

---

# THOMAS SMITHS GOOD BED FOSSIL QUARRY



1 thomas smiths good bed  
fossil quarry boundary road  
yandoit landscape feb1997

---

## Location

414 BOUNDARY GULLY ROAD WERONA, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1413

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO977

## VHR Registration

February 12, 1998

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 19, 1999

Thomas Smith, a local Sandon farmer, gained distinction as a geologist through the discovery and collection of graptolite fossils from the Sandon-Campbelltown district. Thomas Smith carried out his geological work from c.1898 to his death in 1944, gaining both Australian and international recognition because of the importance of his graptolite fossil discoveries. Thomas Smith's graptolite fossil collection is housed in the Geology Department, Museum of Victoria. The centrepiece of the collection is the extraordinarily well preserved fossils, including specimens of 16 previously unknown species, excavated from a small quarry in LP143735 (known as the 'good bed').

Thomas Smith's 'good bed' fossil quarry is of historical and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

Thomas Smith's 'good bed' fossil quarry is historically important because of its association with Thomas Smith and his significant contribution to the knowledge of the State's unique geology.

Thomas Smith's 'good bed' fossil quarry is scientifically important in the context of the site's contribution to the advancement of geological understanding in the State and due to the rarity in Victoria of shelly fossils, such as graptolite, which are used worldwide for the dating and correlation of rocks laid down during the Ordovician, Silurian and Early Devonian Periods (390-500 million years ago).

## 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)

1. Fencing of the registered land. Grazing of cattle and sheep is permit exempt until the land is fenced off.

2. Retaining access to the rest of the land, including use of the track.
3. Normal landcare maintenance - weed, pest and soil erosion controls, and removal of fallen trees where necessary.

Construction dates        1898,  
Heritage Act Categories   Registered place,  
Hermes Number            5424  
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 in that the Heritage Register Number 1413 is now described in the category as a Heritage Place:

Thomas Smith's 'good bed' fossil quarry, Boundary Road, Yandoit, Mt Alexander Shire Council.

### EXTENT

1. All of the land marked L-1 on Diagram 608143A held by the Executive Director. The fossil quarry is part of LP 143735 (former 36 of 2), Section 2, Allotment 16A, County of Talbot, Parish of Campbelltown. The quarry is situated on the crest of a ridge, on the western side of a track that runs in a southerly direction from Boundary Road. The registration takes in all the land for 50 metres x 20 metres either side of Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E237343 N5875184 on 1:100,000 map sheet number 7723, Castlemaine.

Dated 5 February 1998  
RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G6 12 February 1998 p.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/>*