

DEEP LEADS ELECTRIC COMMISSION POWER HOUSE



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deep leads electric commission plan

Location

BARINGHUP ROAD CARISBROOK, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1689

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO982

VHR Registration

May 21, 1998

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 25, 1999

Deep Leads Electric Commission Power House was constructed for one of a succession of mining companies, all linked to a common ancestor, the Chalks No.3 Company. The original company had a huge lease which took in two converging deep lead systems. Over a period of 23 years, through various company reorganisations and amalgamations, there were a number of attempts to work the deep leads. Overall, these efforts were disastrous, with no less than £535,400 expended for a return of £253,520. In 1903, the Victoria Gold Estates Company, which was working the northern section of the Chalks No.3 lease, received an injection of English capital, which resulted in the formation of a new company; The Victorian Deep Leads Company. The new capital was also used to replace old steam-powered equipment with electrically-powered pumping machinery. This required the expenditure of 25,000 on the electrical equipment for a central power house, which was built adjoining the Charlotte Plains mine. The plant, run by the Deep Leads Electric Transmission Company, consisted of three sets of 400 Kilowatt generators of the revolving field type, direct coupled to 600 horse-power compound condensing engines. The power station supplied power for the last three mines to work the Moolort Deep leads: Victorian Deep Lead Company, Goldfields Charlotte Plains Consolidated Gold, and Loddon Valley Goldfields.

The Deep Leads Electric Commission Power House is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Deep Leads Electric Commission Power House is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic example of an important form of gold mining. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria. As well as being a significant producer of Victoria's nineteenth century wealth, deep lead mining, with its intensive reliance on machinery, played an important role in the development of Victorian manufacturing industry. The Deep Leads Electric Commission Power House is important as a manifestation of this aspect of gold mining, especially notable for the adoption of electric power for gold mining. The remains of power stations associated with gold mining sites are rare in Victoria. The foundations of the Moolort power station, alongside those of the Victoria Falls Power Station in Gippsland, are the best preserved in the State; unlike the Victoria Falls site, the remains of the Moolort power station survive in association with the relics of the mining operations to which they once supplied power.

The Deep Leads Electric Commission Power House is also bound, through a maze of company reorganisations and amalgamations, to a number of neighbouring mines, in a 23 year history of working the Moolort deep lead. The group of mines contain the most extensive and diverse array of deep lead mining machinery foundations in Victoria, which contribute significantly to an understanding of the technological history of gold mining.

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

No permits are required for the following classes of works:

1. Grazing of stock.
2. Retaining access to the rest of the land
3. Normal land care maintenance, including weed, pest and soil erosion controls, and removal of fallen trees where necessary.
4. Extraction of gravel for private use from that part of the heap which is not visible from the road.

5. Burial of hay/silage, providing the hay/silage is the property of the land owner/s, in that part of the heap which is not visible from the road.
6. Cropping or other land use in accordance with a professionally prepared conservation plan for the site, providing the plan has been approved by Heritage Victoria.

Construction dates 1903,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place, Registered archaeological place,
Hermes Number 5394
Property Number

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 1689 in the category described as a Heritage and Archaeological place:

Deep Leads Electric Commission Power

House, Bald Hill-Baringhup Road, Moolort, Mt Alexander Shire Council.

EXTENT

1. All the land marked L-1 including aboveground structures (concrete footings and generator-engine foundations) mullock heap and all archaeological features and artefacts on Diagram 608142 held by the Executive Director, being part of the land included in Section/Allotment 12A3 Parish of Eddington, County of Talbot.

Dated 7 May 1998
RAY TONKIN
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G20 21 May 1998 p.1136]

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/>