 and part of the Crown Land included in Parcel 121051, Allotment 17B, Section A2, Parish of Castlemaine, County of Talbot, and being P120289, Allotment 19E, Section A2, Parish of Faraday, County of Talbot.

Dated 5 February 1998

RAY TONKIN

Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G6 12 February 1998 pp.349-350]

*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/>*