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# Eldorado Dredge



B3380 Eldorado Dredge

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## Location

20 Eldorado-Byawatha Road,, ELDORADO VIC 3746 - Property No B3380

## Municipality

WANGARATTA RURAL CITY

## Level of significance

State

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0386

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 28, 2007

The mammoth Eldorado Dredge was designed and built in 1935 by Thompson's Engineering and Pipe Co., Castlemaine, for Cocks Eldorado Gold Dredging Co. The dredge is constructed of steel and was used to excavate gold and tin bearing material from the river flats on the Eldorado plain. Mining operations ceased in 1956. During its working life the dredge treated 30 million cubic metres of creek bed, winning 2.3 million grams of gold and 1475 tonnes of tin.

This is the last remaining sizable object on the Ovens Goldfields and serves as a superb reminder of the final phase of the gold era in Victoria. During this phase, profitable mining could only be undertaken on an industrial basis with extensive capital outlay and large machinery. The Dredge is the largest surviving of its type in Victoria,

possibly Australia. It creates an awe-inspiring image against its picturesque watery resting place and the gently rolling hills and is a local landmark and tourist attraction.

The Cocks Eldorado Company has kept the dredge on a care and maintenance basis since operations ceased in 1956.

Classified: 20/12/1973

Hermes Number 69844

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/>*