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# THOMAS SMITH'S GOOD BED FOSSIL QUARRY

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## Location

NEVENS ROAD WERONA, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7723-0479

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO977

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 19, 2005

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).

[Source: Victorian Heritage Register]

Hermes Number 8138

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/>*