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# BAXTER TRACK DEEP LEAD WORKINGS

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## Location

BAXTER TRACK WATERLOO, PYRENEES SHIRE

## Municipality

PYRENEES SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7523-0050

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO48

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 18, 2005

The Baxter Lead Alluvial Gold Mining precinct contains the remnants of five small-scale deep lead mines. Working at the head or commencement of Baxter Gully, the deep lead miners were working the upper portion of a buried and very wet lead. Mining at a depth of around thirty five metres required the use of horse-powered haulage whims for baling the water and raising the wash dirt from the shaft. The raised gold bearing gravels were washed in puddling machines. Further down lead, around the township of Waterloo, the lead plunged dramatically and mining had to be undertaken by companies who installed expensive and powerful steam-powered machinery.

The Baxter Lead Alluvial Gold Mining precinct is of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.

The Baxter Lead Alluvial Gold Mining precinct is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of sites associated with the earliest forms of gold mining which, from 1851, played a pivotal role in the development of Victoria. The precinct is a rare well preserved example of the pioneering mining

methods used to work the upper sections of a deep lead. The precinct is important because it has substantial evidence of the technology used still surviving in association with the mining by-products in the form of pebble and earth dumps.

The Baxter Lead Alluvial Gold Mining precinct is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts which will be able to provide significant information about the technological history of gold mining, the cultural history of gold mining and the gold seekers themselves.

[Source: Victorian Heritage Register]

Hermes Number 6899

Property Number

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*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/>*