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# SPECIMEN PARKER REEF MINE AND WORKINGS

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## Location

5250 MIDLAND HIGHWAY DRY DIGGINGS, HEPBURN SHIRE

## Municipality

HEPBURN SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7723-0677

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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Hermes Number 8279

Property Number

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## History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: Alluvial mining in the headwaters of Middletons Creek (known as the Dry Diggings) during the late 1850s led to several shallow quartz reefs - including Beehive, Sportsman, and Parkers Specimen - being opened up. Several shafts sunk on these reefs found extremely rich gold down to 100 feet. Mining beyond this depth proved to be unprofitable. Parkers Specimen Reef was one of the oldest quartz workings in the Daylesford division. Its main period of mining appears to have spanned the late 1850s to late 1860s: 1859 Parker's Specimen Reef, head of Dry Diggings (geological map, No. 1 a, east) Claim No. 1 - said to have produced £3,000 for a length of 80ft. Claim No. 2 - Best on the line, yielded as much as 70 oz. per ton near the surface, and having presented its owners with £10,000 ... tunnel and tramway, and burning kiln. Claim No. 3 - Kiln, tramway to Mr. Wilson's crushing machine on Middletons Creek. Claim is 45ft long and produced £3,000 to £4,000 Parker's Specimen Reef and Sportsman's Reef (probably a continuation of the first 1860 Parkers Specimen Reef ... Mr. Wilson, occupying adjoining claim north, established a sawmill in connection with the

engine driving his crushing plant1861 On Parkers, Specimen Reef, the Dry Diggings Company have now made arrangements with a party from Sandy Creek to furnish machinery. Prince Llewellyn Co, Specimen Parker Reef, erecting machinery ... and have purchased Wilson's race, from Wallowbee Creek to Shepherd's Flat, passing through the company's site for machinery, and dam, for the sum of £115. Prince Llewellyn Co ... crushing machine1868 Parkers Specimen Reef Quartz Mining Co. have purchased their plant, consisting of two engine and battery

*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/>*