City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

ADELAIDE NEW MOON MINE

**Other Names**  
Adelaide New Moon Gold Mines

**Location**  
Parcel No.P123920 Unreserved Crown Land on the east side of Janaways Road, Garden Gully Reef, W/Vale

**Map Reference**  
Marong 1:25,000 - BV 524.376

- Victorian Heritage Register: No
- National Estate Register: No
- Planning Scheme: No

**Description**  
Remnant of mullock heap, at the southern end of which is a machinery site. All that is visible are two protruding engine mounting bolts, a scatter of stone and hand-made brick rubble, and a depression in the ground where there had once been a boiler setting.

**History**  
Period of activity: 1902-1908  
Line of reef: Moon/Garden Gully  
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown  
Total production: unknown  
Deepest working level: 725 feet  
Deepest shaft: 871 feet (below water level)

**Thematic Context**  
Mining

**Comparative Examples**  
The site is one of a number at the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef which were unproductive and economically insignificant (e.g. Central New Moon and Full Moon). There are several other earlier, better preserved and more representative medium-level low-production mine sites elsewhere in the study area, namely: Old Tom Reef (1857-1900), Frühling Reef (1860-1931), Lancashire Reef (1865-1907) and King of Prussia (1871-1885).

**Statement of Significance**  
The site has no significance.

**Level of Significance**  
None

**Recommendation**  
None

**Heritage Boundaries**  
None

**References**  
Chronology

1903: The four great mines - New Moon, South New Moon, Suffolk United and North New Moon - their leases extending for almost a mile from the southern boundary of the Whipstick yielded in all 555,906ozs of gold...To obtain this amount of gold 1,194,002 tons of quartz was reduced to sand...Excavations to mine this amount of crushing material entailed the removal of 29,253,049 cubic feet of quartz. In comparison to the great amount of quartz removed the volume of gold recovered was almost negligible. It would have amounted to only 32.84 cubic feet. ...encouraged no doubt by the success of the four companies, a number of companies later sunk shafts further along the course of Murray's survey and beyond. While none were particularly successful, most of their names clung to the Moon image. In order northwards from the lease of the North New Moon the mines were the New Moon Consolidated (with north and south shafts), New Moon United (two shafts), Adelaide New Moon, Full Moon, Northern Blocks, Rising Moon and Basset's, which was the most northern along the Garden Gully line or so called Moon Reef. [1.214-227]

- 1905: The Adelaide New Moon Company has deepened the shaft to 725 feet from the surface, and put out cross-cuts at various points, without finding anything payable as yet. Progress has been retarded by the flow of water encountered, but the shareholders are persevering in the hope of being rewarded in the near future. Sixteen men, on the average, were employed. [2.117]

- 1906: The Adelaide New Moon shaft is 871 feet deep; 20 men were employed. [2.126]

- 1906: As indicated by this name this is a venture that is principally in the hands of investors who reside in the Capital of South Australia. ... The mine is situated over three miles north of Eaglehawk Town Hall ...The company has 30,000 shares, and they hold 920 yards along the line of reef. The winding engine is suitable for taking them down at least 2,000 feet, and they have a splendid battery site a little to the east of their shaft.[3, 5]

- 1908: The Adelaide New Moon Company was financed by Adelaide investors, and was formed in 1902 to prospect the Moon line (= Garden Gully) north of New Moon United. The lease included 920 yards along the line of reef, and machinery capable of sinking the shaft to 2,000 feet was installed. The company was in 50,000 shares, and £13,972 was called between 1903 and 1908...The shaft was sunk to at least 700 feet, as an east crosscut was being put in at this level in 1906.

Production - There is no record of any gold being produced from this mine, although trial crushings were probably made of formations encountered, such as the spurs at 363 feet. [4]
# City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

## APOLLO HILL MINE AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Names</th>
<th>Madagascar Hill, Big Hill</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Parcel No. P127148, State Forest, West of Loeser Road, Whipstick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Epsom 1:25,000 - BV 576.353</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Victorian Heritage Register</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>National Estate Register</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Scheme</td>
<td>No</td>
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### Description
Along the crest of the hill there is a line of shallow surface workings which become more extensive at the northern end, where there is an area of ground hydraulically sluiced to bedrock. At the northern end of the eastern slope of the hill there is an adit and associated mullock heap. It has been driven for approximately 90 metres. The adit is accessible and the mullock heaps are well-defined although weathered.

### History
- Period of activity: 1864-1887
- Line of reef: unknown
- Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
- Total production: unknown
- Deepest working level: 100 feet
- Deepest shaft: 100 feet (above water level)

### Thematic Context
Mining

### Comparative Examples
The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Wallace (1856-1906), Black Rock (1857-1879), Sandfly (1857-1890), Barkly (1857-1951), Elliott (1858-1889), Shamrock (1862-1881), and Unfortunate Bolles’s (1862-1865).

### Statement of Significance
The site has the potential to educate and illustrate important aspects of mining on Bendigo because it displays a sequence of activities over time: small-scale quartz mining and later sluicing (criterion C) and is one of a very small number of sites on Bendigo which contains an open adit (criterion B). It was one of a number of sites in the study area worked in the 1880s with money provided from the prospecting vote (criterion A).

### Level of Significance
Local

### Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area within the proposed Splitters Gully Mining Heritage Area.

### Heritage Boundaries
The Splitters Gully Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Simpsons Road, on the east by Loeser Road northwards as far as the first gully north-east of Apollo Hill, on the north by this gully as far as 100 metres east of the leftmost branch of Splitters Gully, on the east by a line 100 metres east of the leftmost...
branch of this gully to Splitters Gully Track, on the south by this track as far as its intersection with Loeser Road, on the east by Loeser Road northwards as far as its intersection with a cross track, on the north east by a line from this intersection to the summit of Adelaide Hill, on the west by the line of the second gully west from Adelaide Hill extended across the right branch of Splitters Gully to Splitters Gully Track and thence along a line 100 metres west of the leftmost branch of Splitters Gully southwards to the head of the first gully west of Apollo Hill, and finally along a line 100 metres west of this gully to Simpsons Road.

References
1. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
2. "The Eaglehawk Prospecting Association." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 8 May 1885, p2, cols.4/5.
4. "Eaglehawk Prospecting Committee." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 18 September 1885, p3, col.3.
5. "Eaglehawk." From our own Correspondent, Friday, 9 April. The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 10 April 1886, p3, col.2.
6. "Eaglehawk." From our own Correspondent, Thursday, 16 May; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 21 May 1886, p3, col.1.
12. "Bendigo mining intelligence. The Whipstick." From our own Correspondent, 15 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 16 September 1858.
13. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
19. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
20. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
23. Department of Mineral and Industrial Development, records.
24. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.
25. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes
Splitters Gully Track is the title given to an unnamed track which connects Loeser Road to the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road generally in a south-westerly direction along the main left branch of Splitters Gully.

The reef on Apollo Hill was the main sources of alluvia later worked in the left branches of Splitters Gully.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998.
In my last report I stated that an improvement had taken place, that the number of miners in this division had considerably increased, and that more confidence and energy were displayed by the various owners of quartz claims in this district than had been exhibited for some time previously. The result of this has been a more thorough working of the different mines, a more energetic prospecting of the country, and the opening up of several new reefs, and the reworking of others long abandoned as unremunerative, the yields from which have amply rewarded their enterprising proprietors. The Apollo Hill offers an instance of this, the new reef there discovered having averaged one ounce to the ton with a considerable body of stone.

At the Big Hill two men were preparing to sink a shaft, ...

The eastern crosscut has been extended 23 feet, total 27 feet, with a number of ironstone spurs coming in the face. They have also driven west 4 feet, total 46 feet, without meeting with any chance.

The monthly report of the Eaglehawk Prospecting Association shows that several quartz spurs have been come across at the Big Hill reef.

The company commenced work on the 29th April, 1885, they had sunk their shaft 100 feet. At 50 feet drove east 74 feet, and west 63 feet; at 100 feet drove east 35 feet and west 63 feet; sunk old shaft 12 feet and drove 7 feet to new workings for air, drove 1 foot on leader, near flucan vein. Sunk another shaft 46 feet and at bottom drove east 34 feet and west 14 feet. They have been subsidized to the amount of £144 2 shillings 1 penny.

The first claim visited (by the Sandhurst Prospecting Board) was that of J. Dorizzi and E. Siler, who asked for £50 towards prospecting on Madagascar Hill, to the east of Lightning Hill. There is a deep cutting on the crown of the hill, showing some large bodies of stone. They party have a new shaft sunk 50 feet, and intend to crosscut west, and also to sink the shaft further. They have never had any crushing since they took up the claim, but it was reported that a coloured holder of the claim had formerly crushed 7 dwts per load. The gullies in the neighbourhood had been good.

The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry's" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still sluicing...
doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [12]

06.1874: At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well.[13]

06.1875: A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [13]

12.1877: The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [13]

03.1878: Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [13]

03.1878: Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [13.27]

09.1878: Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment... The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.

To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000 gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals
Total: 22,267,000 gals [13]

15.12.1879: The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [14, 15]

22.08.1885: In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [16]

1890: 3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on
1891: 4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [17]

1892: 5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [17]

1893: 5576ozs 13dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [17]

1894: 8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [17]

1895: 5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [18]

1896: 14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [18]

1897: 15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [18]

01.10.1898: Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer’s Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [19]

1898: 15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 12,680ozs 15dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [18]

1899: 12,444ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [18]

1900: 12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [18]

1901: 9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [18]

1902: 12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners.
in the district. [18]

1903: 9860ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [18]

1904: 12,745ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [18]

1905: 12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district. [18]

Break O'Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [18]

Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [18]

1906: 9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district. [18]

Break O'Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [18]

1907: 18,696ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1908: 6293ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618ozs 17dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1909: 2926ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1910: 1992ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 86ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

Green Brothers Dredge: 121ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1911: 2519ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070ozs 15dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 853ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

B. Ford's Dredge: 622ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1912: 2812ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

B. Ford's Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]
Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1913: 3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

B. Ford's Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1914: 2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1915: 3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434ozs 1dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1916: 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1917: 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [17]

Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [17]

1918: 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [20]

1920: 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [20]

1921: 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [20]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]

1922: 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [20]
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [20]

- Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]
- 1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district. [20]
- Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]
- 1924: 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [20]
- Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]
- 1925: 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district. [20]
- Knapman and Wingrave: 168ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]
- 1926: 367ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [20]
- 1927: 287ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [20]
- 1928: 573ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [20]
- 1929: 585ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [20]
- 1930: 688ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [20]

24.08.1931. Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [2276]
- 1931: 3867ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
- H. E. Knapman: 174ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]
- 1932: 5051ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district. [21]
- H. E. Knapman: 125ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]
- 1933: 4429ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial miners in the district. [21]
- H. E. Knapman: 119ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]
- 1934: 5395ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial miners in the district. [21]
- Day and Mason: 41ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]
- H. E. Knapman: 252ozs obtained from 2.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]
- 1935: 4609ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1936: 7196 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Aurum Dredging Development: 132 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

C. Barton and G. Barton: 14 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

Henderson and party: 21 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

Knapman and party: 85 ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

Meldrum and party: 42 ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

G. Miller: 28 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

Noble and party: 20 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

Stringer and party: 43 ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

1936: (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their work this year and are transferring to another location.

The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo gold field for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ozs</th>
<th>dwt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1937: 2151 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Aurum Dredging Development: 32 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

Henderson and Hopgood: 13 ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

D. J. Rigbye: 48 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

1938: 2346 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

H. R. Hansen: 22 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
D. J. Rigbye: 67ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1939: 2671ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

H. R. Hansen: 38ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 250ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1940: 4862ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

A. Maynard: 67ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 61ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1941: 682ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

G. Barton and party: 4.9ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

J. N. Day: 62ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

P. S. Floyd: 16ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

R. Lethlean: 60ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

P. Lougoon: 110ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 24ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1942: 51ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

H. L. Rigbye and party: 85ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1943: 510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1944: 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [25]

1945: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
1946: 423 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 2 ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6 ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
Styles Brothers: 43 ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1947: 119 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 15 ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 9 ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully. [25]
Styles Brothers: 67 ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [25]

1948: 262 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 4 ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 12 ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [25]

1949: 364 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [21]
P. Lougoon: 164 ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [21]
Rigby and Sons: 39 ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [21]

1950: 205 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
Innes and Dixon: 12 ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1951: 133 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
P. Lougoon: 55 ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [25]
Rigby and Sons: 18 ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [25]

1952: 109 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
Rigby and Sons: 12 ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [25]

1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [25]
Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [25]

1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [25]

A. J. Brauman: 160zs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [25]

W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

W. K. Wood: 760zs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [25]

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 105ozs obtained from 1980 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [25]

W. K. Wood: 1140zs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [25]

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [25]

W. K. Wood: 1810zs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [25]

W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [25]

W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BARKLY REEF MINES

Other Names  Sir Henry Barkly Reef
Location  East of township of Neilborough
Map Reference  Raywood 1:25,000 - BV538.492

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description  Near a remnant of a mullock heap there is an open three-compartment shaft over which there had been a wooden poppet-head. Also nearby is a small concrete engine foundation, a derelict tractor and other pieces of machinery.

History  Period of activity: 1859-1951
Lines of reef: Barkly and Nuggetty
Maximum recorded annual production: 1100ozs obtained from 676 tons in 1867
Total production: 2874ozs obtained from 2714 tons between 1865 and 1885
Deepest working level: 150 feet
Deepest shaft: 205 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Wallace (1856-1906), Black Rock (1857-1879), Sandfly (1857-1890), Elliott (1858-1889), Unfortunate Bolle’s 1862-1865, Shamrock (1862-1881), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

Statement of Significance  The site is representative of shallow-level low-production reef mining (criterion D) which was originally very rich and helped sustain settlement in the area in the 1860s (criterion A).

Level of Significance  Local

Recommendation  The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites and included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Elysian Flat Mining Heritage Area. In particular, further historical research needs to be undertaken to determine in more detail the relationship of the various cooperative parties and companies to each other and their location on the ground.

Heritage Boundaries  The Elysian Flat Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south-west by Weaver Road, on the south-east by Aldridge Road, on the north-west by Rayners Road, on the north-east by Rayners Road and its extension along property boundaries for a distance of about 400 metres, then west and finally south to Elysian Flat Creek, south along the Creek to Rayners Road and then east to its junction with Weaver Road.

References  1. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
Saturday, 22 January 1859.
7. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 30 May 1859.
8. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From a Correspondent, 29 June 1859; The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 2 July 1859.
10. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 30 July 1859.
17. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.
18. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, Wednesday, 6 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 7 June 1866.
20. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 18 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 June 1866.
21. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
22. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Tuesday, 3 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 July 1866.
23. "Raywood." From our Own Correspondent, Monday, 9 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 July 1866.
28. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 14 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 16 October 1867, p2, col.6.
30. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 16 December; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 18 December 1867, p2, col.1.
32. "Mining intelligence. Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser,
Tuesday, 14 July 1868, p2, col.1.
33. The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette.
35. “Eaglehawk Prospecting Vote.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 9 October 1886, p6, col.2.
38. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes
The reef was initially worked by a number of cooperative parties such as Oates and Company (Oats and Jantz/Oats and Company), Smith's, Bennett and Company, Wyeth Brothers (Wyeth and Company), Harding and Brown (Harding and Company), Roberts, Crapper and Buck (Roberts and Company), Cook and Company, Bannon and Company and Foley and Company, and then by at least two companies: Barkly Reef Company and the Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
22. 01.1859... A party have struck a reef at 50 feet deep, which presents some remarkable specimens of auriferous stone. The fortunate proprietors have secured a treble claim and the remainder of the ground on the supposed line has been marked out. The condition of the shaft sunk is about 600 yards from the Sir Henry Barkly Hotel. The line appears to lead through the claims of Messrs M'Nair and Iron, or to the eastward of Mr Benson's dam. It appears to run parallel with the claim at the Flagstaff Hill in which gold is obtained at a depth of 80 feet. ...[1]
25..01.1859... Our readers have already been informed that two quartz veins of great promise have lately been opened at Elysian Flat. A paragraph appears in this morning issue by which it will be seen that a splendid parcel of gold from one of them is in the possession of Mr. Bannerman of the Bank Gold Office, View Point. The metal is very heavy, many of the pieces weighing at least half an ounce. [2]
29. 01.1859... Three new shafts are going down on the quartz reef at Elysian Flat, and a large number of claims have been marked out. A ton and a half of stone from this reef yielded at a late crushing a little over 3ozs. ...[3]
01.1859... Quartz mining - Elysian Flat Goldfield. During January 1859 a party of miners sinking a shaft on Elysian Flat struck a rich quartz reef at a depth of 50 feet. The party was known as Oates and Company [named Sir Henry Barkly Reef]. . . Another reef on Elysian Flat, the Nuggety Reef, which ran parallel to the Sir Henry Barkly Reef, was opened up in August 1859 . . . Other reefs worked on and in the vicinity of Elysian Flat were Moore's Reef, Stringer's Reef, Kannobian Reef and Uncle Sam Reef. The Sir Henry Barkly Reef proved the best, and mines on this line worked for many years. [4.62-64]
22. 04.1859... Messrs Oates and Company, the owners of the prospecting claim on the Barkly Reef, have lately raised some capital stone. 27 tin bucketfuls crushed lately at Sailor's Gully yielded 170zs. The first lot of material for M'Phail's crushing machine arrived within the last day or two. It is to be erected on the Flat, and it is expected it will be completed in about eight weeks. A dray containing the boiler was capsized near Scotchman's Gully, but fortunately no damage was done. [5]
28. 04.1859... The prospecting reef. The stone lately raised by Messrs Oats and Company crushed 17½ozs to the ton. They have about 50 or 60 tons at present on the surface. It is equal in appearance to that already crushed. The proprietors are anxiously waiting for M'Phail's mill to commence operations. About four claims from the prospectors, Bond and Company, have struck gold, but in what quantities has not yet been made known. The other claims are all
registered and the parties gone to Daisy Hill (Back Creek). [6]

30. 05.1859  This place, once the scene of general activity, and residence of many thousands, through the want of water during the summer, and the alluring attraction of Daisy Hill, is now reduced to a few hundreds. ... The two leads of quartz reefs are taken up for a great distance; many claims are registered, and others rapidly going down. The prospecting shaft is producing some splendid stone, in fact after a shower of rain the gold sparkles therein as numerous as the stars in the firmament. 21 buckets of stuff upon being crushed produced 170zs of gold, thus proving that quartz reefs are to be found on flats as well as on ranges. The stone from this shaft is very peculiar, and more resembles solid blocks of beautiful marble than quartz. A machine and engine of 12 horsepower, are being erected here. ... [7]

02. 07.1859  The late rains on these diggings have flooded some few of the old claims situated on the best ground, as well as some of the quartz reef shafts which registers are just expired, which are now entirely useless, being filled with water. A new shaft belonging to Attwood and Company is completely filled with water. The prospectors on the same reef - the Sir Henry Barkly - are still drawing good stone to the tune of 5 or 6 ounces per ton. Moore’s party, the prospectors on the Masonic Reef, have just seen gold this week, and already Mr M’Phail, proprietor of the crushing machine, has a shaft going down. The crushing machine will be in working order at the end of the week. It is rumoured that the crushing price is to be £1 one shilling. [8]

08. 07.1859  The Sir Henry Barkly Reef is all the go, gold having been struck in Smith’s claim, four claims south of the prospectors, at a depth of 80 feet, and to all appearance will give a fair remuneration to the prospectors. Upwards of 20 claims are taken up; 15 at present working. The precious metal has been found in six claims:... Mr M’Phail’s engine has stopped working for a few days in order to make some trifling alteration in the gold tables etc. ... [10]

06. 08.1859  We learn through Mr Carpenter that Messrs Oats and Jantz yesterday brought in a fine parcel of gold from their claim at the Elysian Flat. The yield of 100 tons was 363ozs 5dwt 12 grains. The reef, which is at a depth of 60 feet is represented as being 3 feet thick. [11]

31. 05.1860  The vast goldfield known under the above name in this district has, since the early part of last summer, when it was nearly totally deserted, in consequence of the almost, indeed it may be said total want of water, and the lead having been lost at the deep sinking, been prospected more or less by isolated parties within a compass of 10 or 12 miles square, with more than the usual success attendant upon the labour of a few hands; for, with the exception
of those 8 or 10 parties working at the Sir Henry Barkly Reef on Elysian Flat, the prospecting parties, for either quartz or alluvial, have numbered generally but one or two pairs of hands. ... [13]

11.1863: Kamarooka. What was probably the first reference to mining at Kamarooka appeared in The Bendigo Advertiser, 20 November 1863, when the Raywood rush was in its early stages. A brief report stated that two prospectors, James Taylor and Henry Scheffer had opened up a new diggings 18 miles from Raywood and 36 from Sandhurst. Lack of crushing facilities was an expensive inconvenience to the miners early on Kamarooka. During December 1864, quartz was carted some 7 miles to Elysian Flat for crushing...[4] 1863-1867: Raywood. The first known reference to reef mining at Raywood appeared in The Bendigo Advertiser on 7 December 1863, concerning a crushing of five tons which yielded 4ozs 10dwt of gold from a claim aptly named the Pioneer Reef...The first quartz miners were greatly inconvenienced by lack of crushing facilities. Some reefers had their stone carted to Elysian Flat, some three miles distant, with the cost for cartage seriously depleting profits. [4] 08.08.1865: A party took up a claim on this reef about 3 weeks ago, which was reported at the time to be a new reef. After clearing out an old shaft they got 5 tons of stone from a depth of 60 feet, which produced 2ozs 6¼dwt or 9¼dwt per ton. [14]

02.09.1865: Under date of yesterday our Raywood correspondent writes:- 2 cakes of gold were sold at the bank of Victoria this morning, the first weighing 7ozs 11dwt, the produce of 7 tons of stone from Manly's Reef, Phillip's Gully; the other weighed 5ozs 17dwt 12 grains, the produce of 9 tons of stone from the claim of Wyeth Brothers, Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat. A shaft has been sunk on this reef to the east of the old workings, and the reef struck at a depth of 60 feet, 14 feet wide, and gold is plainly visible through 7 feet of it. There has been no crushing yet from this claim, but the owners are in very good spirits at their good luck. [15]

12.09.1865: During the latter part of last week, Mr Pendlebury, of Elysian Flat, purchased between 20 and 30ozs of gold, amongst which was a nugget weighing 4ozs 3dwt. The claims on the Barkly Reef are all busily worked, and judging from the specimens procured, very good results may reasonably be anticipated. [16]

09.1865: Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 12ozs 18dwt obtained from 15 tons of stone. [17.54-55]

Nine new quartz claims have been registered:- 4, Barkly Reef, 361 yards, Elysian Flat. [17.54-55]

12.1865: The Barkly Reef, also at Elysian Flat, is turning out very well, four claims on which are obtaining gold. Three of them are paying very well indeed. The owners of these claims sent their stone to the Eureka engine, Sebastian, but the water suddenly failed, leaving a great portion of it uncrushed. What was crushed yielded 11dwt to the ton - very good returns when 3 men can get up 30 tons per week. Another claim on this reef struck the stone last week, but the owners must wait for the great desideratum - water - before they can prove it. [17]

Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 23ozs 10dwt obtained from 34 tons of stone. [17.53-54]

07.06.1866: Two of the claims on this line have been crushing their stone since the rain came, and the returns have been between 7 and 8dwt to the ton. A great deal of dissatisfaction prevails amongst the shareholders at the returns. This locality is greatly in want of another engine, and could keep two constantly employed, for, in addition to three claims on the Barkly Reef, there are the Austrian, the Hope and Manly's reefs all raising great quantities of stone. Amongst them they could keep two engines constantly employed, but at present they may as well be without an engine, as the one there has only about 3 days' water at a time, and at present is standing still, and hundreds of tons of stuff lying about waiting to be crushed. There are several other reefs close by that would be worked if there were easy facilities for crushing - such are the Masonic and Stringons reefs - and almost all the alluvial dirt from the deep lead is crushed, as it contains a great deal of auriferous cement. [18]
Our Raywood correspondent writes that amongst a very good display of gold in the window of the Bank of Victoria on Saturday last, was a fine cake of 35ozs 8dwt, the produce of 11 tons of stone from Messrs Harding and Brown's claim on the Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat. This quartz was raised from an 80 foot level, and on an entirely new lode, being about 40 feet to the east of the old workings. The stone was crushed at the Shamrock engine, in the Whipstick, as, I am sorry to say, the engine on the flat is still idle, waiting for water. [19]

Harding and Brown had another crushing last week from their claim on the Barkly Reef, which averaged 2ozs 8dwt per ton. The other claims on this reef are busy crushing, as I am happy to say this last rain has given the engine on the flat abundance of water. [20]

Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 61ozs 8dwt obtained from 18 tons of stone at 80 feet. [21]

Foley and Company, Elysian Flat: 16ozs obtained from 54 tons of stone at 140 feet. [17.48-50]

Harding and Company, Elysian Flat: 11ozs 16dwt obtained from 20 tons of stone and 12ozs obtained from 37 tons of stone, both at 80 feet. [17.48-50]

Wyeth and Company, Elysian Flat: 22ozs 11dwt obtained from 91 tons of stone at 140 feet. [17.48-50]

The Barkly is close to Elysian Flat township. This reef was worked some years since; the owners went to England, and it was for a long time abandoned, although much gold was obtained from it; one shaft was sunk to a depth of 160 feet, it has been again worked by the present owners, and others; four claims are at work, two are 140 feet deep; the richest stone, however, is from the 80 foot level, a crushing from which yielded 3ozs 8dwt per ton; an entirely new lode, from 30 to 40 feet east, is yielding 1oz per ton; the stone is from 2 to 15 feet wide. [17.48-50]

Mining affairs at Elysian Flat are looking very well just now. Mr Pendlebury purchased 56ozs of gold last week. A first crushing of 28 tons of stone from the Black Rock Reef gave 2ozs per ton. The Wyeth Brothers obtained a cake of 24½ozs from their claim on the Barkly Reef. [22]

At Elysian Flat the prospects continue to improve. ... Foley and Company are crushing about 20 tons from the Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat, from which are expected good returns. [23]

Barkly, Manly, Hope and Austrian Reefs, Elysian Flat: 148ozs 10dwt obtained from 170 tons of stone at between 60 and 100 feet. [17.45-46]

Elysium Flat, Prospecting Claim, Sir Henry Barkly Reef (Private) - in 2 shares. This claim was originally an alluvial prospecting claim, in which, after being wrought out, a reef was found. The present party have been in possession for the last 16 months, and hold about 39 yards on the course of the reef. They are raising quartz from the 110 feet level at a distance of 50 feet from the north boundary, taking from 6 inches to 2 feet of stone from the east side of the reef. Mine force - 2 hands. Yield of Gold - for the month ending 30 November, from 24 tons, 75ozs 1dwt. [24.357]

Elysium Flat, Sir Henry Barkly Company (Private) - in 3 shares. This claim lies to the immediate north of the former, and measures 80 yards on the reef's course. There are three working shafts on the ground, ranging from 110 to 120 feet deep. In the No.1 shaft at the 80 feet level a winze has been sunk on the reef, 30 feet east of the shaft and 30 feet deep. About from 18 inches to 3 feet are taken from the eastern face of the reef. This stone yielded 6ozs to the ton, and 20 tons are now on top, expected to turn out well. Mine force - 3 hands on wages. Yield of Gold - for the month ending 14 October, from 18 tons, 108ozs. [24.357]

The proprietors of Nos, 1 and 2 claims south, on this reef, are raising some very rich stone. Mr Roberts purchased the No.1 claim a short time ago for £65, and since then he has struck a new lode. On Saturday Mr Roberts showed our reporter some very rich specimens and informed him that he had 20 tons of stone raised for which he had been offered a price equivalent to 6ozs per ton. Cook and Company, of No.2, also showed some very rich specimens they obtained last week. [25]
operations are in consequence very brisk. Among those that are on the gold is
the No.1 south claim on the Barkly Reef, belonging to Messrs Roberts, Crapper
and Buck, who lately crushed 27 loads and obtained a cake of gold weighing
228ozs 17dwt, an average of nearly 8½ozs per load. ... The stone was taken
from between the 90 foot and 70 foot levels, where the reef is about 3 feet
thick. In one portion of the reef the gold runs in a vein so rich that of the stone
was crushed by itself the yield would probably average 2 pounds of gold to the
load. One small lump of quartz knocked off the reef contained 8ozs of the
precious mineral. About 3 months ago this claim was taken up by its present
owners, the previous possessors having given up possession to them as they
could not get on the run. The new owners tried a crosscut into the reef
eastwards, and had not gone 6 inches when they struck gold. Cook and
Roberts’ claim (No.2 south) on the Barkly Reef is also yielding well, a late
crushing of 30 loads having produced 28ozs of gold. The quartz was taken
from the new shaft at the 114 foot level, at which place the reef is 7 feet thick. This
claim furnishes another instance of the uncertainty of gold mining, for it has
been given up several times within the last nine years as an unprofitable mine.
Foley and Company’s claim, which for some time produced splendidly, is not
now yielding so well, but the owners anticipate a turn in the wheel of fortune
before long. The Elysian Flat Company have been prospecting their mine, and
recently at the 130 foot level, and 50 feet west of the old workings, came upon
as new reef which promises very fairly. [26]

I have the honor to report that mining operations in this division have recently
been more promising. A very rich reef, the “Sir Henry Barkly” has been struck at
Elysian Flat, and out of a trial crushing of 27 tons 243ozs was obtained.
Singular enough to say, this claim was abandoned by the prospectors, Wyeth
and Company, but immediately taken up by Roberts and party, who, after
working it for a month discovered one of the finest reefs ever opened out in this
division. [17.21-22]

The last crushing from Foley and Company’s claim yielded 1ozs
5dwt per ton. They have now got about 60 or 70 tons ready for crushing, which,
from appearances, will exceed the last crushing in the richness of the yield. At
70 feet north of their shaft the stone is making into the ground of the Elysian Flat
Quartz Mining Company. At the 130 foot level they are getting out stone that
surpasses in appearance any stone, for richness, that they ever got out of their
claim. It is very much to be regretted that the large quantities of rain that have
lately fallen have partially flooded No.2 claim south on this reef; ... [27]

I am happy to say that the Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company
obtained some promising prospects last week from their ground on the Barkly
Reef. Besides washing out some fine gold in the pass they have got some very
nice specimens, and the shareholders are very sanguine that the mine they are
working now will pay very well. It appears that Foley and Company, of No.1
claim north on this reef, are about taking legal proceedings against the owner of
the crushing machine at the flat for stopping the natural watercourse, in order to
secure a plentiful supply for his dam, in doing which he caused the water to
overflow the flat and do considerable damage to their claim. [28]

The reefs at Elysian Flat present very encouraging prospects; a
crushing of 63 loads of stone and mullock from Roberts and Company’s claim
was expected to average 1ozs to the load. The company will not be crushing
again until near the end of the year; as the drives are being extended and stone
opened out, and a handsome Christmas cake is expected to be turned out as
the reef shows splendidly. Cook and Company are putting in drives at the 140
foot level, and anticipate getting a first rate crushing at Christmas. A recent
crushing of 14 tons of stone yielded 7ozs. Bannon and Company are sinking,
and at 130 feet struck the reef into which they have pierced 11 feet, and are not
yet through it. The stone shows a fair prospect of gold. Harden
and Hutchinson’s claim is yielding fine stone from the reef at the 70 foot level, where
it is 5 feet thick. Something like 12ozs to the ton is calculated as the probably yield of the ensuing crushing. Foley and Company are crushing quartz that promises to yield 2ozs of gold per ton. The Elysian Flat Company are still sinking west of the old workings, and the prospects obtained are promising. [29]

18.12.1867... The Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company succeeded in striking some very good stone last week, and anticipate good returns. The gold is got from the reef that was found nearly two years ago; but, as at the level of working, the prospects were unsatisfactory, it was abandoned for the time and drives put in east and west to find another body of stone. But although several spurs were found containing gold, it was deemed advisable to return to the reef, and it is hoped that now it will pay well for all the time and expense that has been bestowed upon it. It is rumoured that their prospects are very good, some of the specimens containing a very heavy show of gold. [30]

12.1867 Roberts and Company, Barkly Reef: 274ozs 6dwt obtained from 111 tons of stone at 100 feet. [17.20]

George Cook and Company, Barkly Reef: 17ozs 3dwt 6 grains obtained from 44 tons of stone at 140 feet. [17.20]

Foley and Munroe, Sir Henry Barkly Reef: 96ozs 2dwt obtained from 136 tons of stone at 150 feet. [17.20]

William H. Colles, Barkly Reef: 24ozs 5dwt obtained from 15 tons of stone. [17.20]

Roberts and Company's claim, on the Barkly reef, at Elysian Flat, has improved in richness, and is yielding well at present. [17.20]

At Neilborough. the Elysian Flat Quartz Gold Mining Company have struck some richly auriferous stone. No crushing has, however, yet been made from it. [17.20]

03.1868 George Cook and Company, Barkly Reef: 18ozs 18dwt obtained from 9 tons of stone at 80 feet. [17.20]

Roberts and Company, Barkly Reef: 144ozs 5dwt obtained from 52 tons of stone at 100 feet. [17.20]

Elysian Flat Company, Barkly Reef: 5ozs 2dwt obtained from 12 tons of stone at 70 feet. [17.20]

Richard Foley and Company, Barkly Reef: 84ozs obtained from 42 tons of stone at 150 feet. [17.20]

11.05.1868 Foley and Company crushed 64 tons of stone from their claim on this reef, during the week, and obtained 60ozs 7dwt of gold. Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company had a crushing of 14 tons of quartz from the same reef which yielded 11ozs 6dwt. The want of water is beginning to be severely felt on the flat. Mr Roberts machine has been idle a considerable time, waiting for the rain to come. ... [31]

06.1868 Richard Foley and Company, Barkly Reef: 160ozs 3dwt 3 grains obtained from 164 tons of stone at 100 feet. [17.23]

Elysian Flat Company, Barkly Reef: 11ozs 16dwt obtained from 14 tons of stone at 80 feet. [17.23]

W. H. Colles and Company, Barkly Reef: 19ozs obtained from 19 tons of stone at 80 feet. [17.23]

Roberts and Company, Barkly Reef: 102ozs 15dwt obtained from 98 tons of stone at 125 feet. [17.23]

14.07.1868 Foley and Company last week crushed 78 tons of stone from their claim on this reef, and obtained 102ozs of gold. They have as much more stone in their paddock ready for crushing, but were forced to discontinue carting it to the machine, on account of the badness of the roads. [32]

09.1868 Elysian Flat Company, Bendigo (20 August) - During fortnight miners employed at 70 feet level north; lode widening; no paying prospect yet. Good prospect obtained at 120 feet level, north of western crosscut; have opened out crosscut, and driven north on stone a few feet; gold being seen. 10 tons will be crushed next week as a trial. (29 August): during fortnight driving and taking out quartz at 120 feet level, western stone; no paying result as yet. Rising on small spur at same level; no stone crushed; gold seen pretty freely. Crosscut will be put in at 70 feet level west, to test stone. [33.59]

09.1868 Foley and Company, Barkly Reef: 86ozs 4dwt obtained from 76 tons
of stone at 70 feet. [17.23]

Harding and Company, Barkly Reef: 8ozs 6dwt 10 grains obtained from 25 tons of stone. [17.23]

10.1868: Elysian Flat Quartz Company, Bendigo (26 September) - during past fortnight driving west at 90 feet level, and are in 70 feet from shaft; stone struck and driven a few feet, looking poor. Commenced clearing and timbering north shaft, sunk 9 years since, as there is a body of good-looking stone in it, and little prospected. Have seen gold in stone. [33.88]

12.1868: Elysian Flat Company, Bendigo (21 November) - driving at 80 and 100 feet levels; trial crushing from 80 feet level north, 6 tons yielded 15dwt gold. Crosscut being put in through reef at 1210 feet level south to try western side of stone. [33.142]

12.1868: Foley and Munroe, Barkly Reef: 63ozs obtained from 86 tons of stone at 125 feet. [17.21]

Roberts and Company, Barkly Reef: 21ozs 10dwt obtained from 31 tons of stone at 125 feet. [17.21]

06.1869: Foley and Company, Elysian Flat: 135ozs 12dwt obtained from 200 tons of stone. [21]

Harding and Company, Elysian Flat: 25ozs 2dwt obtained from 17 tons of stone. [21]

09.1869: Harding and Company, Elysian Flat: 6ozs 16dwt obtained from 8 tons of stone at 110 feet. [21]

Foley and Company, Elysian Flat: 26ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from 81 tons of stone at 120 feet. [21]

12.1869: Foley and Harding, Elysian Flat: 69ozs 3dwt obtained from 143 tons at 120 feet. [21]

07.1871: During the past 4 weeks the shaft has been sunk 47 feet 6 inches. Owing to the difficulty of getting the timber from the mills only 20 feet of the shaft has been timbered up. Arrangements have now been made to get a regular supply on the ground to keep the shaft timbered as they sink. It has been decided to erect a winding engine at once, as by the time it can now be erected on the ground the shaft will be down to water. Tenders for the same will be called for next meeting. [34]

06.1873: Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 191ozs 17dwt obtained from 108 tons of stone. [21]

09.1873: Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 53ozs 7dwt obtained from 368 tons of stone. [21]

06.1874: Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 27ozs 18dwt obtained from 50 tons of stone. [21]

06.1885: Crapper and Company, Barkly Reef: 33ozs 17dwt obtained from 25 tons of stone at 50 feet. [21]

10.1886: Barkly Reef, Coulston and Company. This party drove a crosscut at 110 feet from the surface 50 feet; passed through a reef 8 feet wide, and saw a little gold in it. They have been subsidized (by the Eaglehawk Prospecting Vote) to the amount of £110. [35]

01.1887: After breakfast a start was made for Elysian Flat, where the once celebrated Barkly Reef was visited. The first claim visited was that of T. Crapper. This party had done a good deal of work recently, and was now sinking a new shaft. This was down 40 feet, and it was proposed to sink to 140 feet to cut the “Nuggety” Reef, a side line. In another shaft the reef had given good prospects; sinking cost 8 shillings per foot, £100 was asked for. G. Coulson and Company, in the same reef, but some distance away, applied for £200. They are endeavouring to trace the continuation of the reef south. To the west there is a shaft down 205 feet, and at 110 feet a crosscut was driven 160 feet east to get the Barkly Reef, but without success. They have now started to sink a new shaft 140 at a cost of from 9 to 10 shillings per foot. The site has been marked out by Mr O; Dwyer, surveyor. [36]

1899: At Neilborough is the site of the Barkly Reef, from which some very rich yields have been taken ... The fact of a strong body of water being met with seems to have stopped all operations, as at present it is completely abandoned, and the lease forfeited. [37]
1947 J. McQualter, Neilborough: 1ozs obtained from 12 tons of stone crushed at the Government battery, Bendigo. [38]
1949 E. Hartland, Neilborough: 1ozs obtained from 12 tons of stone crushed at the Government battery, Bendigo. [38]
1951 J. McQualter, Neilborough: 2ozs obtained from 12 tons of stone crushed at the Government battery, Bendigo. [38]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BLUE JACKET REEF (BLUE JACKET GULLY) MINE AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Location
Parcel No. P***, Blue Jacket Gully, Eaglehawk

Map Reference
Epsom 1:25,000 - BV557.357

Victorian Heritage Register: No
National Estate Register: No
Planning Scheme: No

Description
On the eastern side of Blue Jacket Gully there is a line of shallow reef workings several hundred metres in extent. The mullock heaps are from 3 to 4 metres high and the shafts have been partially filled. Some of the holes have since been used for the dumping of domestic rubbish. To the west of this line of workings, extending down the slope towards the bottom of the gully the ground has been extensively hydraulically sluiced to bedrock.

History
Period of activity: 1857-1887
Line of reef: Blue Jacket
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: 111 feet
Deepest shaft: 170 feet (at water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
There are several other shallow-level low-production mine sites elsewhere in the study area, namely: Wallace Reef (1856-1906), Flagstaff Hill (1857-1907), Phillips Gully (1857-1931), Black Rock (1857-1870), Sandfly Reef (1857-1890), Elliott Reef (1858-1889), Barkly Reef (1859-1951), Unfortunate Boile’s Reef (1862-1865), Christoff Reef (1864-1898), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

Statement of Significance
The site contains representative examples of three of shallow reef workings, and later re-working of the surface alluvia with improved technology. It is easily accessible and has the potential to educate and illustrate several important periods in the development of Bendigo mining (criterion C). It forms the central portion of a network of workings along, and in the vicinity of, Blue Jacket Reef which was one of the early reef systems worked in the area.

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and included as a significant sub-area within the Blue Jacket Reef Mining Heritage Area. In particular, the domestic rubbish should be removed and gully crossing points on the track improved for pedestrian access.

Heritage Boundaries
The Blue Jacket Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lennon Road between Prowse Road and the junction of One Eye Gully and Opossum.
Gully, on the south by an eastern branch of One Eye Gully, on the east by a line 75 metres east of the reef workings in one of the northern branches of One Eye Gully, extending northwards to the reef workings in Blue Jacket Gully and then further north and east at the same distance along Blue Jacket Gully and Peter the Great Gully to a cross track between the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road and Whipstick Road, on the north by this cross track, on the north west by a line 75 metres north west of Peter the Great Gully and Mosquito Gully to a point on the line of Lennon Road extended.

References
3. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
12. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
15. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 22 August 1885, p5, col.7.
18. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
19. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
22. Victoria, Department of Mineral and Industrial Development report.
23. Victoria, Department of Mines.  Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.
24. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes
Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district.

The area is close to housing and is already being used for recreational purposes. There is already a track to the east of the reef workings which is in use by pedestrians.
The Blue Jacket Reef was one of the main sources of alluvia later worked in Peter the Great Gully.

**Chronology**

- **05.1857**: The recent showers have once more supplied the necessary demand for water in this locality, at least for the time being, and limited as the supply is, it has come very apropos. ... Mining operations appear to have already received a fresh impetus from this timely supply of the all-important element, and the neighbouring gullies, namely Blackhorse Flat, Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, White Horse and Sydney Flat etc. all exhibit symptoms of revival. ... In some of the above named gullies puddling machines have been to my knowledge standing idle for the last six months, these machines are now in full operation. A considerable number of miners have still continued to leave for the Sydney Flat Rush. [1]
- **07.1857**: Puddling mills that have been a long time idle for want of water, are now observed to be at work in the neighbourhood of Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, Mosquito, White Horse, bottom of Eaglehawk and California, Jackass and Long gullies. ... [2]
- **09.1865**: Blue Jacket Reef: 2 miners at work [3.47-49]
- **12.1865**: Blue Jacket Reef: 4 miners at work [3.45-46]
- **03.1866**: Blue Jacket Reef: 4 miners at work [3.44-45]
- **01.07.1878**: No.1 North of Lysaght's Claim: A contract has been let to sink the shaft another 55 feet; which, when completed, will make a total depth of 100 feet. It is expected the reef will be cut at this depth. [4]
- **16.07.1878**: Lysaght No.1 North - the contractors have sunk the shaft 19 feet, making total depth 63 feet. [5]
- **29.07.1878**: No.1 North of Lysaght's claim - during the past fortnight the shaft has been sunk 20 feet, making the total depth 83 feet. Some well-defined spurs have been sunk through last week showing favourable indications of being near the gold-bearing reef, which is paying so well in the adjoining claim. [6]
- **09.09.1878**: North of Lysaght's claim - during the past fortnight the crosscut has been driven 16 feet. We fully anticipate striking the reef in another 16 feet. [7]
- **01.1887**: The (Sandhurst Prospecting Board) then travelled along the same line to Blue Jacket, where Crameri and Company applied for £100 to assist them in sinking the shaft. They are down 50 feet, and wish to sink to 140 or 150 feet for a reef which in Thompson's claim adjoining 18 tons averaged 8½dwt, and 20 tons 10½dwt per ton. Sinking would cost 7 shillings per foot. The water level was 170 feet. [8]
- **02.05.1887**: The manager (Mr Argill) reports:- shaft sunk during fortnight, 17 feet; total from surface 150 feet. [9]
- **30.05.1887**: Shaft sunk 9 feet, total from surface 179 feet, also put in 150 feet of ladders and timbered shaft 111 feet, also driven crosscut 10 feet east, expect to cut the reef this fortnight, which has been so profitably worked in the adjoining claim. [10]

**Sluicing on Bendigo**

- **16.09.1858**: The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry's" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [11]
- **06.1874**: At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well.[12]
- **06.1875**: A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may
The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet.

Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes.

Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse.

Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...

The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To quartz mining companies</td>
<td>11,267,000 gals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To sluicing companies</td>
<td>11,000,000 gals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22,267,000 gals

The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it.

In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and ... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality.

1890: 3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo.

1891: 4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo.

1892: 5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on
Sandhurst/Bendigo. [16]

1893
5576ozs 13dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [16]

1894
8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [16]

1895
5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [17]

1896
14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [17]

1897
15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [17]

01.10.1898
Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer's Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [18]

1898
15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [17]

1899
12,444ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8986ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [17]

1900
12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1901
9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1902
12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1903
9860ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1904
12,745ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [17]

1905
12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district.

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo.

Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [17]

1906: 9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district.

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [17]

1907: 18,696ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [16]

1908: 6293ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618ozs 17dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [16]

1909: 2926ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [16]

1910: 1992ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 86ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 121ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1911: 2519ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070ozs 15dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 853ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford’s Dredge: 622ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1912: 2812ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford’s Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1913: 3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford’s Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]
1914: 2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1915: 3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434ozs 1dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1916: 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

1917: 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1918: 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [16]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [16]

1920: 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [19]

1921: 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [19]

1922: 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [19]

1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [19]

1924: 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst...
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [19]

1925: 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 168ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [19]

1926: 367ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [19]

1927: 287ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [19]

1928: 573ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [19]

1929: 585ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [19]

1930: 688ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [20]

1931: 3867ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district.

H. E. Knapman: 174ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]

1932: 5051ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district.

H. E. Knapman: 125ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]

H. E. Knapman: 4429ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial miners in the district.

H. E. Knapman: 119ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]

1934: 5395ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial miners in the district.

Day and Mason: 41ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

H. E. Knapman: 252ozs obtained from 2.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]

1935: 4609ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial miners in the district. [20]

1936: 7196ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district.

Aurum Dredging Development: 132ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

C. Barton and G. Barton: 14ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

Henderson and party: 21ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Knapman and party: 85ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
Meldrum and party: 42ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
G. Miller: 28ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
Noble and party: 20ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
Stringer and party: 43ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]

1936 (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their work this year and are transferring to another location.

The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo gold field for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>DWTs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1937: 2151ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district.

Aurum Dredging Development: 32ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.
Henderson and Hopgood: 13ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 48ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [20]

1938: 2346ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district.

H. R. Hansen: 22ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 67ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1939: 2671ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district.

H. R. Hansen: 38ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]
1940: 4862ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district.

A. Maynard: 67ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 61ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1941: 682ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district.

G. Barton and party: 4.9ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

J. N. Day: 62ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. S. Floyd: 16ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

R. Lethlean: 60ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

1942: 510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1943: 527ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district.

D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1944: 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [23]

1945: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1946: 423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

Styles Brothers: 43ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1947: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 9ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully.

Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [23]

1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [24]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [20]

1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully.

P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat.

G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [24]

1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district.

P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [24]

1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial miners in the district.

Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [24]

1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [24]

1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial miners in the district.

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk.
W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.


W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk.

W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
At the head of one of the many branches of One-Eye Gully there is a short line of shallow reef workings along the southern extension of Blue Jacket Reef. The mullock heaps are from 2 to 3 metres high and the shafts have been partially filled. Some of the holes have since been used for the dumping of domestic rubbish. To the south and west of this line of workings, extending down the slope and across the road the ground has been extensively hydraulically sluiced to bedrock. At the southern end of this sluiced area, on the fall into the main gully and to the west of the road, there is a small patch of shallow alluvial workings.

The site contains examples of three of the main phases of mining in the Whipstick area: early shallow alluvial workings leading to later reef workings, and eventually re-working of the surface alluvia with improved technology. It is easily accessible and has the potential to educate and illustrate several important periods in the development of Bendigo mining (criterion C). It forms the southernmost end of a network of workings along, and in the vicinity of, Blue Jacket Reef which was one of the early reef systems worked in the area.
References

9. “Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, 24 April 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 27 April 1858.
10. “Mining intelligence. The Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 28 May 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 1 June 1858.
12. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
14. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
15. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood subdivision.
16. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.
18. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.
19. Victoria, Department of Mining and Industrial Development records.
23. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 22 August 1895, p5, col.7.
26. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
27. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.

Notes

The shallow alluvial workings are very weathered and are almost certainly a remnant of the original workings in the 1850’s. The reef workings are undated and there are no records of any gold production. Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district.

As One-Eye Gully was known to be were puddling machines were in use in by 1857, it is possible that the area may contain some early examples, although most of these were probably lower down the gully where the area has been re-
developed for housing.

The area is close to housing and is already being used for recreational purposes.

The Blue Jacket Reef was one of the main sources of alluvia later worked in One Eye Gully.

Assessed by Peter Milner in July 1998

Chronology

30.04.1856 - The out-gullies, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, German, Oppossum gullies still retain a pretty considerable population; at the latter a small rush occurred last week, the result of which I have not ascertained. A good part of the population in these places are Maoris. [1]

15.08.1856 - I have not thought it necessary to notice the diggings on the south-eastern extremity of the Whipstick, such as Peter the Great, One-Eye, Blue Jacket etc, as the public are already familiar with these places through the reports of your special correspondent. [2]

1856 - Whipstick - Early in 1856 Myer's Flat had been rushed, Wellington Gully was opened and there was a rush to Adelaide Hill in the Whipstick. ... In April 1856 'a new gully in the Whipstick' was discovered and 600 men were therein a few days. The chief places worked at that time were on the Whipstick verge, at Red Jacket and Blue Jacket Gullies, German Gully and One-Eye, where a one-eyed man got twenty-seven ounces of gold in a patch. In May 1856 surfacing on Canadian Hill was opened up, and a few weeks later Dead Horse Gully, Centipede and Sydney Flat depopulated the other places roundabout, and there was a rush of about 3000 men. In July 1856 Peter the Great's Gully and Opossum Gully were opened, and the following December there was a large rush near Wood's Pick and Shovel Hotel. [3]

17.04.1857 - In one of last week's issues of the Melbourne Argus there appears a letter headed "The Truth about the Whipstick" coming from what your contemporary terms "a reliable correspondent", and the reliable correspondent is made to speak for himself, and certainly in no unsparing terms, either, not only despairingly of the Whipstick diggings, but of everything else in and about the Whipstick. ...

The population has fallen off a good deal, especially about the middle of Scotchman's Gully, and a very considerable space of tent ground, where tents formerly stood in this gully, is now deserted, presenting nothing but the remains of tent frames, cooking places etc. etc. Although the bulk of the population in the late rush was chiefly composed of miners from the neighbouring gullies - namely, Fiddler's Green, One-Eye, White Horse, Jack Ass, California, Eaglehawk, Myer's Flat, Sydney Flat and other places more immediately adjoining, who could pounce down on the Whipstick at any time in a few hours notice, yet a very large proportion of these have not finally quitted the Whipstick. ...

I can assert from the best authority that since the 370oz nugget was found last week several smaller nuggets have been got, some in the same locality, and others from different parts of the scrub. ... There are one or two gullies not a hundred miles from Brandy Gully, said to be paying well, and it is supposed that there is a considerable quantity of gold in nuggets in the hands of miners and others on these diggings. [4]

30.05.1857 - The recent showers have once more supplied the necessary demand for water in this locality, at least for the time being, and limited as the supply is, it has come very apropos. ... Mining operations appear to have already received a fresh impetus from this timely supply of the all-important element, and the neighbouring gullies, namely Blackhorse Flat, Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, White Horse and Sydney Flat etc. all exhibit symptoms of revival. ... In some of the above named gullies puddling machines have been to my knowledge standing idle for the last six months, these machines are now in full operation. A considerable number of miners have still continued to leave for the Sydney Flat Rush. ... [5]

09.07.1857 - Puddling mills that have been a long time idle for want of water,
are now observed to be at work in the neighbourhood of Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, Mosquito, White Horse, bottom of Eaglehawk and California, Jackass and Long gullies. ... [6]

10.08.1857: The mining intelligence of this district presents no important phase since my last. A very considerable falling off of population is still perceptible, and the majority of those who are leaving and wending their way Ararat-wards, while others are heading to Dead Horse Flat. ... Mining operations in the Whipstick Scrub and neighbouring gullies still continue to go on with vigour. Some half dozen puddling machines, however, at the bottom of One-Eye, head of White Horse and Growler gullies are still observed to be idle for want of water. [7]

19.01.1858: A very perceptible change is observed in the increase of mining population of this and the adjoining gullies, White Horse and bottom and junction of Eaglehawk, since my last. ... The newly opened gully at One-Eye still maintains its population, and sinking, hauling up, and piling, carting and barrowing still goes ahead. Many other untried gullies in this neighbourhood are now likely to receive a thorough testing. The puddling mills here an at Jackass junction of Eaglehawk and on to the White Hills, and from thence to Epsom, are all "laid up" and the horses either sold or at paddock, getting a spell. The Chinese are fast getting bona fide possession of all the puddling mills in this district. [8]

27.04.1858: The puddling machines in the neighbouring gullies are all enabled to continue operations. At Fiddler’s Green, Beelzebub and One-Eye several machines that have been idle for the last 12 months are now at full work, whilst at White Horse and Eaglehawk Flat puddling is not only going ahead, but very extensive preparations are making for the approaching winter work; ... [9]

01.06.1858: "... Considerable population is observed settling down for the winter in the neighbourhood of Red Jacket, Fiddler’s Green and One-Eye. There was a bit of a rush last week to the former of these places and a 2 pound nugget and some coarse gold is reported to have been got there in shallow sinking by a part of Maoris during the week. [10]

12.1865: Blue Jacket Reef: 4 miners at work [12.44-45]

03.1866: Blue Jacket Reef: 4 miners at work [12.44-45]

Sluicing on Bendigo

16.09.1858: The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry’s" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [13]

06.1874: At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well.[14]

06.1875: A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [14]

12.1877: The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been
taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet.

03.1878: Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [15]

03.1878: Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [15.27]

09.1878: Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...

The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.

To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000 gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals

15.12.1879: The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90 ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [21, 22]

22.08.1885: In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and ... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [23]

1890: 3293 ozs 3 dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [24]

1891: 4944 ozs 9 dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [24]

1892: 5750 ozs 2 dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [24]

1893: 5576 ozs 13 dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in
the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [24]

1894: 8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [24]

1895: 5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [25]

1896: 14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [25]

1897: 15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [25]

01.10.1898: Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer's Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [26]

1898: 15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 12,680ozs 15dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [25]

1899: 12,444ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [25]

1900: 12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

1901: 9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

1902: 12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

1903: 9860ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

1904: 12,745ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

1905: 12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district.

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing...
Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [25]

Break O'Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [25]

1906

9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district.

1907

18,696ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

1908

6293ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618ozs 17dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

1909

2926ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

1910

1992ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 86ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

Green Brothers Dredge: 121ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1911

2519ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070ozs 15dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 853ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 622ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1912

2812ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. B. Ford's Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1913

3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1914

2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by
hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

F. W. Miller's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1915: 3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434ozs 1dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1916: 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1917: 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1918: 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [24]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [27]

1920: 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [27]

1921: 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1922: 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1924: 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1925: 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ounces of Gold Obtained</th>
<th>Alluvial Miners at Year End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
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<td>100</td>
</tr>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>3867</td>
<td>1093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>5051</td>
<td>1768</td>
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<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>4429</td>
<td>1407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>5395</td>
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<td>4690</td>
<td>1090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>7196</td>
<td>1043</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Aurum Dredging Development:** 132ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

**C. Barton and G. Barton:** 14ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

**Henderson and party:** 21ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

**Knapman and party:** 85ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

**Meldrum and party:** 42ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

**G. Miller:** 28ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

**Noble and party:** 20ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
at Bendigo.
Stringer and party: 43ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by
sluicing at Bendigo. [17]
1936 (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were
erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water
restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until
September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has
provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by
the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This
company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a
bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been
actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their
work this year and are transferring to another location.
The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the
amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo gold field for
the year:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>DWT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
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<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
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<td>Keck and Church</td>
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<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
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<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
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<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
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<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
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<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1937: 2151ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial
miners in the district.

Aurum Dredging Development: 32ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.
Henderson and Hopgood: 13ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 48ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [17]
1938: 2346ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial
miners in the district.
H. R. Hansen: 22ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 67ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [18]
1939: 2671ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial
miners in the district.
H. R. Hansen: 38ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo.
H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Bendigo. [18]
1940: 4682ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial
miners in the district.
A. Maynard: 67ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 61 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [18]

1941
682 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district.

G. Barton and party: 4.9 ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

J. N. Day: 62 ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. S. Floyd: 16 ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

R. Lethlean: 60 ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. Lougoon: 110 ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 24 ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

1942
510 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 40 ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. Lougoon: 68 ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 46 ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

H. L. Rigbye and party: 85 ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [18]

1943
510 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 40 ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. Lougoon: 68 ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 46 ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

H. L. Rigbye and party: 156 ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [18]

1944
527 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district.

D. J. Rigbye: 25 ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [18]

1945
119 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 2 ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6 ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

Styles Brothers: 43 ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [18]

1946
423 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 2 ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6 ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

Styles Brothers: 43 ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [18]

1947
119 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 15 ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 9 ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Napoleon Gully.

Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [18]

1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [18]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district.

P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [18]

1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district.

Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully.

P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [16]

1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district.

P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [16]

1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial miners in the district.

Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [16]

1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [16]

1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial miners in the district.

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk.

W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1957. There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk.
W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1958. There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1959. There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1963. G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1964. G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]

1965. G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [16]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BLUE JACKET REEF (WHITE JACKET GULLY) MINE AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

| Location | Parcel No. P125153, State Forest, 100 metres east of junction of Centipede Gully Track and Whipstick Road, White Jacket Gully, Whipstick |
| Map Reference | Epsom 1:25,000 - BV554.367 |

Victorian Heritage Register | No |
National Estate Register | No |
Planning Scheme | No |

Description

About 100 metres east of Whipstick Road and close to the Raywood Channel, there is a puddling machine. The inner mound of the puddling machine has been quarried out, and only sections of the outer mound has escaped being eroded away. About 100 metres further down the gully, and running across the gully in a roughly north-south direction there is a line of shallow reef working on the northern extension of Blue Jacket Reef.

History

Period of activity: 1864 - 1866+

Thematic Context

Mining

Comparative Examples

This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Flat (1852), Fiddler's Green (1852), One-Eye Gully (1852), Peter the Great (right hand branch)(1856) and Shallow Diggings (1858).

Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron's Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter’s Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully.

Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron’s Dam, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter’s Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts.

Statement of Significance

The site is representative of small-scale shallow alluvial and reef workings to be found in the Whipstick area (criterion D).
Level of Significance  Local

Recommendation  The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries  The site is bounded on the west by the Raywood Channel and extends for 75 metres north and south on either side of the main line of the gully for a distance of 250 metres.

References  1. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.

Notes  The provenance of the puddling machine is unknown. There is no firm evidence of the existence of a dam in the gully in the vicinity of the puddling machine, so it is possible that water for puddling was obtained from the Raywood Channel, in which case the machine was not in use before 1886. The site is unusual in being upstream from the reef workings, and therefore suggests that the alluvial and reef workings were unrelated. The reef workings may be as early as 1865.

Assessed by  David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology  09.1864 Gum Tree Flat: 20 miners at work. [1.37-40]
012.1864 Gum Tree Flat: 20 miners at work. [1.39-42]
03.1865 Gum Tree Flat: 30 miners at work. [1.42-44]
06.1865 Gum Tree Flat: 10 miners at work. [1.43-44]
09.1865 Blue Jacket Reef: 2 miners at work [1.47-49]
12.1865 Blue Jacket Reef: 4 miners at work [1.45-46]
03.1866 Blue Jacket Reef: 4 miners at work [1.44-45]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BLACK FOREST MINE

Other Names

Description
Line of reef workings, consisting of a partially filled open-cut and two small but intact mullock heaps.

History
Period of activity: 1858-1892, 1898-1907
Line of reef: Black Forest/Hustler’s
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: unknown
Deepest shaft: 1068 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The site is one of a number of representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the study area, namely: Lightning Hill (1852-1907), Old Tom Reef (1857-1898), Frühling Reef (1860-1931), Lancashire Reef (1890-1908) and King of Prussia (1871-1885).

Statement of Significance
The site displays a representative sequence of open cutting and shaft mining and is part of a group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant (criterion D).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Lightning Hill Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries
The Lightning Hill Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Hodgson Street, on the east by the Raywood Channel as far as the junction between Whipstick Road and Rifle Range Road, on the north-west by a line 150 metres west of Whipstick Road (between Rifle Range Road and Mill Street and excluding all private property) and on the west by a line joining a point at the junction of Whipstick Road and the western access track to Lightning Hill and a point at the junction of Hodgson Street and the southern access street to Lightning Hill.

References
1. "Mining Intelligence. Elysian Flat." From our own Reporter, 6 February 1858, The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 9 February 1858.
3. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
4. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk and Huntly division.
7. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
8. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
11. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
12. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
New Quartz Reef. On Tuesday last a new reef was opened in Wellington Gully, near Blue Jacket Gully. It is 3 feet thick, and has been opened out to a depth of 10 feet. The stone raised is expected to yield six ounces per ton. It was discovered at a depth of 3 feet from the surface. The ground has been marked out for about a mile. What makes the holders of claims on the reef more sanguine, is the fact of the hill on which the reef has been found being one that has yielded some splendid surfacing - one puddler residing there having made as much as £16,000 from it. [1]

Lightning Hill - The reef continued approximately northward, entering the Whipstick ...at the foot of Lightning Hill. It was here in 1858 that a party of Germans began prospecting on their claim that extended for 200 yards long the line of reef. At first they were unsuccessful, but they persevered until in 1861 they struck rich stone which yielded 2½ozs of gold to the ton. A company consisting of 11 partners was formed, and as most of them came from the Black Forest region in Germany, they named their mine after this district of their homeland. On 18 November 1861 ...named the mine Black Forest Reef Company. ... from 1861 to 1867 some 2036ozs of gold were obtained. In 1899 the Black Forest was being worked by the J. R. Exploration Syndicate, when a shaft was sunk to 250 feet ...This syndicate erected a wooden poppet legs and installed a steam winch. Later the shaft was deepened to 1060 feet but with poor results, calls amounting to £8770 were paid during the years 1904 to 1907, and the mine proved a failure. [2.176-185]

Black Forest Reef: 172ozs 12d wt from 72 tons of stone. The claim on the Black Forest Reef, also therein mentioned, is a prospecting claim that has not very long opened; it is situated on the ranges to the north of Eaglehawk, and the whole length of the reef is now taken up, and the prospecting claim is making a good return to its owners. [3.440-441]

In quartz mining matters are comparatively dull; the lately discovered reef mentioned in my last report, the Black Forest Reef prospecting claim, is turning out very well, the breadth of the reef is five feet, and the quartz obtained therefrom looks exceedingly well and promises a handsome return. [4.491-492]

On the Black Forest Lead the holders of the prospecting claim are still raising tolerably good stone, and another claimholder to the south of the prospecting claim has cut the reef at a depth of 60 feet. [4.547-548]

This reef, which has only come under the notice of the public within the last four or five months, affords another instance of well-earned success - the result of patient and systematic perseverance, on the part of the proprietary, extending over a period of nearly four years. The prospecting claim, of 200 yards extent, was taken up by the present Black Forest Company in the year of 1858, in a supposed line with Clough's Reef, but about two miles further north. It lies parallel with and about half a mile east of McNair's Specimen Hill, and is pleasantly situated on the summit of a ridge, from whence proceed Pennyweight Flat, leading into Eaglehawk Gully, and Napoleon Gully, opening out into Sailor's Gully. Two shaft were sunk close to the south boundary of the claim to the depth of 109 feet each, and 36 feet apart, situate east and west of each other. At the depth of 55 feet a crosscut, chiefly through slate, was put in from the east shaft to the west shaft. And, again, at 109 feet there is a similar crosscut, but extending 12 feet west of the west shaft, meeting at that joint with an east underlay lava streak. This lower crosscut, immediately after leaving the east shaft, passed through a hard bastard granite country the whole way. A blind shaft, following the lava streak, was sunk a depth of 95 feet along the underlay to water level, carrying with it the same hard granite on both sides. At 20 feet depth as long the underlay; a body of quartz was passed, but no trial made. Midway between the two shafts, in the crosscut at 55 feet, a small leader, containing gold, has been observed, but being only about the thickness
of a finger, it would not pay to work. It however induced the prospectors to sink a shaft further north about 80 yards. In this shaft a thin saddle was passed through at a depth of about 30 feet, and at 40 feet a crosscut 12 feet east cut the east leg, the lode now being wrought by the prospectors. The west leg was cut at a depth of 60 feet by a crosscut 25 feet west from the shaft.

The character of the reef is as follows:- Saddle-shape, separating into east and west underlies; the east only having been wrought. The most productive portion has been at about 30 feet below the saddle and towards the north, yielding rather better than 2½ozs to the ton. It has been wrought about 30 feet in height and for about 55 yards from north to south, to within about 75 yards of the prospectors’ north boundary. Average thickness about 2 feet. Dip north, underlie slightly east. The upper part of the lode has been left standing for the present, only yielding from 5 to 10dwt to the ton. It has a sandstone foot wall on the west for some distance, but towards the north the lode carried slate on both sides. The hanging or east wall is slate the whole way. The gold was observed to be distributed chiefly over the west face of the lode for some distance, until the sandstone left it, when it appeared to have shifted to the east face.

In crosscutting for the western lode, a lava streak, about 1 foot wide and trending east, was passed through at about 20 feet from the shaft. A thick body of stone has been cut about 2 feet to the west of the east lode, at a depth of 55 feet, the miners having driven already 6 feet into it without reaching the west face. No trial has yet been made of it.

There are about six claims north of the prospectors’, in which prospecting is being carried out, and about four claims south, but the ground has been marked out for a long distance beyond both ways:

- The Charles Company - next south of Prospector’s
- Martha Company - Next north to the Black Forest Company
- John's Company - next north to the Martha Company
- Mesner and Company - next north to John’s Company.

**Black Forest Company**


Area and title - 200 yards from north to south, a prospecting claim held under miner’s right.

**Workings** - There are four shafts on this claim. No.1, the north shaft, 90 yards from the north boundary, 70 feet deep. No.2, south of No.1, 30 yards, 60 feet deep. Nos.3 and No.4, east and west of each other, and on the south boundary, each 103 feet deep. A description of the work done in the latter shafts is given in the foregoing account of The Black Forest Reef. In No.2 shaft there is a crosscut at the depth of 47 feet, 65 feet east, the present east lode being cut at 12 feet from the shaft. In the same shaft, at 60 feet, there is a crosscut 12 feet east, and another at the same level, 35 feet west. An easterly lava streak, 1 foot thick, was passed through in the latter, at 20 feet from the shaft, and the west underlie lode at 25 feet.

**Reef and yield** - The lode has been wrought from about 10 yards south of No.2 shaft, and north 15 yards of No.1 shaft, in all about 65 yards in extent, and for a height of 30 feet, and an average thickness of 2 feet. The upper portion of the lode has not been stripped, it is much thicker, but not so productive. The richest portion of the lode is towards the north. Dip north. Underlie slightly east, nearly perpendicular.

From 22 July last, the date of the first, to 6 December, the date of the last crushing, 374 tons of stone have been raised, yielding 642ozs 13dwt 9 grains, and realising £2450 shillings 11 pence, or an average of nearly 1oz 15dwt to the ton. The best crushings were 30 October - 45 tons, 116ozs 2dwt 12 grains and 16 November - 60 tons, 152ozs 15dwt. Dividends - Since striking gold in July, the sum of £1586 10 shillings has been returned in dividends, or £79 6 shillings 6 pence per share, deducting the cost of prospecting, it would thus leave £827 6 shillings as the clear profit of the mine up to the present time. [5.11, 6]

09.1864 - Black Forest Reef: 16 reef miners at work. [7.37-40]
03.1865: Black Forest Reef: 9 reef miners at work. [7.42-44]
06.1865: Black Forest Reef: 7 reef miners at work. Many new reefs are being opened up, which afford satisfactory prospects to venture on them, among which I may mention the Black Forest Reef, 10 tons of stone yielding 50 ounces of gold. [7.43-44]
06.1865: Black Forest Reef: 50ozs obtained from 40 tons of stone. [8]
09.1865: Black Forest Reef: 8 reef miners at work. [7.47-49]
17.10.1865: Black Forest Company - this company holds a claim of about 15 acres of ground on the west side of the Lightning Reef, Eaglehawk. A large body of stone crops out on the surface but has not been worked much. At present the workings are chiefly on the cap of the reef, 40 feet from the surface, where it is about 10 feet thick. The last crushing yielded 8dwt of gold per ton. The reef is a saddle one and both legs have been worked to a depth of 80 feet, the yield of gold at that depth being 6dwt per ton. In a shaft north of the present workings a level is being put in to work the western leg which is one foot thick at this place, and yields 1ozs to the ton. There will be 40 feet of stone to rise upon. The company use a horse whip and windlass in working the mine. [9]
01.11.1865: Black Forest Company - A meeting of the shareholders of this company was held last night. ... The manager’s (F. Gremelsbacher) report was read and adopted. It stated: during the 2 months the company have been in existence the main part of the work done has been breaking and raising quartz, 208 tons have been raised and crushed, yielding 45ozs 17dwt 2 grains, or an average of 4dwt 9½ grains to the ton; 131 tons of the stone were taken from a large body south of the main shaft, and yielded 21ozs 18dwt 17 grains, or an average of 3dwt 8 grains per ton; and the remaining 77 tons were taken from the 85 foot level and yielded 23ozs 18dwt, or an average of little over 6dwt per ton. At present I am putting in a drive from the Never Funk Company's shaft, alongside a flat spur which has been worked by that company and found payable. I put men on the western shaft near No.3 shaft, and directed them to rise on it for the purpose of getting a trial crushing out, and breaking through the large body when they reach a certain height. ... [10]
03.1866: Black Forest Reef: 8 reef miners at work. [7.45-46]
09.1866: Black Forest Reef: 10 reef miners at work. [7.44-45]
06.1866: Black Forest Reef: 12 reef miners at work. [11.41-43]
08.1866: Black Forest Reef Company: mine valued at £4616 5 s hillings, mostly in uncalled capital, with no entry for the mine and machinery. [5.88]
09.1866: Black Forest Reef: 10 reef miners at work. [11.43-45]
12.1866: Black Forest Reef: 10 reef miners at work. [12.44-45]
03.1867: Black Forest Reef: 10 reef miners at work. [12.32-34]
10.07.1871: Black Forest Company: The shaft has been sunk 9 feet during the fortnight, total from plat 14 feet. A small spur has been cut in sinking; no visible increase in the water. [13]
31.07.1871: Black Forest Company. The shaft has been sunk a further depth of 14 feet, total from plat 28 feet. The spurs are becoming thicker as we sink, and the water increasing. [14]
07.08.1871: Black Forest Company. The shaft has been sunk a further depth of 11 feet, total from plat 39 feet. Ground still keeps pretty hard. No material increase of water. [15]
04.09.1871: Black Forest Company. The shaft has been sunk a further 8½ feet, making 58 feet from plat, or a total depth from surface of 224 feet; ground very tight. [16]
18.09.1871: Black Forest Company. A further depth of 11 feet has been sunk during the fortnight, making depth from plat 69 feet, or total from surface 235 feet. [17]
18.09.1871: Black Forest Company. A further depth of 11 feet has been sunk during the fortnight, making a depth from plat 60 feet, or total from surface 235 feet. [18]
02.10.1871: Black Forest Company. The shaft has been sunk a further depth of 9 feet, total 244 feet. The lava has been cut, underlying east, and we have has a slight increase in water. It is expected that stone will be met with shortly.
30.10.1871: Black Forest Company. During the past fortnight we have sunk 11 feet, making total from plat 92 feet. In consequence of the lava coming through the shaft it has been found necessary to timber it about 20 feet. The water having become much heavier we have commenced to cut a plat.

25.12.1871: Black Forest Company. Since my last report 14 feet has been driven; total from shaft, 653 feet. There is a slight alteration in the nature of the ground. Water is troublesome.

1871: Poppet head and winding engine erected.

14.08.1876: South Black Forest Hustler’s Reef Company - The half yearly general meeting was held ... on the 11th instant. ... It was resolved to accept the proposal to amalgamate with the adjoining claim on the south, and as soon as possible as this can be effected mining operations will be resumed.

10.12.1877: South Black Forest Hustler’s Reef Company - The tributors crushed 10 loads of stone for the fortnight taken from the western leg of the reef; yield 6ozs 18 grains of gold, or a little over 12dwt per ton; their last crushing yielded 7dwt per ton. There is a large quantity of stone; they are only breaking it about a foot thick at present.

1879: Reef shown marked in Murray’s map of the northwards extension of the quartz reefs at Eaglehawk.

14.11.1882: Black Forest Company. A meeting of shareholders in the Black Forest Company was held at Eaglehawk on Saturday. It was agreed to register the company under the No Liability clause in 30,000 shares of 10 shillings each. The ground held by the new company is in two leases of 13 acres each, 26 acres in all, or about 800 yards on the line of reef. This ground includes the old Black Forest Company’s ground, from which a deal of gold was obtained, and as the ground has only been worked down to the water level, about 180 feet from the surface, the company has been formed for the purpose of testing the ground below water level. It is the intention of the company to put up winding machinery at once, and get below the water level, where good payable gold was left untouched.

23.11.1882: Registration

I, the undersigned, hereby make application to register The Black Forest Reef Gold Mining Company as a no-liability company, under the provisions of the Mining Companies’ Act 1871.

1. The name of the company is to be The Black Forest Reef Gold Mining Company (No Liability)

2. The place of operations is at Black Forest reef, Eaglehawk, ...

Hay Kirkwood, manager.

18.12.1882: Black Forest Company. Commenced work on the 18th. The shaft has been timbered up round the collar, and divided and put in ladders down to a depth of 150 feet. 10 feet of mullock was taken out of bottom of shaft, and the drive also cleaned out for 16 feet into the winze. Have also secured the ground over head and now the winze will be sunk for a depth of 50 or 60 feet deeper to cut the eastern leg of reef.

06.1883: On the Black Forest and Lightning Hill lines matters are very quiet.

12.1883: But little work is being done on the Black Forest and Lightning Hill lines of reef.

08.1889: Lease No.5934 for 22 acres 2 roods and 38 perches and 11 men granted on 12 August to Charles Alcock on Black Forest Reef.

24.01.1898: English capital is doing valuable prospecting on the Black Forest ... line.

27.01.1898: The Black Forest Reef at Lightning Hill is being explored by an English Company, who have put up a first class plant, and are setting about the work systematically. The shaft is being enlarged to 11 feet 6 inches by 4 feet 6
1898: Black Forest Company: winch for winding.

1899: The Black Forest was being worked by the J.R. Exploration Syndicate, when a shaft was sunk to 250 feet ... This syndicate erected a wooden poppet legs and installed a steam winch. Later the shaft was deepened to 1060 feet but with poor results, a calls amounting to £8770 were paid during the years 1904 to 1907, and the mine proved a failure.

1905: The Black Forest Company has been doing developmental work by sinking a main shaft and cross-cutting at various levels, but, finding nothing payable, attention has again been paid to shaft sinking. The shaft had been put down to 944 feet from the surface. Sixteen men are continuously employed.

1906: The Black Forest Company’s shaft has reached a depth of 1068 feet, and levels have been driven, but as yet no gold has been seen in the mine.

02.07.1907: Black Forest - east crosscut at 420 feet out 226 feet. The ground being traversed consists of slate and sandstone, with strata underlying east.

12.09.1931: In order to make a general survey of the Whipstick area, where a good deal of mining prospecting is at present being carried on, Mr H. W. Gepp, Dr Stillwell and Mr W. Baragwanath (Director of Geological Survey) visited that part of the Bendigo goldfields yesterday. They were accompanied by Mr R. V. Keane, M.H.R., the Mayor of Eaglehawk (Cr J. H. Stewart) and Messrs J. Enroe and W. F. Dennis. Among the mines visited were the Flagstaff and the Old Tom. Before returning to Bendigo the experts also inspected the old Black Forest and Lightning Hill, which were worked by the J. R. Exploration Syndicate about 30 years ago. An examination of the records affecting this part of the field was made later in the Bendigo Mines office.
MARONG DEEP LEAD MINE

**Other Names**

**Location** Freehold Land, north side of Wilson's Reef Road, Marong

**Map Reference** Leichardt 1:25,000 - BV403.303

**Description** On the north side of a small dry dam is a 5 foot square brick chimney base standing 4 feet high. An intact brick flue, 3 feet long, leads from the base of the stack to a brick boiler setting. The 27 foot long 3-pass Cornish boiler setting still retains its internal flue. The bricks used in this setting are a mixture of hand- and machine-made ones. On the north side of the boiler setting is the concrete floor and shattered remains of the framing and cladding of a rectangular galvanised iron shed. There are also remains of a brick chimney. 12 metres north of the boiler setting stands the decaying remains of a bush timber poppet head. The poppet head would stand approximately 10 metres high and its legs rest on 2 foot square concrete pads. The shaft is open. 20 metres east of the boiler setting is a raised mound which contains the weathered remains of an elevated puddling machine. At the base of the puddling machine mound, on the east side, are some concrete foundations. 100 metres east of the mine site is a sand dump which may contain the wooden stumps of a 10-head battery. The poppet head is ruinous, the boiler setting is damaged, the mullock heaps and puddling machine site are weathered and the shed has been demolished.

**History** Period of activity: Marong Deep Lead Company - plant erected 1904-1905

**Thematic Context** Mining

**Comparative Examples** This is one of two deep lead mine sites (sinkings greater than 100 feet) within the study area. The other is at Elysian Flat/Neilborough. This is the only one where deep lead mining technology was in use. Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron's Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splinter's Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully. This is the only site where elevated puddling machines were in use.

**Statement of Significance** The site is associated with the discovery of gold in the Marong area in 1867 (criterion A). The site is rare, being one of the few surviving which were associated with Bendigo deep lead mining industry (criterion B), and has the potential for education and interpretation (criterion C).

**Level of Significance** Regional
Recommendation

The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries

The rectangular site is bounded on the south by the Wilsons Reef Road, on the east and west by property fences and extends northwards for a distance of about 400 metres.

References

5. “Mining intelligence. New lead at the Bullock Creek diggings.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 12 September 1868.
6. The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette.
10. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district.
11. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
12. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
15. The Bendigo Advertiser, 5 January 1897.
18. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.
20. “Mining intelligence.” Marong, 28 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 29 November 1898, p4, col.1.
27. “Mining intelligence. Shamrock Gully rush.” Marong, 21 May; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 22 May 1907, p2, col.3.
29. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 5 November 1907, p2, col.4.
Notes

Assessed by: David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

1852-1863. Marong- Bullock Creek - Marong, about eight miles west of Bendigo on Bullock Creek, became a gold washing place and the Commissioner's Camp early in 1852, when the water gave out at Bendigo. The station, owned originally by Hugh Grass, was then occupied by the Campbell's, who had the Argyll Inn there. Early in 1853 there was a report of gold discoveries at Bullock Creek 'equal to Bendigo' and there were reported later discoveries in 1854, and 1856. [1.251-252]

21.10.1867. From a correspondent we learn that within the last few days some very good alluvial claims have been taken up near the Marong Hotel, in addition to the good quartz claims which have been discovered in that locality. [2]

1867. Marong . . . The opening of the field began with the discovery of various rich reefs in 1867; Carter and Wood opened the Duke of Edinburgh Reef, and Henry Wilson opened Wilson's Reef on Wilson's Hill. Other reefs discovered on Wilson's Hill at the time were Mackenzie and Gray's, the Great Britain, Moore's, Simpson's Norwich and the Prince Charlie. About the end of October 1867 a party of diggers, Thorpe and Company, began work on what became known as First Gully and Burnt Gully was opened soon after. In December Steer and party got a claim 'one mile north of the pound', also in the vicinity of First Gully, and about the same time J. Virtue and R Lovie opened Lovie's Lead, the first of the deep leads at Marong. The party claimed a reward and were paid £75 each. About thirty claims were getting gold at First Gully (about a mile north of Marong today) early in 1868, and two tributary leads, Belcher's and Nardoo, were opened in March that year. Diggers also started in Wood and Carter's paddock, and at Fletcher's Creek, near the pound. By May 1868 there were 1000 diggers at Marong, Duke's Flat was discovered, and prospecting claims were taken out at various places unidentifiable today. One was Murder Flat, where Hogan murdered Doolin for £500; others were Great Britain Gully, Polworth Hill, and Waler's Hill, Leichardt. Digging declined at Marong after 1868. [1.251-252]

05.09.1868. Within the last day or two a rush has taken place to ground adjoining Wood and Carter's property, on the Inglewood Road, about two miles beyond the Marong Hotel, in consequence of a shaft having been bottomed at about 112 feet, and a prospect of 9dwt of gold to the load reported to have been obtained. The sinking is said to be easy, and the lead is supposed to be going into Wood and Carter's ground. ... [3]

11.09.1868. We were yesterday shown by Mr Palmer, storekeeper, of Bullock Creek, a beautiful sample of coarse gold weighing 9½ ozs, the result of a washing of 20 loads of dirt from one of the claims in Wood and Carter's paddock. Several shafts are now being put down in this paddock, which is about 100 acres in extent, and from the above and previous washings sanguine hopes are entertained. ... The sinking is about 120 feet, and the claimholders pay a royalty of 10 per cent. On the gold to the proprietors of the paddock - a system which we believe has worked satisfactorily for both parties. As an evidence of the fact that gold is to be found in other portions of the Bullock Creek, Mr Palmer had in his possession a very fine parcel of about 40 ozs of gold, obtained from claims in the old diggings. [4]

12.09.1868. In reference to the discovery of a new lead in the paddock of Messrs Wood and Carter at Bullock Creek, reported in the Advertiser of Friday, Mr Hart, the mining surveyor, has forwarded a report to the Government, in which he states that the new lead is of the same nature as the Epsom and
Huntly lead. The prospectors, who are experienced miners, sank their shaft to a
depth of 114 feet to a dry bottom, and found washdirt varying in thickness from
4 inches to a foot. It consisted of a brown gravel, intermixed with mud. 23 loads
have been tried, with an average yield of 8dwt per load. The gold is very rough.

09.1868: A considerable number of miners are profitably employed at the
Marong and Leichardt diggings, where the sinking is deep - 100 feet and
upwards. At the Whipstick the sinking is from 2 to 14 feet. [10.19-20]

10.1868: Bullock Creek, Bendigo - very quiet here. The only tangible
ground now looked to is Wood and Carter’s land, private property, where 50 feet
allotments are being let. No doubt there is a lead, but depth of sinking (112 feet)
is a great drawback in such small allotments. A company has been formed to
prospect ground west of private property, on the flat. Want of water was
severely felt until fall of late rains. [6.93]

02.12.1868: The Oriental Bank, Eaglehawk, purchased recently 21ozs 11dwt 12
grains of gold, the result of a washing of 26 loads of stuff from Wood and
Carter’s claim, Bullock Creek. The shaft is right in the centre of the orchard,
from which the gold was obtained, and is 15 feet deep and quite dry. Singular to
say, about 10 feet off there is another shaft, which was abandoned because
heavy water was struck at 40 feet from the surface. The washdirt is from one to
3 feet thick, and is compose of sandy gravel on the bottom, while on the top of
the gravel there is a hard cement, which holds the nuggety gold. One of the
pieces in the parcel weighed 1ozs 17dwt, and another 11dwt. [7]

30.12.1868: We have received very good accounts from the new rush at Wood
and Carter’s paddock, Bullock Creek. From Boal and Company’s claim, 50
loads yielded 24ozs, and they have a large quantity of stuff ready for washing,
which is expected to yield about 1ozs to the load. The sinking is from 100 to
110 feet, with the washdirt about 6 feet in thickness. [8]

12.1868: A great number of our alluvial miners have been attracted to the new
diggings at Spring Creek, about 50 miles from Sandhurst; but many of them had
to leave good ground at Bullock Creek, Sydney Flat, and the Whipstick, on
account of the scarcity of water. ... At Bullock Creek, very good results have
been obtained in deep sinking. From a shaft 100 feet deep, one party washed
21½ozs of gold from 26 loads of stuff. The washdirt is from 1 to 3 feet in depth,
and over it is a layer of cement, in which coarse nuggety gold is found. The
shaft referred to is free from water, but near it water has been struck at a depth
of 40 feet. [10.18-19]

12.1868: At the Whipstick nuggets of considerable size are continually turning
up, and it is expected that many will return to the diggings there, as well as at
Sydney Flat and Marong, as soon as the rainy season sets in. [10.18-19]

06.1869: Marong and Bullock Creek: 531 miners at work. [11]

19.07.1869: On Saturday a very fine parcel of alluvial gold was purchased by
the Bank of Victoria, which was obtained from a claim in M’Leay’s paddock,
Bullock Creek, at a depth of 120 feet. The lead is at this depth rich and well-
defined, showing that deep alluvial leads exist in this portion of the district which
might be profitably worked. [9]

09.1869: Marong and Bullock Creek: 422 miners at work. [11]

12.1869: Marong and Bullock Creek: 374 miners at work. [11]

03.1870: Marong and Bullock Creek: 331 miners at work. [11]

06.1870: Marong and Bullock Creek: 320 miners at work. [11]

09.1870: Marong and Bullock Creek: 130 miners at work. [11]

12.1870: Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]

03.1871: Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]

06.1871: Marong and Bullock Creek: 180 miners at work. [11]

09.1871: Marong and Bullock Creek: 185 miners at work. [11]

12.1871: Marong and Bullock Creek: 185 miners at work. [11]

03.1872: Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]

06.1872: Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]

Alluvial mining is almost confined to Huntly, but they are doing a little at the
White Hills and Marong. [10]

09.1872: Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
In the west, there has been a revival on the Sunday Morning Reef at Marong, ... [10.30-31]

Several prospecting claims in alluvial have been taken up in different parts of the district, but the only one of importance is that at Wilson's Hill, Marong, where a considerable number of men are at work, and they appear to be quite satisfied from the results of a few claims bottomed that they have struck a good lead; the sinking is about 130 feet. [10]
06.1886  Marong: 50 miners at work. [18]
09.1886  Marong: 55 miners at work. [18]
12.1886  Marong: 50 miners at work. [18]
03.1887  Marong: 42 miners at work. [18]
06.1887  Marong: 40 miners at work. [18]
09.1887  Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]
12.1887  Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]
03.1888  Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]
06.1888  Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]
09.1888  Marong: 170 miners at work. [18]
12.1888  Marong: 175 miners at work. [18]
12.1888  At Marong, a fair amount of gold is being obtained from the alluvial ground. [12.21]
03.1889  Marong: 200 miners at work. [18]
03.1889  The Marong alluvial rush, party of which is in this division, has yielded a fair quantity of gold, and a second rush of a promising nature has taken place in the same locality. [12.18]
06.1889  Marong: 150 miners at work. [18]
06.1889  The two alluvial rushes, which recently took place at Marong, have up to the present time been the means of giving employment to a large number of men, most of whom are obtaining good wages. [12.17]
09.1889  Marong: 150 miners at work. [18]
12.1889  Marong: 150 miners at work. [18]
02.01.1890  At the close of the old year there are some slight signs of improvement in two or three of our local claims. Cleary and Howard have about 70 loads of washdirt on the surface, and the prospect promises at least good mining wages. They have a wide face of wash to work upon, and as the ground is easy to break, 4dwt per load is not to be scorned. They intend puddling when their paddock contains 100 loads. Quilligan and Duncan junior are raising a large lot which will doubtless afford a handsome return. The heaviest was in this particular and peculiar claim in the heaviest charged with gold. Miller and M'Evoy had applied for permission to work under the road on this line. Anderson and Stewart have had two millfulls puddled, which yielded an average 3dwt 12 grains per load, a result which proved moderately payable. Greenaway and Sons have finished 32 loads for a similar result. Lovie and Billing are again raising a large paddock which is believed to be remunerative. Harley and mate will soon be puddling, and would have done so before Christmas, but for one part of their claim the wash has so far been unremunerative and many loads have been stowed away below as mullock. [13]
13.04.1895  The run being worked so profitably in Carter's claim in the Yorkshire property, and at Wright and Sons', is generally believed to be distinct from that upon which the prospectors, Lovie and J. G. Carter junior, have been so long and profitably working, and it is next door to a certainty that the latter will find this between the ground in which they are now engaged and their eastern pegs. From the company's claim to the north of Wilson's Hill, 32 loads of auriferous wash stone has been cleaned off at the Catherine Company's batteries for the satisfactory return of 20ozs. This is a great improvement. Their dirt is all for the stampers. I have just heard that Osterfield, Gardner and Winzer gave cleaned off a lot of their peculiar wash at the Catherine Company's batteries for the excellent yield of nearly an ounce to the load. . . . [***]
14.10.1895  Marong mines disclose encouraging prospects. [14]
1895  Marong- Bullock Creek. There was a new discovery and rush to Fletcher's Creek in 1877, and a number of deep leads were discovered near Wilson's Hill, in the 1890s. Bohlliman's Lead was worked there in 1895, Lovie's was re-discovered. The State School Lead was discovered by Duncan and Greenaway in 1890. The Racecourse and Greenway's Leads were also opened about this time. About £60,000 worth of gold was taken from the Marong Deep Lead in the period 1901-03. [1.252]
04.01.1897  Marong, 4th January - ...A small trial lot has been submitted from the claim in the deep alluvial to the west of Bohlliman's lead. At the deep alluvial to the north of Wilson's Hill the various parties who are concerned in Fletcher's
property, and also in Crown lands, re-commenced work to-day, and on the whole the new year will open with fair prospects of success. On Wednesday Maybery, Andre and Chris washed a few dishes of dirt from their claim and netted los 6dwt of gold out of that small quantity. This is immediately to the south of the private property, and both in the Government and private ground occasional patches are found, which, however, must not be regarded as fair prospects of the general quality of the wash dirt. Charlesworth Bros. and mates are also on wash which promises a goodly yield, and judging from the last returns secured by Osterfield, Smith and party (who own the claim situated furthest to the north-west in Fletcher's) there seems a probability of the lead being traced in the direction of Derby. The foregoing and Messrs Wallace, Duffy and mates, the Fletcher Bros. and Truscott and party have moderately fair prospects to begin the year upon, and although their neighbours to the west had a disappointing return at the close of the last year, we all hope that their future results may be brighter. Work will be generally resumed to-day in the Yorkshire property. Machinery, including a pumping, winding and crushing plant, is now being erected by the Great Eastern at Sedgwick, Strathfieldsaye, and the contractors made a start yesterday.

During the last few months particularly, the development of the quartz and alluvial resources of this district has shown a gratifying improvement in results, and the year's output has been much greater than that of last year. A record furnished by our correspondent shows that during the year there have been treated, in quartz and alluvial, 6560 loads for a return of 2494ozs 15dwt of gold. Among the private parties most successful have been Kennedy and Rawiller, Wallace, Duffy and Company, Charlesworth and Company, Truscott and Company, Carter Brothers, Potter and party, Twigg, Pittaway and Rylet, and Wright and Company. Steps are being taken to induce the Government to provide a diamond drill for the exploration of the alluvial leads to the northwards of Marong.

Thomas and Company (Marong) have an alluvial claim in Wilson's paddock to the west of the Marong racecourse. There is 100 feet of sinking, and three picked dishes were washed for the splendid return of 15ozs.

Cairns and Company, who are working the alluvial near Wilson's Hill, Marong, obtained 36ozs from a crushing put through.

Last week two additional shafts have touched bottom on the deep alluvial north-west of Wilson's Hill, each of them at a depth of about 140 feet, and washed dirt, which affords excellent prospects of nice coarse gold has been obtained. They have a soft strata to drive in and a large bouldery wash. Duffy, Ahearn and mates have bottomed to the west and obtained colours, but not as yet payable. Truscott and mates crushed a small trial lot of 8 loads for 1ozs 8dwt. On the Crown land to the east, Mayberry, G. Green and Bevis are raising payable wash, but they have to blast through very hard ground. Watson, Jackson and mates crushed 43 loads; which averaged 3dwt per load, and Rawiller's party 20 loads for about 5dwt per load.

Wright and Company crushed 20 loads for 5ozs 10dwt and M'Cassey and Company 11 loads for 6ozs 14dwt from the deep alluvial north west of Wilson's Hill.

The various alluvial leads at Marong have been kept to the front by the pioneer prospectors of that locality, and although the returns latterly have been poorer, yet in a majority of instances a payable average has been maintained. Towards Leichhardt, Woodstock and Derby, a powerful English Company have been putting down a series of bores, and as they have taken up an immense area of country for mining purposes, it is to be assumed that encouraging prospects have been obtained. Where the lead dipped below the water level machinery had to be provided to cope with the water, and the Marong Alluvial Company was formed in 1902. A large lease on the lower extension of the north west lead was acquired. The property is equipped with suitable winding plant, and at present all the water is raised by tanks. There is a 10-head battery with other surface equipment, and the manager states that a yield of 4dwt person will cover
working costs. [23]
05.1903: 112ozs nugget (No.353) found at a depth of 167 feet by Captain
Thomas and party at a site 1½ miles from the township of Marong. [24.22]
1904-1905: Marong Deep Leads Company, Reports by Henry Y North, Legal
Manager:-
7 May 1904: Fixed frame sets on surface and sunk and timbered shaft 10 feet.
Also erected charging house. Boiler and machinery have been delivered on
mine and will proceed with erection immediately.
4 June 1904: Shaft sunk 30 feet total from surface 75 feet. Have also timbered
and centred shaft and fixed ladders. The building in of Boiler is now in progress.
18 June 1904: shaft sunk 29 feet making 104 feet. Also timbered and centred
same and fixed ladders. The building in of the boiler is in progress and portion
of winding machinery has been delivered on mine.
16 July 1904: Shaft sunk 29 feet total 163 feet and cut a flow of water. Boiler
has been built on bed. Foundation and basement for chimney stack completed,
and are fixing bed logs for engines.
1 Aug 1904: Contractors for erection of plant and buildings stack making fair
progress.
13 Aug 1904: Completed chimney stack. Fixed bed logs for pumping engine and
winding plant and will have boiler tested during next week.
10 September 1904: Have almost completed housing of machinery and building
in boiler. Are now taking out excavations for balance bob.
24 September 1904: Have purchased poppet heads and shoots and contractor
is now engaged removing and re-erecting same.
22 October 1904: Poppet heads have been delivered on the mine and
contractors are now erecting same. Have connected steam pipes from boiler to
engine, also laid floor of engine house.
17 December 1904: Have placed exhaust tank in position and fixed necessary
pipes. Are now putting floor around pumping.
19 January 1905: Completed water race and enlarged dam, and are now filling
same. Have also put ropes on drums.
11 February 1905: Resumed sinking shaft, but found water too heavy for
bucket. Will now put in pumps, the engine and bob for same being already in
position.
25 February 1905: Have sunk bob pit required depth and are now timbering
same. Pumps to hand and will put down in position at once.
8 April 1905 Shaft sunk and timbered to a depth of 170 feet in wash showing
gold. Have also erected Blacksmith's shop and fenced in bob pit.
3 June 1905: Shaft sunk to 217 feet at which depth will cut chamber and drive
east for lead. Nos 1 and 2 bores, situate 233 and 413 feet north east of shaft
have bottomed and gold obtained from each.
21 October 1905. West drive off south level driven 58 feet making 147 feet. Nice
looking wash but poor. North level from east drive advanced to 111 feet in heavy
wash. South level off east drive extended 41 feet, making 55 feet. This is in
rough wash, which has given some very good progress. [25]
1905: Bendigo District: At Marong, prospecting works is being carried on
with energy in the alluvial mines, which are worked by co-operative parties with
varied success. The two large companies have not yet been able to get payable
wash. The Deep Lead Company is now erecting puddling machine, and expects
to have them ready to work in a short time. [26]
1906: Marong Alluvial: 57ozs 9dwt obtained from 307 tons of stone. [26]
1906: Marong Deep Leads: 26ozs 14dwt of gold obtained. [26]
1906: Marong Deep Leads Company, Reports by Henry Y North, Legal
Manager:-
13 January 1906: Bottom east drive extended to 124 feet in good working
country. Contractor for erection of puddling machines making fair progress.
24 February 1906: Bottom east drive advanced 44 feet, making 219 feet. East
drive off No 1 shoot driven 41 feet, total 167 feet. Engine for puddling machine
is on bed and most of shafting is in position.
21 April 1906: Completed new mullock road. Also fixed slum boxes from
machines to dam. Expect to start puddling.
19 May 1906: Bottom east drive extended 29 feet making 357 feet. Put up No.5 bore at 350 feet in and reached wash at 7 feet over laths. A lot of wash on the surface with a couple of machines from south and west drives has been put through for 5oz 7dwt gold.

30 June 1906: Rise over bottom east drive put up 13 feet. Fixed shoots etc, and driven north 20 feet in heavy wash. Drive west off south level extended 52 feet. Main south drive advanced to 181 feet. The last few sets driven give small prospects of coarse gold. Yield 1oz 18dwt from 5 fathoms of wash. [25]

22.05.1907 The Government boring party bottomed the 95th bore north west of Kloster and Company's reef at 141 feet, having gone through several boulders near the bottom, and have commenced their 96th bore about 200 yards further east of the 95th one.

In Carter's lead Murray and Lange put through a crushing for 13½dwt to the load. Landry Brothers are getting a little gold north of the railway line. Holland Brothers bottomed No.3 shaft west of No.2 at 115 feet, and have not got much gold yet. H. Green and Company are crushing, while a good many claims have large heaps owing to the battery being disabled for some time.

Kloster and Company are crushing about 60 loads from the reef in Fletcher's paddock.

Good progress is being made with the erection of the Marong Alluvial battery. [27]

22.05.1907 Marong Alluvial are engaged erecting a battery and when it is completed active operations will be resumed in the mine. [28]

05.11.1907 Marong Alluvial crushed 40 tons for 40ozs 18dwt. The return is scarcely payable. [29]

1907 Marong Alluvial: 80ozs 18dwt obtained from 612 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 138ozs 7dwt from 919 tons of stone. [30]

1908 Marong Alluvial: 44ozs 1dwt obtained from 293 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 182ozs 8dwt from 1212 tons of stone. [30]

02.1910 The Marong Alluvial - For many years the numerous tributing leads in the Marong district were operated successfully, and the industry supported a large portion of the population. The favorable conditions that obtained for working the leads was an important factor in the success of the industry. The alluvial deposits for the most part were free from water, and being easy of access, very little capital was required to work the ground. Operations were carried on principally by co-operative parties, and the claims were grouped so closely together that the dry ground - that is, the payable portion of the ground above the water level - has been practically depleted of its alluvial deposits. The north west lead was credited with being the most productive of the various leads worked in the locality. In this shallow ground sinking varied from 100 feet to 160 feet, and the wash in places was 400 feet wide. The best results were, however, obtained within a width of 200 feet, and it is said that the average yield was about half an ounce per ton, which, under the favorable conditions for working, gave a handsome profit. Where the lead dipped below the water level machinery had to be provided to cope with the water, and the Marong Alluvial Company was formed in 1902. A large lease on the lower extension of the north west lead was acquired. The property is equipped with a suitable winding plant, and at present all the water is raised by tanks. There is a 10-head battery, with other surface equipment, and the manager states that a yield of 4dwt person will cover working costs. [23]

1910 Marong Alluvial: 6ozs 17dwt obtained from 52 tons of stone. [30]

15.09.1932 A number of parties are directing attention to the Marong deep lead. Hollingshead and party have 60 tons of material awaiting crushing. They have sunk a shaft to a depth of 40 feet and have picked out several ounces of gold. Gray and party, working to the north of Hollingshead and party, have sunk to 48 feet and are now on wash. [31]

1934 Marong Alluvial: 55ozs of gold obtained from an unspecified
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

MYERS CREEK ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

Location Freehold Land, Myers Flat, Myers Creek

Map Reference Marong 1:25,000 - BV515.337

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description A band of shallow alluvial sinkings about 10 metres wide extending north-north-west across Leichardt Road for about one kilometre. The mounds of mullock are about one metre high.

History Period of activity: Alluvial gold mining in the area began in 1852 and extended along the creek as far as Sebastian by 1863. Deepest shaft: 30-100 feet

Thematic Context Mining

Comparative Examples This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Fiddler’s Green (1852), One-Eye Gully (1856), Peter the Great (1856), Elysian Lead (1857), Phillips Gully (1857) and the Shallow Diggings (1858). This is one of the earliest and one of the most extensive.

Statement of Significance The site defines the location of one of the earliest and more permanent shallow alluvial workings on Bendigo beyond Bendigo Creek itself (criterion A) and marks out the main line of alluvium which was worked northwards from Myer’s Flat to Sebastian and beyond (criterion C).

Level of Significance Regional

Recommendation The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries The area is bounded by Leichardt Road on the south, Myer’s Creek on the east, Quinns Road West on the north and freehold property boundaries on the west.

3. “Mining intelligence. The lost lead at Myer’s Creek.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 6 September 1867.
4. “Myer’s Creek rush.” From our own Correspondent, Wednesday, 4 September; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 6 September 1867.
5. “Myer’s Creek.” From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 7 September; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 9 September 1867.
8. "Myer's Creek rush." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 28 September; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 30 September 1867, p2, col.5.
9. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
11. "Mining intelligence. Myer's Creek rush." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 12 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 14 October 1867, p2, col.2.
12. "Myer's Creek rush." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 19 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 21 October 1867, p3, col.2.
13. "Myer's Creek rush." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 26 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 28 October 1867, p2, col.6.
15. "Myer's Creek rush." From our Correspondent, Saturday, 9 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 11 November 1867, p2, col.6.
16. "Myer's Creek rush." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 19 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 20 November 1867, p2, col.6.
17. "Myer's Creek rush." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 23 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 25 November 1867, p2, col.5.
18. "Myer's Creek rush." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 30 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 2 December 1867, p2, col.5.

Notes

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

05.1852: The breaking of the drought early in May 1852 led to the abandonment of the Bullock Creek and Sheepwash stations. But the big influx of diggers and their wide dispersal throughout the valley necessitated the setting up of government outstations. From Golden Gully the diggers soon began gathering the spoils of nearby Spring Creek and the rich gullies about Diamond Hill. Cockburn established station there which, on his transfer to Forest Creek, was taken over by Captain John Urquhart. Assistant Commissioner Panton . . . was moved to Bendigo Creek in June to open a new camp at Kangaroo Gully. At Myers Creek Assistant Commissioner Read set up tents for nine troopers . . . whilst at the White Hills another out-station opened under Commissioner J M Clow . . . The Junction Camp, well known station at the junction of Long Gully and the Bendigo Creek, would appear to have been opened at a later date. Removing from Bullock Creek in May 1852, Assistant Commissioner Gilbert had pitched his tents on the ridge overlooking the creek and the workings below, almost in the centre of the valley . . . Gilbert was not at this time in charge of the field, being senior to his fellow commissioners only in length of service. The field was still administratively part of Mount Alexander with its assistant commissioners directly responsible to Commissioner Wright. By the time Gilbert . . . [during first week of October 1852] . . . moved to Mount Alexander the camp he had established above Bendigo Flat was rapidly becoming the administrative centre of the field. Soon, it was almost a self-contained township spread over some seventy acres. Apart from the Commissioner's quarters, there were barracks for detachments of foot and mounted police, a licence tent,
the gold receiver's office, extensive stables and the grim, log cabin type lock-up. [1.64-65]

1852: C. Rudston Read, a gold commissioner, established his camp at Myers Creek in 1852. Napoleon Gully was about a mile east of his camp. The extension of mining was in 1852 temporarily halted along a curved line extending some ten miles from Sydney Flat, along the northern side of Lightning Hill to Epsom. The Whipstick had been reached. The scrub and dense forest, together with a shortage of water and a reduction of population were perhaps the main reasons for halting the advance. [2.8-9]

1853: Alluvial diggings...many Italian diggers, and even more Italian-speaking Swiss remained, dispersed particularly, about Epsom and Huntly, at Myers Creek and about the edges of The Whipstick. Few made fortunes from the fickle Whipstick gold, and with the growth of quartz mining, as a group they turned increasingly to charcoal-burning and timber-getting for the mines. [1.60]

06.09.1867: We were informed yesterday, on very reliable authority, that the lead at Myer's Creek had been found in a prospecting claim, situated about a mile and a half below Bolger's Paddock, and heading towards Sebastian. The washdirt was obtained at a depth of about 37 feet, the gold being plainly discernible in the dirt and was taken up and before being washed in the dish. ...

[3]

Last evening a report was in circulation to the effect that a party of miners had discovered payable gold about one mile below Bolger's property and a rush in the neighbourhood, of course, followed. It appears that the prospectors (Messrs Weddell and Company) have been bottomed since Wednesday last, and they informed me that the best prospect they had received from the tin dish was about 2 grains, and from many they were unable to raise the colour. The ground is situated about a quarter of a mile below Trounce's dam, and adjoining Gregory's paddock. ... The creek at this point runs out on a flat, which induced the prospectors to prospect this part of the flat. They have already driven a distance of 40 feet, and they purpose washing a few loads this week, in order to give it a fair trial. The depth of the shaft is 36 feet, and foul air exists, which will necessitate the introduction of a windsail to remove this obstruction. Nicholl and party, just below the prospectors, have bottomed at a depth of 39 feet and merely obtained the colour. ... There are but two shafts bottomed, and a number of miners were on the ground shepherding this morning. ...

[4]

09.09.1867: It is now confidently believed that the lost lead has been recovered, and it has been stated, on reliable authority, that a prospect of half a pennyweight from two nail cans was obtained. Weightman Brothers, the proprietors of the shaft from which the above prospect was obtained, showed me a piece of cement which was thickly impregnated with gold. From a second prospect they obtained one pennyweight to the tub, and the gold is of a coarser sample, similar to that obtained higher up. Weightman Brothers, whose claim is situated in the centre of the creek, which runs on the flat, are of opinion that it is a continuation of the old lead, and state that the lead is heading towards Sebastian. The ground is rushed in all directions and a number of miners have got to work. ... A number of diggers have again cleared out this morning, but the state of affairs at present wears a very healthy appearance. [5]

The rush at Myer's Creek drew away the greater portion of the Chinese population at Epsom, and a large number of the European miners, but since their unsuccessful efforts in tracing the lead, many of the parties have returned to their former haunts. [6]

24.09.1867: There was a very fine sample of gold exhibited in the window of the Oriental Bank, Eaglehawk, on Saturday, weighing 313 ozs from the Myer's Creek diggings. A large proportion of the metal was in pieces weighing from 2 to 5dwts. The Bank of Victoria had also a beautiful sample from the same quarter weighing 150 ozs. The yield from Myer's Creek is expected to be steady for some time, as those on the gold are blocking out and either washing up or crushing the stuff as they go along. [7]

30.09.1867: The week has closed without the diggers having been able to recover the run of payable gold at the new lead, and the most of those who have been testing the ground adjoining Messrs Shadbolt's and Gregory's paddocks
have resolved to abandon the shafts. ... [8]

09.1867: At Pottery Flat and Huntley there is not quite so much doing, partly owing to the rush to the Myer's Creek diggings, ... [9.18]

01.10.1867: Digging operations, owing to the heavy rains prevailing of late, have been almost at a standstill, and the yield of gold has been considerably less than that of previous weeks. The purchases of the Oriental Bank amount to about 170ozs and those of the Bank of Victoria to 250ozs. ... The Government reservoir at Myer's Creek is quite full, and is a fine sheet of water. ... The township at Myer's Creek diggings is henceforth to be known as Myerstown. ... [10]

14.10.1867: The returns this week, as it was generally anticipated, are larger than in the previous one, there being no less than 1000ozs bought by the purchasers of gold on Myer's Creek and at Eaglehawk. The prospects of Myer's Creek at present are by no means unsatisfactory, although it must be admitted that there are a number of diggers barely earning a livelihood, and struggling with great hardship. The excitable shepherding class have now migrated to "fresh fields and pastures new" in the hope of meeting with better success. There is still a population of between 1400 and 1500 miners on the rush, among which are about 400 Chinamen, all of whom are industriously employed. Through the courtesy of Mr Hemphill, the agent of the Oriental Bank, I am enabled to give amount of his purchases this week, which reached 300ozs, 110ozs of which were bought today, among which were parcels of 12ozs and 24ozs. The 24ozs parcel was the produce of 25 loads, and 36 loads yielded 17ozs. ... I understand that the Bank of Victoria purchased about 250ozs this week and lost other parcels in consequence of the reduced price in gold. Mr Wallworth, chemist, informed me that his purchases this week amounted to 70ozs, which were chiefly in small parcels. Buller and party, working near Crow's hotel, obtained from a washing-off of 27 loads 10½ozs of gold. Dalezzi and Company, working next to the Bank of Victoria, netted 24ozs 6dwt 17 grains from 23 loads of dirt. This claim has yielded an average of 10ozs per load, and the workers expect to conclude their operations in two more weeks and are well satisfied. Walter and party, the next claim, secured 20ozs from 24 loads. Trick and party, from a washing off of 18 loads, gained 6ozs 7dwts. Healy and party, near Mason's store, secured from 40 loads 20ozs of gold. A party of Chinamen, contiguous to Nolan's store, washed 5ozs from 10 loads. The next claim worked by Chinamen secured 3ozs from 8 loads. It has been noticed by the purchasers of gold on Myer's Creek, that in nearly every instance parcels of gold are submitted for sale by the Chinese are of a fine character, and the assumption is that the vendors sift their gold and retain the coarse metal for remitting to China. Trounce and Attrell's machines have been extensively patronized this week, no less than 500 loads having been puddled. The lower rush this week has nearly been brought to a standstill, there being only about 20 miners engaged on the field. Weightman Brothers propose puddling a machine-full next week. Maloney and party, next claim, washed a load as a trial this week, and received a yield of 4dwt. A prospecting shaft is being sunk on the other side of Shadbolt's paddock, in a line with the Celestial's shaft, in order to meet the supposed lead outside the paddock. Late on Saturday night last, a parcel of reef gold, weighing 10ozs 1dwt was submitted for sale by a digger to Mr Wallworth, chemist, the vendor declining to inform Mr Wallworth the locality where he had procured the gold. During the week there had been a number of miners out prospecting, and there is not the slightest doubt but that this parcel of gold is the result of a 'find' of a rich reef. Considerable excitement exists on Myer's Creek as to this discovery, which I trust is likely to lead to important results. [11]

21.10.1867: In consequence of a number of rushes having taken place within the past few days there has been little done on Myer's Creek this week. The most noticeable yield this week is that of a parcel of 60ozs of gold, sold by a party of Chinamen to the Bank of Victoria, the result of a washing-off of 98 loads. The claim from which the washdirt was taken is situated opposite Mr Young's Derby House. Doyle and party, whose claim is contiguous to Purves's Royal Hotel, crushed 5 loads of cement at Caldwell's machine, Pegleg, and
obtained a yield of 7ozs 17dwt 3 grains of gold. This proves that the cement contains a large quantity of gold, and there is little doubt that a good portion of it obtained on Myer’s Creek would pay for crushing. I have noticed a miner for several weeks past busily engaged cradling the tailings on the banks of the creek, and he is reported to be doing remarkably well. He has obtained several nice castaway specimens among the cement tailings, and purposes having a quantity of the cement crushed. A young fossicker obtained 8dwt of gold from the re-washing of the tailings, and I am of opinion the cement contains as great a quantity of gold as the washdirt. A party of Chinese working opposite the Bank of Victoria washed 28 loads this week, and obtained a yield of 190zs. I perceive this week that a number of claims have been worked out, and I am informed by many claimholders that their claims are on the verge of being so. Myer’s Creek may now be considered to be in its prime, but I have no doubt “fossicking” will be carried on for years, and this retain a fair population on the rush. There is but little work carried on in the company’s paddock, only 3 or 4 claims being at work, and the cement has all to be crushed. The lower rush is but a dead letter this week, there being only some half dozen miners engaged prospecting in this locality. They, however, entertain some hopes that the place will yet turn out well. In the early part of the week a rush took place at the bend of the old workings on Myer’s Flat, near the Myer’s Flat Hotel, and a prospect of 1dwt from 8 buckets of stuff was reported to have been obtained from a depth of 4 feet. The more encouraging prospects reported from Bullock Creek had the effect of inducing the diggers to leave for that locality and suspend mining operations. Myer’s Creek wore quite a deserted appearance on Tuesday, as the great bulk of the miners paid a visit to Bullock Creek. 

Mining matters have been rather quiet this week, and I have heard of no particular yield worthy of notice. A number of claims have been worked out within the past few days, and we may now look forward to a daily diminution in our population. The bridge erected by the Marong Shire Council, over Myer’s Creek, was opened today.

The weekly returns from Myer’s Creek are now on the decline. A marked change for the worse is perceptible, and a great diminution in our population has taken place within the past three weeks. The population of Myer’s Creek at present does not exceed 1000, 300 of whom are Chinese, and a good number of diggers are working for a nominal sum.

Myer’s Creek has undergone a marked change since my last report. The most part of the claims are on the verge of being worked out. A good number of stores have been removed bodily from the rush during the past few days, and the majority of those standing are labelled ‘for sale’. The long toms are now but very poorly patronized in consequence of the puddling machines being found adequate for all requirements. There has been but little gold-buying this week among the banks, and no remarkable yields. Mr Wallworth’s purchases for the week amounted to 130ozs, which were chiefly in small parcels. There are still about a dozen miners engaged on the lower rush who are “contented with little and hoping for more”. I learn that as high as 7dwts to the load have been washed from one of the claims contiguous to Shadbolt’s paddock.

The goldfield is now beginning to wear a very dull appearance in consequence of the limited number of miners at present engaged in mining operations. In the early part of the week the principal puddling machines were at a standstill for the want of employment.

A small rush took place last week to some ground near the Swan Hill Road, but it is now deserted. A party of miners have been prospecting in the company’s paddock near the head of the old workings for the last three weeks, but they have failed to trace anything payable, and have now abandoned their project. A trial crushing of cement from an old shaft at the head of the old workings, near the Government reservoir, was made on Thursday last, and resulted in a yield of 5dwts per ton. This, I understand, will pay well. Nothing has transpired in the vicinity of the lower rush since my last report. Bolger’s cultivation paddock is now a dead letter, mining operations having been entirely suspended.
The diggers are leaving in mobs daily, and I venture to speculate that the population of Myer's Creek will not exceed 200 miners by the close of the present year. [17]

02.12.1867: In the vicinity of the lower rush there is a decided change in the state of things this week for the better, and it is the opinion of many of the miners that the lost lead will shortly be found in the neighbourhood. Hunter and party, whose claim is contiguous to Shadbolt's paddock, from a washing off this week obtained a yield of half an ounce per load. I am also informed that other claims have given a yield as high as 8dwt per load. The deserted claims between Weightman Brothers shaft and Shadbolt's paddock fence have been taken possession of. ... Trounce and Company's mills have been actively employed during the week. Two of our puddling machines have been at a standstill for the want of water, in consequence of the owners not having made proper provisions for the preservation of the precious element when it was to be had in abundance. ... The greater portion of the claims below Price's store are now worked out, and the locality presents a most deserted appearance. ... [18]

12.1867: At Myerstown some of the machines are at a standstill for want of water, but Trounce and Company have a good supply, and are kept busy puddling for the public. The population has decreased very much. [9.17-18]

1867: The Myers Creek Rush. Among the first gullies worked on Bendigo were Peg Leg and Sailors Gullies, early in 1852. Peg Leg commenced near Eaglehawk, continuing in a north-westerly direction towards Myers Flat. A mile-and-a-half from Eaglehawk, Peg Leg was joined by Sailors Gully. Close to Eaglehawk the sinking in Peg Leg Gully was only six feet and less, but near Myers Flat it deepened to 16 feet and over. A short distance below the junction of these gullies, Gold Commissioner C. Rudston Read, in 1852, set up a Government Camp ... After rain, the water drains from Myers Flat into Myers Creek, and alluvial mining along this creek was carried on spasmodically for some years, culminating in a short-lived but extensive rush in 1867. As mining extended northwards for several miles, sinking became much deeper, in places up to a hundred feet. This rush became known as the Myers Creek Diggings. Although this locality produced no nuggets, and was by no means the richest in or near the Whipstick, it supported perhaps the greatest number of hard-drinking miners of any diggings around Bendigo. In a short duration of less than 6 months, at least 28 hotels and 65 beer shanties catered for its thirsty diggers. In September 1866, a rush took place on the lower end of Myers Flat in the vicinity of the Myers Flat Company's paddock. This paddock was ground originally taken up under Pre-emptive Right and previously known as Campbell's. By mid-September some 300 miners were on the ground, but only half of this number were sinking shafts. As the digging was fairly deep, to 25 feet, there was much shepherding. This rush was short-lived and the area was soon deserted. Among those who persevered hopefully with their prospecting were Densely and Party. It was almost a year later, in June 1867, that this party [was successful]. By June 24, 140 men were on the spot. The first shafts bottomed at between 30 and 40 feet, but not all were payable. In spite of the uncertainty, July brought many miners, some from Ballarat. Many Chinamen arrived. In the first week of July, Hants and Company struck wash dirt at a depth of 40 feet. Although a narrow shaft, 3½ feet by 2 feet, they fossicked an ounce of gold from the bottom. The news spread like wildfire, and by 9 July it was estimated that 1000 miners were on the field. Difficulty was experienced in finding the lead. Another problem was that the hard layers of cement encountered in many of the shafts. As the rush progressed it was discovered that in some claims the cement contained payable gold.... On 16 July, over 2000 people were present, and the lead having been traced for some 300 yards below the prospectors' claim, "an immense making of claims" resulted. ...At the beginning of August, a large number of miners from the Alexandra Diggings arrived at Myers Creek ... By mid August the population had reached its highest, estimated at 4,000, of whom 2,500 were miners, including between 500 and 600 Chinese. It was not until the end of August that the richest claim came into production ... Towards the close of August claims were spreading
For treating the washdirt, some 20 toms were set up in Myers Creek. In mid-August, an enterprising party from Dunolly, Trounce Bros. and Attrell Bros., obtained a mining grant from Mr. Warden Mollison to construct a dam at Myers Creek. This was made on one side of the bed of the creek, covering an area of 316 yards, capable of holding 4,000,000 gallons of water. This party also constructed 2 puddling machines, which together with pumps and cradles were estimated to cost £600. During the busiest period on Myers Creek, the two puddling machines treated up to 500 loads of washdirt per week. In August, a reservoir site was chosen. By October, it was completed, but complaint was made of a serious leak in the dam-bank. Maybe it did not matter so much now, for the rush was declining. Following the failure to find payable ground in the deeper ground, diggers began leaving in September. Towards the close of November it was reported, "The diggers are leaving in mobs daily..."

10.02.1868: Favorable reports reach us from this district about 80ozs of gold having been obtained during the past week, one buyer in the adjacent township having alone purchased upwards of 40ozs from different parties. ...

22.11.1868: Mr R. Brough Smyth, who is at present writing for the Argus a series of articles on the Sandhurst goldfields, has devoted a good deal of space to a consideration of the question as to whether the alluvial is worked out around Sandhurst, and his remarks should possess special importance for all interested in mining in this district.

After referring to the activity in alluvial mining in early days, and to the little attention now paid to this branch of the industry, he goes on - Myer’s Creek, which was once the scene of active mining operations, arises in Palaeozoic ranges, about 1½ miles west of Kangaroo Flat. Its course is a little west of north for some distance beyond Yarraberb, where it turns eastward, and is lost in swamps on the plain. In seasons of flood the waters unite with the Bendigo or Piccanniny Creek, near Kamarooka; and it may be regarded, therefore, as an important tributary of that stream, rather than as an outlet of a separate drainage area. Numerous rich auriferous gullies fall into it from the east, all of which have derived their quartz gravels and gold from the belt of reefs already referred to. Myer’s Creek is auriferous near its source, but the wide flat between Punch’s Gull and Widdekar, a distance of 5 miles, has not been worked. Myer’s Flat, which joins the creek at Widdekar, Sydney Flat, and the lead lower down have yielded a fair quantity of gold from washdirt in ground easily mined, and it is unlikely that the upper portion of the creek would not also prove remunerative. If it could be worked with profit the removal of the alluvia would certainly result in the discovery of quartz reefs. The hard conglomerate which occurs elsewhere in the vicinity has been proved to be rich; that it extends southwards is beyond doubt, and anyone who might put up a crushing mill on the flat would be well rewarded if a regular supply of this conglomerate or cement could be obtained.

15 years ago I made a careful examination of the country north of Widdekar. Attracted by the discovery of gold at a point a quarter of a mile from this block of land, a large number of miners “rushed” the field, and took up claims for a distance of 3 miles. They found a lead running rudely parallel and westward of Myer’s Creek, having all the characteristics of the modern channels of the district - low sloping banks, a torturous course, and here and there old waterholes. The sinking was through rounded and angular quartz, and soft shale for 12 or 15 feet, and hard cemented gravel for 18 or 20 feet. The bedrock was found to be a dry clay, resulting from the decomposition of the silurian strata, which here underlies the recent deposits throughout the area between Myer’s Creek and Kamarooka. Further northwards the lead was as deep as 70 feet, and though the washdirt was not on the average very rich, some yields were exceedingly good, as much as 2, 3, 4 and 5 ounces to the load being obtained by simply washing the earth with the tub and cradle. In some places, probably at a distance from the gutter, the gravel yielded only as many pennyweights per load. The Myer’s Creek lead can be followed onwards to Sebastian (5 miles northwards), where the bed rock was reached in 1853 in Campbell’s pre-emptive section. Gold was found in the first instance in shallow ground, but the gutter was 200 feet in width in places. From small claims...
measuring 40 feet by 40 feet as much as 400 ozs of gold was got by easy methods of working and treatment, and with no more capital than was required to purchase a pick, shovel, a piece of rope, and a tub and cradle. The appearance of the gold, rough and unworn, showed that it had not travelled far. When the lead was followed downwards its width was found to be quite 600 feet, and the thickness of the washdirt was in places 5 feet. Still lower, and following the direction of Myer's Creek, the depth of sinking increased, much water was met with, and there was at that time no machinery on the ground sufficient to pump the mines dry, and operations were suspended. The people of Sandhurst have but only rich quartz reefs which they are now working within a far too limited area, to the neglect of those on the west and north-west more particularly, but they have basins like those at Myer's Creek, Bullock Creek and others, containing auriferous alluviums, which in many parts are untouched, and their main lead (the Bendigo Creek lead) is not yet exhausted. ... [20]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

MYER'S FLAT ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

Location  Parcel No. P***, Peg Leg Gully, Myer's Flat

Map Reference  Marong 1:25,000 - BV516.337

Victorian Heritage Register  No

National Estate Register  No

Planning Scheme  No

Description  Marong 1:25,000 - BV516.337

History  Period of activity: 1852-1953+

Deepest shafts: 10 to 60 feet

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  There are two other early shallow alluvial workings of similar extent within the study area: further downstream at Myer’s Creek and at Neilborough. There are several smaller patches of extant shallow alluvial workings at Flagstaff Hill, Drunken Scotchman’s Gully, Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch), One-Eye Gully, the Shallow Diggings (Elysian Flat) and Black Rock Flat. All of these areas were opened after Myer’s Flat and were neither so extensive nor so important.

Statement of Significance  Myer’s Flat was one of the earliest shallow alluvial workings on Bendigo beyond Bendigo Creek itself and an early administrative centre (Criterion A). The site, just downstream from the junction of Peg Leg and Sailor’s gullies, marks out the main line of alluvium derived from the reefs at the northern end of the New Chum and Garden Gully lines of reef (Criterion C).

Level of Significance  Regional

Recommendation  The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries  The site is a roughly triangular area of ground bounded on the north-east by the Bendigo railway, on the south-west by Peg Leg Creek and on the north-west by the Marong-Myer’s Flat Road.


5. "Mining Intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 6 October 1857.


7. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, 15 May 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 18 May 1858.
8. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, No.2 or Bendigo Flat division.
12. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
13. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
14. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
17. “Myer’s Creek.” From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 31 August; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 2 September 1867.
18. “Mining intelligence. Myer’s Creek reservoir.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 6 September 1867.
19. “Myer’s Creek.” From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 7 September; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 9 September 1867.
22. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
35. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 22 August 1885, p5, col.7.
36. “Alluvial prospecting at Myer’s Flat.” From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 13 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 15 November 1892, p4, col.2.
37. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
40. “Finance and mining.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 23 June 1930, p2,
Notes

Assessed by   David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in July 1998

Chronology   05.1852: The breaking of the drought early in May 1852 led to the abandonment of the Bullock Creek and Sheepwash stations. But the big influx of diggers and their wide dispersal throughout the valley necessitated the setting up of government outstations. From Golden Gully the diggers soon began gathering the spoils of nearby Spring Creek and the rich gullies about Diamond Hill. Cockburn established station there which, on his transfer to Forest Creek, was taken over by Captain John Urquhart. Assistant Commissioner Panton...was moved to Bendigo Creek in June to open a new camp at Kangaroo Gully. At Myers Creek Assistant Commissioner Read set up tents for nine troopers...whilst at the White Hills another out-station opened under Commissioner J M Clow...The Junction Camp, well known station at the junction of Long Gully and the Bendigo Creek, would appear to have been opened at a later date. Removing from Bullock Creek in May 1852, Assistant Commissioner Gilbert had pitched his tents on the ridge overlooking the creek and the workings below, almost in the centre of the valley...Gilbert was not at this time in charge of the field, being senior to his fellow commissioners only in length of service. The field was still administratively part of Mount Alexander with its assistant commissioners directly responsible to Commissioner Wright. By the time Gilbert...[during first week of October 1852]...moved to Mount Alexander the camp he had established above Bendigo Flat was rapidly becoming the administrative centre of the field. Soon, it was almost a self-contained township spread over some seventy acres. Apart from the Commissioner's quarters, there were barracks for detachments of foot and mounted police, a licence tent, the gold receiver's office, extensive stables and the grim, log cabin type lock-up.[1.64-65]
C. Rudston Read, a gold commissioner, established his camp at Myers Creek in 1852. Napoleon Gully was about a mile east of his camp. The extension of mining was in 1852 temporarily halted along a curved line extending some ten miles from Sydney Flat, along the northern side of Lightning Hill to Epsom. The scrub and dense forest, together with a shortage of water and a reduction of population were perhaps the main reasons for halting the advance.

At Myers Flat, a good deal of gold is being raised, and a large and increasing quantity of people seem prosperous and comfortable.

The population has fallen off a good deal, especially about the middle of Scotchman's Gully, and a very considerable space of tent ground, where tents formerly stood in this gully, is now deserted, presenting nothing but the remains of tent frames, cooking places etc. etc. Although the bulk of the population in the late rush was chiefly composed of miners from the neighbouring gullies - namely, Fiddler's Green, One-Eye, White Horse, Jack Ass, California, Eaglehawk, Myer's Flat, Sydney Flat and other places more immediately adjoining, who could pounce down on the Whipstick at any time in a few hours notice, yet a very large proportion of these have not finally quitted the Whipstick.

I can assert from the best authority that since the 370ozs nugget was found last week several smaller nuggets have been got, some in the same locality, and others from different parts of the scrub. There are one or two gullies not a hundred miles from Brandy Gully, said to be paying well, and it is supposed that there is a considerable quantity of gold in nuggets in the hands of miners and others on these diggings.

Myer's Flat is every week receiving fresh accessions of population. An old resident on the flat says that for the last twelve months he has not seen so many on the ground as there are at the present time. The puddling machines which are at work are paying well. Several have been erected and leases applied for, but on various grounds refused. The number of tub and cradle men is greater than in most of the other old diggings and, as a large proportion of them have continued on the ground for a length of time, it is to be presumed that their earnings have been satisfactory. At the junction of Madman's Gully with the flat, in close proximity to the school house, an old man and his grandson are said to have made upwards of £400 during the last ten days, which sum is exclusive of a nugget worth more than £100.

There are one or two gullies not a hundred miles from Brandy Gully, said to be paying well, and it is supposed that there is a considerable quantity of gold in nuggets in the hands of miners and others on these diggings.

Myer's Flat Freehold Mining Company. We are informed that this company have had a crushing at Bassett’s mill of three tons of the cement.
procured from their ground, the result of which was 4ozs 2½dwt; and one cubic yard of washdirt gave 16dwt of gold. ... [9]

03.12.1859: The second general meeting of the Myers' Flat Freehold Mining Company was held yesterday afternoon. ... Mr Robert Kerr having been called to the chair briefly stated the objects of the meeting, and called upon the secretary, Mr Walton, to read the directors' report. This stated that the value of the land purchased by the company had been fairly tested, before any large sums of money were expended. The results of the trials were very successful. After constructing a sludge channel, six shafts had been sunk at equal distances, all of which had struck the cement. This was found to average 3 feet in thickness. From 3 tons raised and crushed upwards of 4ozs of gold had been extracted. Below the cement was found washdirt, a cubic yard of which turned out nearly 16dwt. ... Two prospecting shafts had also been sunk, with a view to hitting the quartz reefs which were supposed to intersect the property, and several leaders had been struck in each, dipping westward. The mining manager entertained excellent hopes of shortly striking the main reef. Plans and specifications of the intended works were being prepared by Mr Stretton, the mining manager, and renderers had been called for a 50 horsepower engine. ... [10]

03.02.1860: Myers' Flat Freehold Mining Company. The general meeting of this company was held in Melbourne on Wednesday. ... The following is the report of the mining engineer:-

To the Directors of the Myers' Flat Freehold Mining Company, 31 January 1860: Gentlemen, I have the honour to submit to you the following report of the works completed, and now in progress from 1st. November to the present date. As in the 1st. instance it was necessary to prove the existence of payable gold in the paddock. I proceeded to sink prospecting shafts (6 in number) at right angles across the probable direction of the lead. Four of these being those in which prospects were obtained, were drifted through to each other, and the washdirt taken throughout the drifts washed, showing a yield of from 8dwt to 1ozs to the ton. I have also about 3 tons of cement above the washdirt broken down and crushed, with the result of 4ozs 2½dwt or 1ozs 7½dwt per ton. The lead is apparently about 100 yards wide, and the washdirt and cement average 6 feet in thickness.

Having this far proved the existence of payable gold, I proceeded to commence the works required for the permanent working of the ground, and for this purpose I have had one large shaft sunk in the centre of the lead, 12 feet by 6 feet, divided into compartments, and securely timbered and lined. The stuff will be raised by trucks running from the face of the work to the mouth of the shaft, with horse whim fitted with double action pulleys and gear, capable of raising half a cubic yard at a lift. With these appliances I can raise 100 tons per day, or more, if necessary. When raised, the stuff will be delivered directly into waggons, and run on a tramroad to the site of the engine. All these works in connection with the shaft are now in course of erection. It is my intention to raise about 1000 tons of cement directly these works are completed, that I may obtain a good face on the drifts and prevent any stoppages when the engine starts to work. The constant supply of a large body of water being absolutely necessary for the success of the works, I have formed a large reservoir at the head of the paddock, by throwing a strong embankment across the creek and excavating the low ground adjoining. I calculate this will contain about two and a half million gallons of water when full. I have also formed a temporary dam at the site of the engine, fed by drains cut directly across the flat into the ranges, thus securing a water table of some thousands of acres. The shaft sunk on the quartz is now down 150 feet. Several large spurs have been struck at that depth, and the workmen are now engaged breaking out the stone for the purpose of a trial crushing. There is every indication of gold, though none has yet been seen in the stone. I have workmen also engaged providing an adequate supply of firewood in the paddock. The whole of the works I hope to have finished in about six weeks' time from this date.
The engine and stamps are now in course of erection, and I am assured by Messrs Fulton will be fully completed in that time. ... I shall then be enabled to commence crushing, when I anticipate a brilliant result, as I consider 500 tons can be crushed weekly, and that at the lowest estimate of the yield of gold will show a large return, as the stuff can be raised and crushed for about 11 or 12 shillings per ton. [11]

05.1860 Myers’ Flat Freehold Mining Company, Campbell’s Paddock, Myers’ Flat: 24 head battery and a 30 horsepower steam engine for crushing and pumping. [12.116-118]

05.1860 Myers’ Flat: Campbell's Paddock contains 240 acres, purchased by the company, and is a continuation of the leads of auriferous drift in Myers' Flat. The washing stuff is raised from a shaft, about one-third of a mile from the engine, by horse whim and skips, with a tramway to the engine, and delivering into bins for feeding the stamps. A plentiful supply of water is contained in two large reservoirs in the bed of the creek. This company commenced to work about a month since, but is not yet known with what success. [12.116-118]

12.12.1861 This once thickly populated ground is now apparently worked out, and deserted, less some few puddling mills at the lower end, next to the company's ground, and some few scattered up and down the extensive flat. Some few solitaires of tub and cradle men are also to be seen, but generally the locality appears to be pretty much exhausted. [15]

06.1864 Myers’ Flat: 510 alluvial miners at work. [13.40-41]
09.1864 Myers’ Flat: 400 alluvial miners at work. [13.37-40]
12.1864 Myers’ Flat: 400 alluvial miners at work. [13.39-42]
03.1865 Myers’ Flat: 400 alluvial miners at work. [13.42-44]
06.1865 Myers’ Flat: 420 alluvial miners at work. [13.43-44]
09.1865 Myers’ Flat: 400 alluvial miners at work. [13.47-49]
12.1865 Myers’ Flat: 400 alluvial miners at work. [13.45-46]
03.1866 Myers’ Flat: 340 alluvial miners at work. [13.44-45]
06.1866 Myers’ Flat: 350 alluvial miners at work. [13.41-43]
09.1866 Myers’ Flat: 350 alluvial miners at work. [13.43-45]
12.1866 Myers’ Flat: 350 alluvial miners at work. [14.38-40]
03.1867 Myers’ Flat: 250 alluvial miners at work. [14.32-34]
06.1867 I have registered a prospecting claim at Myer's Flat. The applicants stated that they had obtained 7dwts of gold from about one and a half loads of stuff; and that the sinking was about 36 feet. A small rush has set in there, and great hopes are entertained respecting it. [14.20-21]

02.09.1867 The Myer's Flat Company's paddock is a favourite spot for Chinese miners, and alongside the proprietary claim they appear to be getting excellent prospects. At this point there is a great deal of cement, in which the gold can readily be seen. One party of Chinese have about 10 tons of this cement on the surface, from which they anticipate a good yield when it is crushed. Some difficulty has been experienced in tracing the run through the paddock, and where the deep ground was expected to be, has proved shallow and of no account. [16]

Owing to the failure of the efforts of the diggers employed below the cultivation paddock to recover the lost lead, a great exodus has taken place this week, and shepherding is fast dying out in this locality. A party of miners are engaged putting down a shaft near where the Chinamen bottomed on Wednesday and have now sunk to a depth of 57 feet. A party in a claim directly opposite Watson's store, about halfway between the cultivation paddock and Trounce's dam, obtained 4dwt per load, from their last washing off. Young, Lewis and party, working near the corner of Bolger's property, from a washing off of 6 loads obtained an average of one ounce per load. Nothing payable has been struck inside the cultivation paddock, although it has hardly yet received a fair trial. ... Trounce and Company's dam is completed, and they have at least a 6 weeks' supply of water conserved in it. Two large puddling machines are erected at the head of the dam, and I have no doubt they will be extensively patronized during the coming week, as puddling machines are better adapted for the washing of the washdirt than the long toms. ...[17]

06.09.1867 In consequence of the heavy rain which fell on Wednesday night,
operations are suspended on the works of Messrs Overend and Robb. The cuttings are full of water and it is likely to be a day or two before work is resumed. [18]

09.09.1867. A good number of miners washed off on Friday and Saturday, the majority with satisfactory returns. Hollick, Patterson and Company, whose claim is situated near the General Jackson Store, obtained the good return of 34ozs 3 grains from 12 loads of stuff. The gold was purchased by Mr A. Wallworth, chemist, of Myer’s Creek, who stated that it was of a coarse nuggety character, and the finest sample he had seen on the rush. Mr Wallworth informed me that his purchases for the week amounted to 120ozs. About 700ozs were sold during the week on the rush. A party of Chinamen, adjoining Weller’s butcher’s shop, washed 200ozs from 10 loads. A party of Italians working between Gromann and Purves’s Hotel and the Bank of Victoria, obtained from their washing-off an average of 19dwt to the load. Davis and party, next to the Gloucester Store, obtained the poor return of 3dwt per load. Sutcliff and party, whose claim is situated near Mason’s Happy Valley Store, also obtained a like return. ... A number of diggers have again cleared out this morning, but the state of affairs at present wears a very healthy appearance. [19]

1867. The Myers Creek Rush. Among the first gullies worked on Bendigo were Peg Leg and Sailors Gullies, early in 1852. Peg Leg commenced near Eaglehawk, continuing in a north-westerly direction towards Myers Flat. A mile-and-a-half from Eaglehawk, Peg Leg was joined by Sailors Gully. Close to Eaglehawk the sinking in Peg Leg Gully was only six feet and less, but near Myers Flat it deepened to 16 feet and over. A short distance below the junction of these gullies, Gold Commissioner C. Rudston Read, in 1852, set up a Government Camp ... After rain, the water drained from Myers Flat into Myers Creek, and alluvial mining along this creek was carried on spasmodically for some years, culminating in a short-lived but extensive rush in 1867. As mining extended northwards for several miles, sinking became much deeper, in places up to a hundred feet. This rush became known as the Myers Creek Diggings. Although this locality produced no nuggets, and was by no means the richest in or near the Whipstick, it supported perhaps the greatest number of hard-drinking miners of any diggings around Bendigo. In a short duration of less than 6 months, at least 28 hotels and 65 beer shanties catered for its thirsty diggers. In September 1866, a rush took place on the lower end of Myers Flat in the vicinity of the Myers Flat Company’s paddock. This paddock was ground originally taken up under Pre-emptive Right and previously known as Campbell's. By mid-September some 300 miners were on the ground, but only half of this number were sinking shafts. As the digging was fairly deep, to 25 feet, there was much shepherding. This rush was short-lived and the area was soon deserted. Among those who persevered hopefully with their prospecting were Densely and Party. It was almost a year later, in June 1867, that this party [was successful]. By June 24, 140 men were on the spot. The first shafts bottomed at between 30 and 40 feet, but not all were payable. In spite of the uncertainty, July brought many miners, some from Ballarat. Many Chinamen arrived. In the first week of July, Hants and Company struck wash dirt at a depth of 40 feet. Although a narrow shaft, 3½ feet by 2 feet, they fossicked an ounce of gold from the bottom. The news spread like wildfire, and by 9 July it was estimated that 1000 miners were on the field. Difficulty was experienced in finding the lead. Another problem was that the hard layers of cement encountered in many of the shafts. As the rush progressed it was discovered that in some claims the cement contained payable gold.... On 16 July, over 2,000 people were present, and the lead having been traced for some 300 yards below the prospectors claims, “an immense making of claims” resulted. At the beginning of August, a large number of miners from the Alexandra Diggings arrived at Myers Creek. ... By mid August the population had reached its highest, estimated at 4,000, of whom 2,500 were miners, including between 500 and 600 Chinese. It was not until the end of August that the richest claim came into production ... Towards the close of August claims were spreading northwards for over 1½ miles, the sinking between 70 feet and over... For treating the washdirt, some 20 toms were set up in Myers Creek. ...
August, an enterprising party from Dunolly, Trounce Bros. and Attrell Bros. obtained a mining grant from Mr. Warden Mollison to construct a dam at Myers Creek. This was made on one side of the bed of the creek, covering an area of 316 yards, capable of holding 4,000,000 gallons of water. This party also constructed 2 puddling machines, which together with pumps and cradles were estimated to cost £600. During the busiest period on Myers Creek, the two puddling machines treated up to 500 loads of washdirt per week. In August, a reservoir site was chosen. By October, it was completed, but complaint was made of a serious leak in the dam-bank. Maybe it did not matter so much now, for the rush was declining. Following the failure to find payable ground in the deeper ground, diggers began leaving in September. Towards the close of November it was reported, “The diggers are leaving in mobs daily.”

10.02.1868: Favorable reports reach us from this district about 80ozs of gold having been obtained during the past week, one buyer in the adjacent township having alone purchased upwards of 40ozs from different parties.

06.1869: Myers’ Flat: 129 alluvial miners at work.

11.09.1869: Myer’s Flat. One day this week a man while sinking a hole close to the Allies Hotel came on a “pillar” which had not been taken out when the ground was first worked, and from it washed 2 or 3dwt of gold. The veins of this “great” find soon spread, and on Thursday the neighbourhood of the Allies Hotel presented quite a lively appearance, some 40 or 50 diggers having assembled and commenced to peg out the ground to the front and rear of the hotel, threatening even to enter the fenced yard of the landlord. Yesterday there were some two dozen men in active work sinking, while we were informed there were some who had been shepherding during the prescribed time in the morning. One party bottomed, and took some 3dwt off the bottom, but found nothing more, though he has driven north, south, east and west. We believe the whole of the ground in the neighbourhood has been worked long ago, and scarcely justifies men throwing away their time, as there is but little probability of anything worth whole being got.

09.1869: Myers’ Flat: 90 alluvial miners at work.

21.04.1870: Myer’s Flat. A pretty nugget weighing 2ozs 5dwt was found yesterday by a digger, in the old ground at Myer’s Flat, in 6 feet sinking.

09.09.1872: Myer’s Creek. The alluvial gold digging on Bendigo is not quite finished yet. The latest illustration in point is the opening of new ground at Myer’s Creek, near the police camp. For years this ground has lain unworked, and by the mere chance of a reefer, who had been out of work for a day or two, taking it into his head to try the new ground, rich alluvial gold deposits have been discovered. The ground is outside that portion of the flat already worked, and the sinking from 10 to 12 feet. Several hundred claims have been marked out.

24.12.1897: Yesterday, at a meeting of the Eaglehawk Council, a letter was received from the Secretary of Mines, forwarding a copy of a report prepared by Mr R. A. F. Murray, geological surveyor, as to the best mode of prospecting at Myer’s Flat. The report, which is of considerable interest, is as follows: With reference to your communication conveying to me the desire of the Eaglehawk Borough Council that I should report as to the best means for testing the extension of Myer’s Flat lead, I have the honour to inform you that when at Eaglehawk I examined the locality. The Myer’s Flat gold workings appear to run out near the junction of Sydney Flat, the alluvial deposits increase in width northward, and it is probable that the gold in them becomes more scattered. At the same time it is likely that the line or lines of quartz reef whence the alluvial gold of Sydney Flat and its western tributaries was derived may extend beneath the alluvial, which may be auriferous in their vicinity. The only way to prospect would be to sink a series of holes across the flat a short distance ahead of the workings, where the flat narrows slightly, immediately below the junction of Sydney and Myer’s flats. Another line of holes could be sunk a mile further north, between the Barkly Reef and the opposite side of the flat. As the flat is fully a mile wide, a number of holes would be required, but as far as I can learn, te sinking is neither deep, difficult, nor much impeded by water as far as
workings have extended. Most of the land appears to be private property, so that in the event of prospecting operations being carried out, special arrangements would have to be made with the proprietors. [26]

16.08.1881: For many years past (says our Myer’s Flat correspondent) an impression has prevailed that good and payable gold existed on the allotment of land at Myer’s Flat upon which is erected Cotton’s Sallies Hotel. Mr Francis Cotton, junior, one day last week decided upon putting down a hole, as a test, and bottomed at about 14 feet from the surface, obtaining a very encouraging prospect. The result, however, exceeded his most sanguine expectations, as up to Saturday evening he had extracted from a very small quantity of washdirt close upon £50 worth of gold. When this became known a small rush was made, and a number of claims pegged out, residents from other portions of the district having been successful in getting claims within a few yards of the allotment. However, as the ground has been worked on either side of Mr Cotton’s property, it is not advisable at present for persons at a distance to look upon the find as anything more than a patch in a block of ground which has hitherto been unworked through being purchased in the early days. [27]

15.04.1882: Writing yesterday our Myer’s Flat correspondent says - It was currently rumoured throughout Myer’s Flat last evening that payable alluvial gold had been struck in close proximity to the once famous Myer’s town diggings. From what I have been able to learn it appears that for the past few weeks a party of prospectors have been busily engaged prospecting in a paddock (private property) adjacent to the above diggings, but until this week with indifferent success. It is stated they have washed a prospect off as high as a pennyweight to the dish. I, of course, cannot vouch for the accuracy of those statements, but have been informed on reliable authority, that the prospectors have asked the sum of £200 for a third share in their claim. Several other claims are already pegged out, and I learn that the charge made by the proprietor of the farm, will be similar to the arrangement with Mr Matchett on the Adelaide Hill rush. ....

In a postscript our correspondent adds:- since writing the above I have ascertained that the paddock in which the small rush has taken place is the well-known Company’s paddock. The depth of sinking is about 20 feet, and the prospectors are Messrs O’Shannessy and O’Neill. [28]

19.04.1882: Our local correspondent writes: This morning (Tuesday) I had an opportunity of visiting the scene of action at the rush at the Company’s paddock, Myer’s Flat, which, as I reported in your issue of Saturday last, has been caused through a report that payable gold had been found on the above property. One of the prospectors, Mr Edward O’Neill, courteously permitted me to inspect the underground workings of their claim, and from the information received from him, it appears that the shaft from which they obtained the favourable prospect of 1dwt to the dish was sunk some 20 years ago since, and abandoned until the present party determined to give the claim another trial. Two drives were put in to the east and west, neither of which gave any favourable indications. They then decided to drive in a north-westerly direction, and did so for a distance of 60 feet, several trials resulting from one to 6 grains per dish, and eventually improved to a pennyweight as before mentioned. It certainly seems strange that after receiving such a magnificent return as the above, that the prospectors should continue driving without giving the washdirt (which consists of large rubbly stones intermingled with reddish grit, about 6 inches in thickness, and dipping in a northerly direction) another trial. There are about 40 persons on the ground (including a number of Chinese) several of whom appeared anxious to procure claims, and were perfectly willing to submit to the same terms and conditions as introduced by Mr Matchett on the Adelaide Hill rush, but Mr Buzza, the owner of the property, seemed to insist on a different and more unfavourable scale of remuneration much to the disapproval of the miners. Consequently little will be known as to the character of the rush for several days to come, as it is not certain whether satisfactory arrangements will be completed between the owner of the land and the miners, the majority of the latter however apparently prefer to wait until another trial is taken from the prospectors’ claim. And which I am informed, will take place tomorrow (Wednesday), they
consenting to take out a load for the satisfaction of the public. The result will, no doubt, be eagerly watched by the miners, and if favourable will cause a great reaction in alluvial mining in this locality.

In a later communication our correspondent adds: It is now stated that the following arrangement has been made with Mr Buzza as regards purchase of claims etc. £1 on application, 8 days being allowed to commence work, at which time another £1 has to be deposited, and £3 additional if claim proves to be payable, making a total of £5 per claim 50 feet square. [29]

Payable gold having been recently discovered in the “Company’s paddock” at Myer’s Flat, a number of miners immediately applied for and obtained claims in the vicinity. The claims (50 feet square) were let by Mr Buzza, who resides in the paddock. Altogether about 60 claims have been let, including several Chinese. For the first few days prospecting was vigorously carried on, but during the recent rains operations had to be stopped. This week, however, work has been renewed, and in the case of the prospectors with some success. The prospectors, O’Neill and Shannassy, bottomed their first shaft at 23 feet. They then drove westward, and got out about 20 buckets of washdirt. Yesterday they washed off with a small cradle and obtained about 6dwt of gold, including a pennyweight piece. They have also started a second hole, and expect to bottom at a depth of 24 feet. The prospectors hold eight claims.

Another party, Lynch and Wilson, sunk a hole further north and bottomed at 14 feet without finding anything payable; but another hole sunk by Lynch to a depth of 14 feet gave from one dish a quarter of a pennyweight of gold. Next to the prospectors and further west, two claims are held by Chinese. One party, Ah Hong and mate, have sunk a hole 16 feet 3 inches without bottoming, and Ah Poy and mate have sunk 11 feet and no bottom. It is, however, considered that the Chinenam’s chances of success are good, as they are on the proper line. Another party, Keating and Devereaux, sunk a hole 12 feet 6 inches without yet touching bottom. They expect to bottom in another 8 feet. Several other parties have just commenced sinking. Lynch and Wilson who were unsuccessful in the paddock have started a hole outside the paddock and on the crown of the hill, to the west of the prospectors’ claim. They have already sunk 8 feet without bottoming. It is expected that by the next week that several holes will be bottomed, and then it will be known whether or not the payable gold is only a patch. [30]

Work is progressing with tolerably good results in the alluvial ground at Myer’s Flat. The prospecting party, O’Neill and Company, have now finished washing, and the result will be about 6dwt per load. The next claim is that of Tack Ling and Company, who are obtaining 4dwt per load. Poy Not, the occupier of the next declines to give his results, but he is believed to be getting payable results. Wilson and Sheahy, in the adjoining ground, obtained from their last washing, the excellent return of 2ozs 19 dwt of gold from 4 loads. Ah Hong, next north, is getting about 7dwt. Ying Tue, 5dwt, and Devereaux and Company, 4dwt. The next claim, the furthest north, bottomed at 19 feet, but have lost the lead. The sinking is generally through hard cement, about 20 or 30 feet in depth, with about 2 feet of wash. The claimholders pay one shilling per load (of about 30 buckets) for cartage to the creek, a few hundred yards away. There are 20 Europeans and 30 Chinese on the ground. One Chinese party is known to have obtained 8ozs gold for a week’s work. [31]
of importance turn up, I will immediately convey you the intelligence. [32]
25.08.1882 It was reported yesterday that an alluvial rush had taken place in
Stewart’s paddock, Myer’s Flats. The run of wash has been traced into that
paddock from the Company’s ground, and already a number of claims have
been purchased, and the locality presents an unusually busy appearance. It is
stated that some of the shareholders have met with payable results, the sinking
being easy and water plentiful. As, however, the ground is private property, and
the proprietor requires payment for permission to mine, the rush is only open to
those who are prepared to accept the terms. [33]
28.08.1882 The newly opened ground at Myer’s Flat is becoming richer the
further it extends southerly from the Company’s paddock. Some few months
ago claims were taken out in Mr Buzza’s paddock, but only two or three
appeared to be on the payable line. However further prospecting shows that the
lead of the old Myer’s Flat trends towards Mr James Stewart’s paddock, and
already a number of claims have been pegged out. The most successful, as
yet, is the shaft sunk by Mr Schlemm and Wilkinson, on the road between
Buzza’s and Stewart’s. These miners are now down about 15 feet, and have
washed off some splendid washdirt. On Saturday they washed off 5 loads, and
had nearly an ounce to the load. The dirt still continues to look rich, and the
adjoining claim, taken up by Powell and party, is now down about 13 feet, and
they are driving for the same run of washdirt as Schlemm and Wilkinson.
Devereaux and party in the “Company’s paddock” washed off last week, and
obtained half an ounce to the load. It is thought that the lead continues through
Stewart’s paddock, and across the top of the hill in a southerly direction. Some
Chinamen are also doing well in the “Company’s paddock”. [34]
22.08.1885 In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of
alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer’s Flats, and ... that many similar
discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the
late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its
shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I
today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs,
and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our
oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud
Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground
which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the
immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing
companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound
in this locality. [35]
15.11.1892 A few days ago I reported through your columns that a party of
prospectors from New South Wales had quite recently incurred expenses to the
tune of £200 in preparatory arrangements to discover an alleged payable lead of
gold (alluvial), said to have been originally discovered by some of the party
nearly 40 years ago, at a site near Smith’s Hotel, Myer’s Creek. The confidence
of the party in again finding payable gold is clearly demonstrated by the
considerable distance travelled for the purpose, and the large expenditure
involved in procuring private property lease (embracing in all over 70 acres, from
half a dozen property holders). I regret having now to state that the shaft
referred to in my previous communication as being in process of sinking, has
been bottomed at 74 feet with the unfortunate result that the prospectors have
been sadly disappointed, as they did not obtain the colour of gold from the main
bottom, which consisted of a clean pipeclay, but without washdirt. They,
however, afterwards obtained a nice coarse speck of gold from a “false” bottom
about 5 feet above the pipeclay. The bottom is fast dipping towards the south
and consists of a tough gravelly mullock, upon which they intend opening out,
but through the surface drift not being sufficiently slabbed, the shaft soon
collapsed and work had to be discontinued, principally owing to the extremely
harsh conditions and excessive compensation demanded by property owners. ...
[36]
01.10.1898 Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence
sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer’s Flat,
and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive
machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [37]

13.06.1930: Keen interest was taken yesterday in the trial crushing by Messrs Jackson and Gregory, the pioneer prospectors of the Myer’s Flat series of new claims. From the pannings and around the dumps they obtained fair encouragement. They put through 14 loads at the State battery at Eaglehawk for 4ozs 17dwt amalgam. In addition they obtained 1½dwt from the pannings and speckings. The gold will be known today. They still have 16 loads to crush. Other parties are also awaiting to get their dirt milled. [38]

14.06.1930: The 40ozs 15dwt of amalgam which was obtained by Messrs T. Jackson and A. Gregory, two of the prospectors at Myer’s Flat, from the first trial crushing of 14 tons, was yesterday retorted at the Bendigo School of Mines, and gave a yield of 3ozs 7dwt of gold - and average of just under 5dwt to the ton. Pannings and speckings brought the total gold to 4ozs 1dwt - a grade of just under 6dwt to the ton. Mr W. Kingston, officer in charge of the geological staff at Bendigo, commenting on the yield yesterday, said that it was satisfactory, in view of the large amount of dirt that had been put through the battery. His view was that the gold was in a streak, probably less than a yard wide, but the washdirt had been taken from as much greater width. His impression was that attention should be concentrated on discovering the run of the good wash and this could be tested by dishing the dirt. A good alluvial miner, he said, would have a better chance of picking up the ton than the ordinary miner.

Prior to 1867, the country to the north and south of the present find was well prospected, built the lead was lost, and very little work has been done, the land in the vicinity being used for farming purposes. The men working on the ground at present are continuing operations. About 8 parties are engaged. 3 of them have bottomed and others are getting to what appears favorable depth. As there is about a mile of ground intact between the two sets of workings there is plenty of scope for further prospecting by working parties. Most of the ground has been pegged.

The men have still about 16 tons of washdirt to test, and it is probable that this will be treated with cradle and dish on the lease in order to save expense. [39]

23.06.1930: Prospecting is still being carried on at Myer’s Flat. Some of the original parties are meeting with encouraging prospects, but the results in other cases have been disappointing. [40]

22.07.1930: Mr Kingston ... visited the prospecting claims at Myer’s Flat. Half a dozen parties of prospectors are obtaining payable prospects. The original prospectors, Messrs Jackson and Gregory, cleaned up 14 tons for 2ozs 14dwt. The dirt is being put through the puddling machine which has been erected. [41]

02.08.1930: Washing off a bucket of dirt from their claim at Myer’s Flat, Messrs Dawson and Bentley obtained 7dwt. This was followed by several other good dish prospects. During the week two new prospecting shafts were sunk close to the lead. Dawes and party have been using the puddling machine this week. [42]

06.08.1930: At Myer’s Flat, Mr Kingston found that about 20 men were keeping the puddling machine going continually. They were down to the alluvial wash, and obtaining 3 to 4dwt to the load. Gray, Elvey and party has 12 to 15 loads ready for crushing at the Eaglehawk State battery. They expect to put it through by Friday. [43]

16.08.1930: Greatly improved prospects are being met by Messrs Jackson and Gregory, the original prospectors, at Myer’s Flat. From one dish of dirt yesterday morning they obtained over an ounce of gold. A further half dozen dishes of dirt washed during the day gave another 6 to 7dwt. [44]

18.08.1930: Improved prospects are being met by prospectors at Myer’s Flat. The original prospectors, Messrs Jackson and Gregory, obtained nice gold towards the weekend, and prospects are reported to be good. Another party, Messrs Bentley and Dawes, obtained 5ozs 13dwt from 30 tons. [45]

20.08.1930: Since Messrs Gregory and Jackson, the pioneer prospectors in the Myer’s Flat field, obtained further good prospects at the weekend, interest in the several claims in this area has been renewed. Messrs Gregory and Jackson are putting another 15 tons through the puddling machine which they consider will be better than ever. Other parties with good prospects purpose putting
some of their dirt through the State battery at the New Moon at Eaglehawk, but
they have to wait their turn, as the battery is busy. [46]
23.08.1930: Messrs Gregory and Jackson, the original prospectors at Myer’s
Flat, who have been meeting with better results, presently have put 14 tons of
dirt through the puddling machine and have obtained about 10ozs. Prospects
are reported to be good. They have plenty of washdirt which they are taking for
a thickness of 15 to 18 inches. [47]
25.08.1930: Some of the prospectors at Myer’s Flat have reported improved
prospects during the last week. The original prospectors, Messrs Jackson and
Gregory, put 14 tons through the puddling machine on Friday and obtained
10ozs. They are meeting good washdirt which is being taken for a thickness of
about 2 feet. [48]
26.08.1930: After having visited Myer’s Flat yesterday and having had
conversations with several of the experienced miners there, Mr R. V. Keane,
M.H.R., expressed the opinion that there was scope for considerable extension
of mining activities on the field. He announced his intention of bringing under
the notice of the government the need for rendering facilities which would help
those prospectors already operating, and enable others to engage in the work.
... [49]
20.09.1930: Following on a visit which he had paid to the Myer’s Flat section
of the field, Mr Kingston confirmed the report of the good gold being obtained by
Messrs Gregory and Jackson, the original prospectors there. He said these
prospectors, since the commencement of their operations, had averaged
wages, but others had been unable to locate payable dirt. Several of the men,
however, had prospects of picking up patches of good washdirt. [50]
27.10.1930: Gregory and Jackson working at the Myer’s Flat alluvial field on
Saturday, sold 3ozs 13dwt gold, which they obtained from 15 loads. [51]
26.01.1931: Messrs Gregory and Jackson, who are operating at Myer’s Flat,
obtained a good yield at the weekend. The gold was of excellent quality, one
piece weighing nearly 4dwt. It is considered that the claim has excellent
prospects. [52]
21.02.1931: Gregory and Jackson, the original prospectors at Myer’s Flat,
continue to work alluvial deposits of good quality. They have washed off 14 tons
of dirt for 7ozs. The gold was of excellent coarse quality. One specimen
weighs 4dwt 9 grains. [53]
24.02.1931: Poorer and party at Myer’s Flat washed off for 4ozs 12dwt. ... Good
prospects are still being met by Messrs Jackson and Gregory at Myer’s Flat.
More than 130 men are now engaged prospecting in different parts of the field.
[54]
...1948: D. J. Rigby: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [55]
...1949: P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [55]
Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer’s Flat. [55]
...1950: P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [55]
Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer’s Flat. [55]
...1951: P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [55]
Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer’s Flat. [55]
...1952: Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [55]
...1953: Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by
sluicing at Myer’s Flat.
**City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites**

**HARTLAND'S NEILBOROUGH EAST ROAD EUCALYPTUS DISTILLERY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Names</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Freehold Land, corner of Neilborough East and Boundary roads, Whipstick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Summerfield 1:25,000 - BV592.506</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Victorian Heritage Register | No |
| National Estate Register   | No |
| Planning Scheme            | No |

**Description**
The ground is covered in small eucalyptus trees. There is now no machinery on the site, but there is a Cornish boiler, removed from its setting and lying on the ground, on a property on the opposite side of Neilborough East Road.

**History**
Period of activity: Distillery probably operated during the 1930s/40s. [1]

**Thematic Context**
Rural Industry

**Comparative Examples**
There are six other eucalyptus distillery sites identified within the study area: Blandford Road (c.1900-1920+), Pierce’s (1911-1998+), Flett’s (1921-1980), Hartland’s Loeser Road (c.1930-1940+), Hartland’s Neilborough East Road (c.1930-1940+) and Black Rock Road (c.1939). These sites display a range of intactness from Pierce’s, which is operational, and Flett’s, which is disused but essentially intact, to Blandford Road and Hartland’s Neilborough East Road where all the plant, machinery and equipment has been removed.

**Statement of Significance**
The site has little historical or scientific significance.

**Level of Significance**
None

**Recommendation**
None

**Heritage Boundaries**
None

**References**
1. Personal communication, W. Perry to David Bannear, 1992.

**Notes**
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

**Chronology**
NEW MOON MINE

Other Names

Location
Garden Gully Reef, Eaglehawk, in the State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park; battery site on Parcel No. P127988 and shaft site in Parcel No. P123918

Map Reference
Eaglehawk 1:10,000 - 538.345 (battery site), Eaglehawk 1:10,000 - 535.346 (shaft site)

Victorian Heritage Register
Yes

National Estate Register
No

Planning Scheme
No

Description
The battery site is on the east side of Beelzebub Gully Road, whilst the mine site is located about 150 metres north of the battery site and on the western side of the same road.

New Moon battery site
Site consists of a line of battery stumps, divided into west and eastern sections by an engine room.

West section of battery - Remnants of wooden stumps set in hard concrete footings, making up six battery boxes, each 5 feet by 18 inches, and possibly a seventh battery box at the western end. Some of the stumps are obscured by a pepper tree and damaged by termites. A concrete floor and several brick-lined drains are visible on the north side of the stumps. Bricks are machine-made, and manufactured by Northcote.

Engine room area has been badly disturbed, but mounting bolts and sections of in situ concrete floor protrude from the brick and concrete rubble. Three brick engine foundations can be distinguished.

East section of battery - Remnants of wooden stumps set in hard concrete footings, making up eight battery boxes, each 4 feet by 20 inches, and possibly a ninth battery box. The surviving battery stumps are in better condition than those in the western section. The area around the stumps and to the north has been excavated, to bedrock in places. Surviving are three brick foundations with protruding mounting bolts. One of the brick foundations is associated with a 5 foot square brick pit.

Stone feature - Approximately 20 metres north of the battery site are the remains of an unidentified structure or structures, apparently representing a number of phases of building. Stone and concrete are the building materials and the visible remains suggest an engine foundation, rectangular room, and a storage yard with a 57 foot long north wall. This wall has been partly demolished by recent tailings removal operations.

Dam sites - Three dams, one of which has been demolished by recent tailing removal operations.

Tailings - Most of the dumps have been removed from near the battery site to the other side of the road for treatment.

New moon mine site
The machinery site consists of four sets of engine foundations, whose fabric (concrete and brick) suggest at least two phases of construction. The most easterly set of foundations consists of two parallel brick beds, running north-
south. Each of the beds measures 23 by 4 feet wide, and stands approximately 6 feet high. The brickwork rests on stone footings and is stepped at the north ends of both beds. Immediately to the west is another set of similar-sized, but differently arranged, brick beds. They run in the opposite direction and are aligned with a capped shaft some 17 metres to the west. These beds are less intact and more buried than the neighbouring ones.

Immediately to the west of the brick beds are two concrete foundations. In alignment with the capped shaft is an 8½ foot square concrete winding engine base, which is associated with an H-shaped concrete engine foundation, measuring 23 by 2½ feet. The engine base has been built over an earlier brick foundation.

**History**

Period of activity: 1865-1867 as Graham and Hamilton; 1867-1870 as Graham and Hamilton or New Moon Company (cooperative party); 1870-1886 registered as New Moon Company; 1886-1917 as New Moon No Liability; 1918-1919 as Bendigo A1 Company; 1928-1931 as New Moon Company; 1933?-1951 as cyanide operations firstly by O’Halloran Brothers and then Gold Dumps Proprietary

Line of reef: Moon/Garden Gully

Maximum recorded annual production: 18,282ozs obtained from 33,491 tons in 1904

Total production: 232,576ozs (230,601/236,980ozs) obtained from 585,380 tons (545,289 tons); with 186,817ozs obtained from 466,818 tons in the period 1892-1912.

Dividends: £371,728/£377,400

Deepest working level: 1538 feet

Deepest shaft: 2400 feet (below water level)

**Thematic Context**

Mining

**Comparative Examples**

The New Moon and South New Moon mines are two of the most significant in the Bendigo urban area.

**Statement of Significance**

This extensive and mostly intact site retains foundations from the mine's most productive period of operations, unlike most other mines within the Bendigo urban area (criterion B). The site contains the largest extant battery foundations on the Bendigo goldfield. The New Moon Battery was the third largest battery in operation, after Lansell's 105 head battery and the Koch Pioneer 84 head battery (criterion C). The site displays one of the longest sequences of use by any mining company (criterion B), was among the top seven gold producers on a goldfield reported to have contained 829 mines [75], is associated with an important period of Bendigo's mining history (that is, it is a key site for the period from 1888 to 1913 (criterion A and criterion D), and has the potential to educate and illustrate the “big-mine” phase of Bendigo mining (criterion C).

**Level of Significance**

Regional

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and both the battery site and the mine shaft should be included as significant sub-areas in the proposed Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area. In particular, the debris, waste and other rubbish remaining from the current mining operation, which is in the immediate vicinity of the mine site, should be cleared away and the graffiti should be removed from the engine foundations.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lower Beelzebub Gully Road and the Bendigo-Pyramid Road, on the north and south by private property boundaries, and on the east by a line 100 metres east of
Beelzebub Gully Road as far as Sandner Road and thence by direct line to
intersect the northern boundary at a point 250 metres east of the junction of
Janaways Road and Lower Beelzebub Gully Road.

References
1. “Mining intelligence. Graham and Hamilton.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
   Saturday, 19 August 1865, p2, col.4.
2. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 6 September
   1865, p2, col.4.
3. W. Perry, “Tales of the Whipstick: a history of the Whipstick, Neilborough,
   Sebastian, Raywood and Myers Creek gold rushes, Victoria.” Eaglehawk, Perry,
   1975, 249pp.
4. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining
district, Sandhurst division.
5. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 8 January 1870, p2,
col.1.
6. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 May 1870, p2,
col.6.
7. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 May 1870, p2,
col.6.
   Advertiser, Tuesday, 23 August 1870, p3, col.1.
10. “Mining intelligence. The New Moon Company (Registered).” The Bendigo
    Advertiser, Friday, 26 August 1870, p2, col.6 - p3, col.1.
11. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 6 September 1870, p2, col.6.
12. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 21 September
    1870, p2, col.1.
13. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Wednesday, 21 September 1870, p2, col.1.
14. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 30 September 1870,
p3, col.2.
15. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Wednesday, 5 October 1870, p2, col.1.
16. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 18 October 1870, p2, col.5.
17. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 1 November 1870, p2, col.7.
18. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 10 November
    1870, p2, col.5.
19. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 11 November 1870, p2, col.7.
20. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 29 November 1870, p2, col.7.
21. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 13 December 1870, p2, col.6.
22. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 30 December 1870,
p2, col.6.
23. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 12 July 1871, p2,
col.7.
24. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Thursday, 13 July 1871, p2, col.6.
25. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Wednesday, 26 July 1871, p3, col.1.
    Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 August 1871, p6, col.2.
27. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 8 August 1871, p3, col.1.
28. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
    Tuesday, 22 August 1871, p2, col.7.
29. “Mining intelligence.” New Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
Thursday, 7 September 1871, p2, col.6.
33. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 27 October 1871, p2, col.5.
34. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 31 October 1871, p2, col.5.
36. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 18 November 1871, p2, col.4.
41. “Mining intelligence. The Moon line of reef” Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 26 September 1876, p3, col.5.
42. “Mining intelligence. New Moon Company” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 3 September 1877, p3, col.5.
43. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 16 July 1878, p3, col.3.
44. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 7 January 1879, p3, col.4.
45. “Registration notices.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 7 January 1879, p4, col.3.
47. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
48. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.
49. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
50. Reports and Statistics of the Mining Department for the quarter.
52. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 22 December 1894, p3, col.3.
53. The Bendigo Advertiser, 1 October 1896.
54. The Bendigo Advertiser, 10 February 1897.
61. The Bendigo Advertiser 3 August 1910.
62. The Bendigo Advertiser 13 July 1912.
63. The Bendigo Advertiser, 7 September 1915.
64. The Age, 21 June 1918.
65. The Bendigo Advertiser, 30 January 1919.
66. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
68. The Bendigo Advertiser, 1937 [Department of Mining and Industrial
Development records
69. Bendigo Goldfield, Department of Mines, 1936, p. 23.
70. The Bendigo Advertiser, 7 July 1937.
75. Ray Supple, 1987-88.

Notes
This site has already been registered with the Victorian Heritage Council with this statement of cultural heritage significance:
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites consists of two large mines - South New Moon and New Moon - both containing an array of mining machinery foundations. The mines, after very indifferent beginnings in the late 1860s, went on to become State significant gold producers from the 1890s. Both mines closed during the First World War and only the South New Moon re-opened briefly during the 1930s.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites have attributes that elevate their significance above that of other extant historic mines on the Bendigo field. The South New Moon site has the last substantial remains of one (sic) the Bendigo’s premier dividend-paying mines (surpassed only by two others); and the New Moon battery foundations (which supported 71 heads of battery) are the last substantial remains of one (sic) the massive crushing facilities that marked the zenith of quartz mining in Victoria during the 1890s.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are historically and scientifically important as characteristic examples of an important form of gold mining. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria. As well as being a significant producer of Victoria’s nineteenth century wealth, quartz mining, with its intensive reliance on machinery, played an important role in the development of Victorian manufacturing industry. The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are important as a manifestation of this aspect of gold mining.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are scientifically important in that they contain comprehensive foundations and archaeological deposits associated with a period when the Bendigo goldfield was a world leader. The site is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts and evidence which will be able to provide significant information about the technological history of gold mining.

The site has been defined in these terms:
All the land marked L-1, L-2 and L-3 on diagram number 608048 held by the Executive Director (of the Victorian Heritage Council) and including all above-ground structures (sites of concrete and brick engine beds, concrete floor slabs, battery foundations), water ponds, and remnants of mullock paddocks, and all archaeological deposits and artefacts.

It has been suggested that the battery was erected during the early stages of the period from 1888 to 1913, and that the mining plant generally illustrated several phases of construction, namely: 1869-1877, 1888-1913 and 1914 to late 1920s. Although, in 1878, the company absorbed the Robin Hood Company (1864-1878), which had been mining ground to the north of the New Moon Company’s original area, and eventually made the Robin Hood shaft its own main shaft, further historical and/or archaeological research is needed to determine whether that site now contains any traces of the pre-1879 machinery foundations (including those for a whim/winding engine). It would appear, however, that the foundations now visible were built for machinery installed in the period between 1894 and 1900.
Lower Beelzebub Gully Road is the title given to an otherwise unnamed track connecting Janaways Road southwards across Beelzebub Gully to the Bendigo-Pyramid Road and running parallel to, and west of Beelzebub Gully Road.

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

NIL DESPERANDUM MINE

Other Names

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Parcel No. P130635, mine site on both Crown - Gravel Reserve (mullock heap and filled shaft) and Freehold Land (machinery site), north side of Raywood-Elmore main road, east of road to Neillborough, Raywood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Raywood, 1:25,000 - BV501.527</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Victorian Heritage Register No

National Estate Register No

Planning Scheme No

Description

Just inside the boundary fence of a private property is a large brick winding engine foundation, 25 feet by 10 feet and 4 feet high. Constructed of hand-made bricks set in a concrete mortar, this foundation has been modified or repaired with concrete at its northern end. The upper course of bricks has been removed, exposing long sections of 2-inch diameter mounting bolts. Small brick foundations lie either side of the large foundation, the western one capped with thick concrete. Two boiler depressions are visible to the west of the engine foundations. 5 metres east, at ground-level, is a concrete engine foundation with protruding 1¼ inch mounting bolts. Running east from this foundation is a line of timber battery stumps set in rough concrete footings. The stumps are grouped in four sets, representing the site of a 20-head battery. A remnant of a large mullock heap lies south of the engine foundations, on Crown land. The foundations have been modified and are partially hidden by trees. Access is also restricted by boundary fences.

History

Period of activity: 1865-1916 consisting of three companies Nil Desperandum (1865-1873), Nil (1882-1890+) and New Nil Desperandum (1906-1916)

Line of reef: Welbourne

Maximum recorded annual production: 3746zs obtained from 6158 tons in 1868 (Nil Desperandum) 2599ozs obtained from 7356 tons in 1908 (New Nil Desperandum)

Total production: 16,367ozs obtained from 58,992 tons

Dividends: £16,000 (Nil Desperandum), £3000 (New Nil Desperandum)

Deepest working level: 780 feet

Deepest shaft: unknown, but below water level

Thematic Context

Mining

Comparative Examples

The Nil Desperandum is to Raywood as Frederick the Great is to Sebastian.

Statement of Significance

The site is associated with quartz mining at Raywood and the success of the mine, in terms of its production levels and yields, contributed to the development of the township (criterion A). The site also has potential to educate and illustrate a relatively well-preserved mining site with foundations most likely dating to the period 1906-1916 (criterion C).
Recommendation

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, further historical research should be undertaken to determine the sequence of plant, machinery and equipment used on the mine from its inception.

Heritage Boundaries

The rectangular site is bounded by a local road to the north and extends southwards for 30 metres over a distance 5 metres either side of the extremities of the machinery foundations.

References

1. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.
3. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 14 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 16 October 1867, p2, col.6.
7. "Raywood." From our Correspondent, Saturday, 16 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 18 November 1867, p2, col.6.
19. The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette.
22. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
26. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
27. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 27 December 1870.
29. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.
30. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
32. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
33. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 5 September 1885, p6, col.3.
34. Reports and Statistics of the Mining Department for the quarter.
39. Department of Mining and Industrial Development records.

Notes
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
06.1865: Auriferous discoveries on the site of the present township of Raywood in November, 1863, cause a considerable rush, eventuating in the establishment of a borough, including the township of Neilborough (Elysian Flat). The continuous drought of the year 1864 and up to June (1865) paralysed alike the exertions of puddlers, quartz miners and alluvial miners, and doubtlessly retarded new discoveries. [1]
09.1865: The reefs at Raywood are actively at work again, with every prospect of ultimate success; awaiting the erection of an engine. [1]
03.1867: Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 90ozs obtained from 200 tons of stone at between the surface and 50 feet. [1.37-38]
The Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood, are at present crushing about 1200 tons of their quartz at the Eureka engine, Sebastian, seven miles distant. [1.37-38]
06.1867: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood: 583ozs 2dwt obtained from 850 tons of stone at between the surface and 130 feet. [1.24]
The Nil Desperandum Company are still obtaining good returns from their mine, although they labor under a great disadvantage in not having machinery on the ground; this difficulty, however, I am informed, is about to be overcome, as tenders have been invited by them for the erection of 12 or 18 head of stampers on their own claim. [1.24]
09.1867: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood (13 September) - mine continues as good as ever; stone looks well. That in the upper level about 14 feet thick, in the lower about 10 feet thick; all appearances richer than usual. The main shaft now down 84 feet. The machine being completed with all possible speed. About 600 tons of quartz on the surface. [2.120]
16.10.1867: The engine for the Nil Desperandum Company is nearly finished, and in a few days will be ready for crushing. ... [3]
17.10.1867: Our Raywood correspondent informs us that some very rich stone was obtained yesterday in the Nil Desperandum Company's ground. The specimens found exceed in richness any that have ever been got from their claim. [4]

10.1867: Raywood. The Nil Desperandum Company were soon in need of a crushing plant. At first their quartz was carted to Elysian Flat and crushed at Robert's battery. In mid-1867, the company purchased a set of stamps from the Yorkshire Company, Bendigo. The function opening the Nil Desperandum crusher took place on 25 October 1867. [5.129]

11.11.1867: The mining manager, under date of 9th. November reports that the crushing plant is now in full work, and, with a few stoppages that all new machinery is subject to, is working very satisfactorily. The stone already gone through bids fair to come up to expectations. [6]

18.11.1867: A beautiful cake of gold, weighing 215ozs 13dwt was exhibited in the window of the Bank of Victoria this morning. This fine cake with 10ozs 3dwt obtained from the quicksilver, making in all 225ozs 16dwt was taken from the Nil Desperandum Company's claim, the produce of 257 tons of stone, taken promiscuously from their large paddock and crushed in 13 days. As the stone crushed is only about one fifth of the paddock, they have good reasons for expecting that the yield of the whole will be something over 1000ozs. ... [7]

02.12.1867: The mining manager reports to date, 29 November - I have to report that during the past fortnight, there have been 246 tons of quartz crushed, that have given a return of 246ozs of gold. The mine still continues as good as ever. I intend to sink a shaft down from the present workings to the water level, and cut the reef at that depth. and, if the same reef continues to that depth, the prospects of the company will be second to none in the district. ... [8]

A very good show of gold was exhibited this morning in the window of the Bank of Victoria consisting of two cakes - the larger one weighing 241ozs 10dwt from the Nil Desperandum Company. This cake, with 4½ozs obtained from the quicksilver, making in all 245ozs, is the produce of exactly 246 tons of stone, or just an ounce to the ton. The other cake, weighing 152ozs 1dwt, is from the Cornish and Welsh Company, Jones's Reef, Kamarooka, ... The Nil Desperandum Company crushed 246 tons in 11 days, and there are still about three fifths of their paddock to crush. [9]

12.1867: Nil Desperandum Company (Registered), Raywood (14 December) - the mining manager reports that the mine is still looking well; the principal part of the permanent workings also nearly completed. The fortnight's crushing was 227 tons of quartz, yielding 184ozs 10dwt of gold. Silver not yet retorted. The whip is now in full work, and is a great saving in the expenditure of the claim. [2.251]

Nil Desperandum Company, Welbourne Reef: 801ozs obtained from 893 tons of stone at 111 feet. [1.20]

Nil Desperandum Company:- This company has, since my last report, completed the erection of an excellent quartz-crushing machine, of 170-horsepower, with pumping engine and tailings pump, with offices and necessary attachments of the most substantial character, at a cost of £3500. The prospects of the mine are most promising, the lode at present working at a depth of 111 feet, being 10 feet wide, the golden indications improving. 34 men are engaged on this claim. [1.20]

27.01.1868: The mining manager, under date of 25 January, reports that the yield of gold for 10 days' crushing has been 86ozs 14dwt from 179 tons of quartz. The falling off in the yield is attributed to having to take a quantity of mullock that could not be avoided in putting in the permanent works, which are now nearly completed. In sinking a pass to the upper workings we have struck another distinct reef, evidently a large one, as it now covers the whole of the shaft and shows good coarse gold. There are yet 3 weeks' crushing on the surface. [10]

10.02.1868: The mining manager, under date of 6 February, reports that during the past fortnight there have been 237 tons of quartz crushed, yielding 110ozs 14dwt 11 grains of gold. The large paddock is now nearly all crushed, so that the future crushing will, I believe, give better returns. [11]
24.02.1868: The mining manager, under date of 21st. February, reports:- I have raised and crushed 270 tons of quartz which yielded 1467ozs of gold. The stone was taken from all parts of the mine, and I can safely say from the present appearances of the stone that the yield for the ensuing fortnight, will be as good if not better than the last. The mine is in first rate working order. [12]

23.03.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood (21 March) - Manager reports that during past fortnight 243 tons of quartz have been crushed, realizing 144ozs of gold. Stone taken from lower workings of mine. Contractors for enlarging and raising dam bank progressing well. When completed storage for water will be sufficient to keep machine constantly working. Several of mine force engaged cutting drains, and in filling mullock into shaft to secure workings. [13,116,14]

03.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Welbourne Reef: 689ozs 4dwt 11 grains obtained from 1384 tons of stone at 106 feet. [1.20]

06.04.1868: The manager reports, under date 4th. instant - that in consequence of cleaning the boiler, and doing other necessary repairs, the crushing was stopped for four days. ... The dam, when finished, will contain storage water supply to keep the machine going 12 months. The mine is still looking well. [15]

17.04.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood (17 April - 535 tons of quartz raised and crushed, yielding 256ozs of gold; mine looks as well as ever. Since last report 391 loads of mullock have been place in mine for securing workings. Dam all but completed; now waiting a fall of rain. [13,153,16]

04.05.1868: The mining manager reported that 67ozs 10dwt were obtained from 70 tons of stone, and 136 loads of mullock were placed in the mine to secure the workings. [17]

01.06.1868: The mining manager reported that 129ozs were obtained from 310 tons of stone, and 182 loads of mullock were placed in the mine to secure the workings. [18]

06.1868: Nil Desperandum Company (Registered), Raywood (13 June) - crushing operations have been stopped for want of water; a few men only have been employed the last fortnight placing mullock for securing workings. Whim will be ready for use next week, when sinking of main shaft will be proceeded with. [13,216]

07.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Welbourne Reef: 733ozs 14dwt obtained from 1702 tons of stone at 130 feet. [1.23]

The following companies’ crushing machines stopped work six weeks ago, and are still idle from the above cause (want of water):- New Era, Elysian Flat, Stephens' and Nicholls' and Nil Desperandum. The latter company have just completed the erection of an excellent whim, in connection with their famous claim on the Welbourne Reef. [1.23]

07.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood - The manager reports on 11 July: crushing operations resumed at mine on 6th. Instant, a supply of water having been obtained from late rains. Main shaft sunk and timbered 45 feet from 116 feet level. Sinking still being proceeded with; water increasing a little. At 180 feet a cross cut will be put in, when there will be a good stope to rise upon. [19.8]

08.1868: Nil Desperandum, Raywood (24 July): the second contract for sinking and slabbing the main shaft, now nearly completed. Shaft now 90 feet deep, and close slabbed all down. In a few days shall be able to open out a crosscut for purpose of cutting reef at present depth. [19.32]

08.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood - during the last 17 days 499 tons of quartz raised and crushed; yield 95ozs 4dwt of gold. Whim shaft now down 181 feet. At that depth crosscut being put in to stone. (7 August) 319 tons of quartz crushed for fortnight, yielding 104ozs 7dwt of gold. The plat at lower level cut; crosscutting towards reef progressing; ground very hard. Water gradually increasing. 327 loads mullock have been placed in mine during past fortnight. [19.32, 20]

21.09.1868: The manager reports, under date 18th September:- 265 tons of quartz, mostly taken from the stopes rising from the 116 foot level have nee crushed during the fortnight, yielding 99ozs 10dwt of gold; the crosscut at the lower level is in 37 feet from the main shaft, and as we are through the stone
into soft slate, the reef must be very close. Crushing operations are suspended in consequence of want of water; but from the appearance of the weather a supply may be obtained at any moment ..., 144 loads of mullock have been placed in the mine to secure the workings. [21]

09.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood (22 August) - 339 tons quartz crushed during fortnight, yield 86ozs 11 dwt 12 grains gold. Stone taken from all parts of the mine rising from 116 feet level, with exception of 20 tons taken from crosscut at lower level; crosscut now in 17 feet from main shaft, ground very hard; mining expenses are heavier. Machinery in good order. (3 September) - 275 tons crushed, yield 96ozs 3dwt taken from stopes rising from 116 feet level. Crosscut in 23 feet from waster shaft - hard quartz all the way. 440 loads mullock placed in mine to secure old workings. This with expense attending crosscutting, renders expenditure high in comparison with actual expenses of raising stone to keep machine fully employed. The water in dam running short, and unless a rainfall soon, shall be compelled to stop crushing. [19.61]

Nil Desperandum Company, Welbourne Reef: 1344ozs 18dwt 13 grains obtained from 1697 tons of stone at 130 feet. [1.23]

The Nil Desperandum Company have cut the reef at the water level (151 feet). This company still continues to obtain very handsome returns from their mine. [1.23]

10.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood (18 September) - 265 tons quartz, mostly taken from stopes rising from 116 feet level, crushed during fortnight, yield 99ozs 10dwt gold. Crosscut at lower level in 37 feet from main shaft. Are through stone into soft slate; reef must be very close. Crushing suspended through want of water. [19.90]

11.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood (19 October) - 388 tons quartz raised and crushed during past 17 days, yielding 310ozs 14dwt gold. Stone was taken from north stopes rising from 116 feet level, with exception of 35 tons from bottom level. Have cut through reef, and commenced putting in permanent levels. Reef on average about 9 feet thick, showing gold occasionally. From 116 feet level winze being sunk to lower level. 174 loads mullock placed in mine to secure workings. (30 October) - during fortnight 285 tons quartz raised and crushed, yielding 250ozs 4dwt gold. Quartz was taken from stopes rising north of 116 feet level, with exception of 30 tons from bottom level. Winze sunk 30 feet through reef, and showing little gold all the way in sinking. 166 loads mullock placed in mine to secure workings. Mine looking very well. Dividend of one shilling per share declared. [19.116]

12.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood (12 November) - during fortnight 295 tons quartz raised and crushed, yielding 110ozs 4dwt 12 grains gold. It was taken from north stopes rising from 116 feet level, with exception of 30 tons from lower level. Winze finished. Tanks erected, which will be means of saving water; supply in dam estimated to last 6 weeks. 100 loads mullock placed in mine to secure workings. The yield of gold for the past month has been 203ozs. (17 November) - main shaft down 93 feet, securely slabbed. At 45 feet several spurs cut, also at 74 feet, all of which bear north-easterly direction. Crosscut being opened out at bottom of the shaft, and from nature of strata stone may be cut very shortly. (26 November) - 293 tons quartz raised and crushed during the past fortnight, yielding 145ozs 2dwt gold. Stone taken principally from stopes rising north from 116 feet level, with exception of 30 tons from lower. Reef at this depth about 9 feet thick; stone very hard. 137 loads mullock placed in mine to secure workings. (27 November - during fortnight opened out crosscut to west, and driven 10 feet through very hard ground into softer slate, which will expedite operations. Tenders called for to drive 40 feet north-east, at end of which expect to meet reef, and as ground is soft about 3 weeks will accomplish this. [19.150]

12.1868: Nil Desperandum Company, Welbourne Reef: 980ozs 13dwt obtained from 1475 tons of stone at 85 feet. [1.20]

03.1869: Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 59ozs 1dwt obtained from 24.5 tons of stone at 180 feet. [22]

06.1869: Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 539ozs 12dwt 3 grains obtained from 1567 tons of stone. [22]
The returns from the Nil Desperandum, although small, are more than sufficient to pay all working expenses, which at present are excessive, owing to the old workings being refilled with dry sludge obtained from the company's dam. [1.31]

08.1869: Nil Desperandum Company, Bendigo. Half-yearly meeting was held on 12 July. Report stated that half-yearly operations were not so profitable as previous one, but permanent works carried out will tell to future advantage, 609ozs 17dwt gold were obtained from 1987 tons stone, and although average yield is only about 6½dwt per ton, operations would have been much more profitable if crushing machinery had not been idle nearly half time for want of water. Mine has improved in appearance within past few weeks, and shareholders may reasonably expect that next half-year's work will be much more profitable. Water-shaft was now down as deep as it could be sunk without aid of machinery, and directors wished to have shareholders opinion as to advisability of immediately procuring pumping and winding machinery. [19.35]

09.1869: Nil Desperandum mine, Raywood, is now well opened up, and steady yields may be expected for some time. [19.49]

01.1870: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood. Half-yearly meeting was held at office of manager on 14 January. ... 3730 tons of stone have been crushed during six months, yielding 927ozs of gold, an average of 5dwt per ton, which has enabled directors to declare two sixpenny dividends, amounting to £1000, and still leave a balance of £152 in hand to credit. Prospects of mine are as promising as they have been for a considerable time, and there is no doubt but present half-year's operations will be as profitable as those of the past. ... 

Assets - mining plant and machinery, dams etc. £461 9 10 shillings. [19.157-158]

31.01.1870: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood: The mining manager (Mr. G. W. Froggatt) reports - during the last fortnight 300 tons of stone have been crushed, yielding 630zs 3dwt of gold. There is nothing new to report from the mine. [23]

14.02.1870: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood: The mining manager (Mr. G. W. Froggatt) reports - during the last fortnight 340 tons of stone have been crushed, yielding 750zs of gold. The appearance of the mine is more promising, and better yields may be expected for some time to come. [24]

28.02.1870: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood: The mining manager (Mr. G. W. Froggatt) reports - during the past fortnight 271 tons of stone were crushed, yielding 77ozs 4dwt gold. Some time was lost during the fortnight for necessary repairs. The stone crushed was principally from the bottom level. [25]

09.1870: Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 314ozs 13dwt obtained from 1611 tons of stone at 215 feet. [26.29-30]

12.1870: Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood. During the last 3 weeks 434 tons of stone have been crushed, yielding 74ozs 6½dwt. A contract has been let for the erection of pumping and winding gear. A dividend of sixpence per share has this day been declared. [27]

03.1871: Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 451ozs obtained from 1800 tons of stone at 155 feet in a reef 30 feet thick. [26.29-30]
06.1872 - Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 486ozs obtained from 1880 tons of stone at 250 feet in a reef 30 feet thick. [26:33-34]
09.1872 - Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 481ozs 13dwt obtained from 1846 tons of stone. [22]
12.1872 - Nil Desperandum, Raywood: 296ozs 15dwt obtained from 1975 tons of stone. [22]
03.1873 - Nil Desperandum, Welbourne Reef: 660ozs obtained from 3846 tons of stone at 200 feet in a reef averaging about 30 feet thick. [26:32]
09.1873 - Nil Desperandum, Welbourne Reef: 613ozs 12dwt obtained from 3630 tons of stone at 250 feet upwards in a reef averaging 20 feet thick. [26:31-32]
03.1872 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 29ozs 17dwt obtained from 120 tons of stone. [22]
06.1872 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 202ozs 2dwt obtained from 901 tons of stone. [22]
09.1872 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 196ozs 4dwt obtained from 949 tons of stone. [22]
09.1873 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 268ozs 16dwt obtained from 1285 tons of stone at 386 feet. [22]
12.1883 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 594ozs 12dwt obtained from 1610 tons of stone at between 316 and 386 feet. [22]
06.1884 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 776ozs obtained from 1460 tons of stone. [22]
03.1884 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 394ozs 11dwt obtained from 868 tons of stone at between 316 and 386 feet. [22]
09.1884 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 714ozs 9dwt obtained from 1285 tons of stone at between 330 and 386 feet. [22]
12.1884 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 497ozs 12dwt obtained from 1594 tons of stone at between 344 and 386 feet. [22]
12.1884 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 684ozs 12dwt obtained from 1397 tons of stone at 350 feet. [22]
03.1885 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 929ozs 8dwt obtained from 1309 tons of stone at between 330 and 360 feet. [22]
06.1885 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 929ozs 8dwt obtained from 1309 tons of stone at between 330 and 360 feet. [22]
09.1885 - Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 1357ozs 2dwt obtained from 1320 tons of stone. [22]
12.1885 - Lease No.5414 for 8 acres 3 roods and 32 perches and 4 men granted on 21 December to The Nil Gold Mining Company No Liability, Raywood. [22]
03.1886: Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 373ozs obtained from 1125 tons of stone at between 316 and 384 feet. [29]
06.1886: Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 176ozs obtained from 580 tons of stone at 386 feet. [29]
12.1886: Nil Gold Mining Company, Whalebone Reef, Raywood: 319ozs 5dwt obtained from 1160 tons of stone at 450 360 feet. [29]
03.1887: Nil Gold Mining Company, Whalebone Reef, Raywood: 615ozs 10dwt obtained from 1461 tons of stone at 450 feet. [29]
At Raywood the Nil Company has had better success lately, and is now again paying dividends. [32.20-21]
06.1887: Nil Gold Mining Company, Whalebone Reef, Raywood: 766ozs obtained from 1797 tons of stone at 415 feet. [29]
At Raywood the Nil Company has been working with fair success, a couple of dividends having been paid. [32.20-21]
03.1887: Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 349ozs 10dwt obtained from 1315 tons of stone at 400 feet. [29]
At Raywood, the Nil Company have been deriving a moderate profit from their crushings. [32.22-23]
12.1887: The yields from the Frederick the Great (Sebastian) and Nil Companies (Raywood) have been fairly good. [32.21-22]
03.1888: Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 271ozs 5dwt obtained from 847 tons of stone. [29]
At Sebastian, the yields from the Frederick the Great Company have recently been very moderate, and much the same may be said of the Nil Company at Raywood, though the latter company have latterly obtained a better prospect. [32.17]
06.1888: Nil Gold Mining Company, Raywood: 344ozs 12dwt obtained from 425 tons of stone at 360 feet. [29]
At Sebastian, the Nil Desperandum Company's shaft has been sunk to a depth of 456 feet; 17 men were employed. [36.126]
1906: New Nil Desperandum Company's shaft has been sunk to a depth of 456 feet; 17 men were employed. [36.126]
08.1895: The Bendigo Advertiser]: Stewarts Ellesmere Company, (Straw and Rogers) have brought the Nil battery at Ravenswood (perhaps means Raywood) and are arranging for its erection here. [35]
8138 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 5251ozs 3dwt from 17,763 tons of stone and paid £2000 in dividends. [37]

The Nil Desperandum Company is getting the usual quantity of crushing matter, and a cross-cut is being driven at the bottom level. [37.137]

1910: New Nil Desperandum Company: 2110ozs 12dwt obtained from 7452 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 7361ozs 16dwt from 25,215 tons of stone and paid £2000 in dividends. [37]

The New Nil Desperandum Company obtained some good returns; the mine is wet and the ground hard. An air compressing plant is in course of construction. [37.134]

1911: New Nil Desperandum Company: 1342ozs 7dwt obtained from 6650 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 8704ozs 12dwt from 31,865 tons of stone and paid £2000 in dividends. [37]

The New Nil Desperandum Company, at Raywood, is having returns recently, and the future prospects are favorable. [37.145]

1912: New Nil Desperandum Company: 2181ozs 17dwt obtained from 7817 tons of stone and £1000 paid in dividends. The company had now obtained 11,381ozs 19dwt from 41,240 tons of stone and paid £3000 in dividends. [37]

The New Nil Desperandum Company, at Raywood, has been crushing during the whole of the year, and employing a fair number of men, and the returns, on the whole, have been payable. [37.121]

1913: New Nil Desperandum Company: 1196ozs 7dwt obtained from 5763 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 13,578ozs 6dwt from 47,003 tons of stone and paid £3000 in dividends. [37]

At Raywood the New Nil Desperandum Company has been regularly engaged during the year. The reef being worked at 620 and 700 feet has been let to tributers, some of whom have been getting fair returns. In sinking the shaft below the 700 feet level a reef carrying gold was met with in the shaft, and arrangements will be made to open it out on this reef, also the other reef previously worked from 700 feet upwards early in the year. [37.118]

1914: New Nil Desperandum Company: 1731ozs 4dwt obtained from 6961 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 15,308ozs 10dwt from 53,964 tons of stone and paid £3000 in dividends. [37]

At Raywood, the New Nil Desperandum Company has been working regularly during the year, and crushing from the reef at the 346 feet, 701 feet, and 780 feet levels, with variable results. The tributers working at the various levels have at times had fair returns. [37.105]

03.1915: The Bendigo Goldfield- Chances for Prospectors- Notable Features Described- There are many places worth trying in the large areas north of Eaglehawk, where rich stone has been mined. In the Whipstick and extending onwards to Raywood, Neilborough, Sebastian, Yarraberb, and Kamarooka, innumerable shafts denote former activity. In many instances gold was got in payable quantities, though the reefs for the most part have only been superficially prospected. In those days it was a common thing to cart the stone many miles to a battery, and over rough roads. At Neilborough, which was rich in alluvial deposits, the quartz reefs also yielded well. The work was done chiefly by co-operative parties, and was not carried on to any great depth. The Whipstick has always been regarded as an area of enormous wealth. Its alluviums have produced some splendid nuggets, and the quartz reefs in the locality, though lacking in uniformity of gold contents, have produced some sensational returns from the Old Tom mine over £20,000 worth of gold was got between the years 1868 and 1886. The deepest shaft on the ground at that time was 186 feet. An English company in later years spent a good sum of money, but the capital was chiefly absorbed in equipment and what may be termed progressive work.

As far back as 1860 work was commenced on the ground now comprised in the New Nil at Raywood. The company that first worked the ground won gold of the value of £50,000, and paid in dividends £16,000. The stone then became poor, and the mine was abandoned. In 1879 a new company commenced work, and for a time was very successful, getting nearly as much gold as the original
company, and paying little less in dividends. The formations work extended almost from the surface, and were operated down to a depth of 316 feet. The present company has extended the workings to 780 feet, and its record to the end of 1914 was - Tons crushed, 53,964; gold yield, 15,308oz 10dwt; average per ton, 6dwt, 3grains; dividends, £3000. [38]

09.1915: Bendigo Mining Companies - Dividends, Calls and Scrip Values - The war census, which is now being taken, and the income tax schedules, which will shortly have to be filled in, impose on holders of mining scrip the responsibility of recording dividends received and the amount paid in calls, together with a statement of the value of scrip held. In order to assist the investing public in the compilation of the statistics we have compiled the records of the Bendigo mining companies. The following is the list of Bendigo mining companies:- Birds Reef, Carlisle, Casley Red, White and Blue; Catherine Reef United, Central Red, White and Blue; Clarence United, Collmann and Tacchi, Confidence Extended, Cornish United, Central Nell Gwynne, Constellation, East Virginia, Fortuna Hustler's, Garden Gully United, Golden Age, Golden Pyke, Goldfields Consolidated, Goldfields North, Goldfields South, Great Extended Hustler's, Great Northern, Great Southern, Hercules and Energetic, Hustler's Consols, Hustler's Reef, Ironbark, Johnson's Reef, Koch's Pioneer, Manning's Central Blue, Murchison, Nell Gwynne, New Argus, New Chum Goldfields, New Golden Fleece, New Moon, New Moon United, New Moon Consolidated, New Nil, New Prince of Wales, New Red White and Blue, New Shenandoah, New St Mungo, North Bendigo, North Johnson's, North New Moon, Pearl, Princess Dagmar, Red White and Blue United, Sea, South New Moon, South Garden United, South Prince of Wales, Specimen Hill, Spring Gully, Suffolk United, Sheephead, South Johnson's, Stafford Reef, The Langdon, Thistle Reef, United Ulster, United Devonshire, Unity, United and Redan, Virginia, Victoria Consols, Victoria and Pandora, Williams United, Windmill Hill, White Hills Gold Recovery. [39]

1915: New Nil Desperandum Company: 1059oz 8dwt obtained from 5028 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 16,367oz 18dwt from 58,992 tons of stone and paid £3000 in dividends. [37]

The New Nil Desperandum Company has carried on active mining operations. The stone mined has been low grade, but richer stone may be met as the faces proceed. [37.52]

1916: Raywood: The Nil Desperandum is the only mine in which work was carried on during the year, and then it was mostly confined to tributers, who obtained payable returns for some months. Towards the end of the year the tributers' stone became poor, and the company temporarily suspended operations. [37.15]
NEW MOON CONSOLIDATED MINE

Other Names

Location
Parcel No. P123950, State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park, 650 metres north of the North New Moon North site, Garden Gully Reef, Eaglehawk

Map Reference
Marong 1:25,000 - BV529.356 (south shaft) and Marong 1:25,000 - BV528.360 (north shaft)

Victorian Heritage Register No
No

National Estate Register
No

Planning Scheme
No

Description
New Moon Consolidated south
Intact mullock heap with six dumping lines radiating from a filled shaft. 15 metres north of the shaft is an 8 foot-square concrete winding engine foundation with protruding 1¼ inch diameter mounting bolts. Alongside is a largely buried brick boiler setting.

New Moon Consolidated north
Two winding engine foundations, 21 by 4¼ feet and 5½ feet high. The foundations are constructed of stonework with red brick overlaid, all set in a hard concrete mortar. Only three mounting bolts, 1¼ inch diameter, survive. On the east side of the engine foundations is a depression left by a boiler setting, from which runs a 20 metre linear heap of brick rubble, indicating a collapsed chimney stack. Near the boiler setting is an ash dump and some firebricks, bearing the manufacturer's name, J. H. Phillips (a Bendigo brickmaker). North of the machinery site is a largely quarried mullock heap. 24 metres south of the winding engine foundations is a filled shaft.

Running west from the engine foundations is a line of rough concrete footings and decaying stumps of a 10-head battery. North of the battery stumps is a concrete floor obscured by leaf litter. The floor measures 34 by 17 feet. To the north east of the battery site is a large dry dam.

History
Period of activity: 1901-1918 (plant erected between 1910 and 1912)
Line of reef: Moon/Garden Gully
Maximum recorded annual production: 471ozs 12dwt/2525 tons in 1910
Total production: 1924ozs obtained from 8763 tons [9] or 1958ozs obtained from 6652/9139 tons between 1905 and 1916 [4]
Dividends: none
Calls: £37,662 between 1901 and 1918
Deepest working level: 1080 feet
Deepest shaft: 1385 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The site is one of four at the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef which were both productive and economically significant for a short period of time in the first decade of the twentieth century. The other mines in this group (from south to north) are Suffolk United (1870-1918), North New Moon (1894-1924) and New Moon United (1902-1915).
Statement of Significance

The site is associated with the big-mine period of Bendigo's mining history (1888-1914), was a success as a mine in terms of its production levels, having been an important mine in the period between 1890s, and is part of a group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant (criterion A).

Level of Significance

Regional

Recommendation

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries

The Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lower Beelzebub Gully Road and the Bendigo-Pyramid Road, on the north and south by private property boundaries, and on the east by a line 100 metres east of Beelzebub Gully Road as far as Sandner Road and thence by direct line to intersect the northern boundary at a point 250 metres east of the junction of Janaways Road and Lower Beelzebub Gully Road.

References

3. “Mining intelligence. New Moon Consolidated.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 14 September 1907, p2, col.3.
5. The Bendigo Advertiser, 7 October 1910.
7. The Bendigo Advertiser, 29 July 1914.
8. The Bendigo Advertiser, 7 September 1915.
9. Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records - Files.

Notes

Lower Beelzebub Gully Road is the title given to an otherwise unnamed track connecting Janaways Road southwards across Beelzebub Gully to the Bendigo-Pyramid Road and running parallel to, and west of Beelzebub Gully Road.

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

1901: The four great mines - New Moon, South New Moon, Suffolk United and North New Moon- their leases extending for almost a mile from the southern boundary of the Whipstick yielded in all 555,906ozs of gold ...To obtain this amount of gold 1,194,002 tons of quartz was reduced to sand ...Excavations to mine this amount of crushing material entailed the removal of 29,253,049 cubic feet of quartz. In comparison to the great amount of quartz removed the volume of gold recovered was almost negligible. It would have amounted to only 32.84 cubic feet. ...encouraged no doubt by the success of the four companies, a number of companies later sank shafts further along the course of Murray's survey and beyond . While none were particularly successful, most of their names clung to the Moon image. In order northwards from the lease of the North New Moon the mines were the New Moon Consolidated (with north and south shafts), New Moon United (two shafts), Adelaide New Moon, Full Moon, Northern Blocks, Rising Moon and Basset's, which was the most northern along the Garden Gully line or so called Moon Reef. [1.214-227]

1905: The New Moon Consolidated Company has been principally engaged in sinking its main shaft, which has attained the depth of 1186 feet from the surface. Cross-cuts have been put out to the reef-channel at every 100 feet, and at 1000 foot level a reef was discovered that gave promise of being payable, but on opening up it was found to be the top of it. It was decided to sink another couple of lifts of 80 feet each, and while doing so a strong
formation was passed through, in which nice gold was seen, and developments of a satisfactory nature are expected when opening up the next levels. On the average 25 men were at work. [2.117]

- 1906: New Moon Consolidated: 4ozs 15dwt obtained from 26 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 30ozs 17dwt from 164 tons of stone. [2]
- 1907: At the New Moon Consolidated mine the shaft is 1385 feet deep; 20 men were employed. [21.126]

14.09.1907 - New Moon Consolidated - west crosscut at 1260 feet is traversing nice black slate. The strata is underlying east and it is thought that the western line of centre country will be reached inside 200 feet from the present face. [3]

- 1907: New Moon Consolidated: 20ozs 8dwt obtained from 145 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 51ozs 5dwt from 309 tons of stone. [4]
- 1909: The New Moon Consolidated Company has completed sinking the shaft, and is now driving east to cut the line. [4.136]
- 1909: New Moon Consolidated: 22ozs 5dwt obtained from 131 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 73ozs 10dwt from 440 tons of stone. [4]

07.10.1910 - New Moon Consolidated - opening up of the eastern limits of a massive formation over the 1080 feet level being proceeded with. [5]

- 1910: New Moon Consolidated - exploratory work being conducted. [6]
- 1910: New Moon Consolidated: 471ozs 12dwt obtained from 2525 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 898ozs 4dwt from 3946 tons of stone. [4]

- The New Moon Consolidated Company has also two shafts; the north one is the more important, of a depth to bottom of 1360 feet. Work during the year has been confined to the 1000 feet and 1080 feet levels; a good deal. Of stone has been crushed and some good returns were obtained, but owing to its inconsistent nature it was barely payable. South shaft depth 260 feet to bottom plat. Cross-cuts east and west driven at this level; a winze is also being sunk on the east line; colours of gold can be seen sometimes when breaking the ore. [4.134]
- 1911: New Moon Consolidated: 89ozs 12dwt obtained from 503 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 1073ozs 16dwt from 4449 tons of stone. [4]
- 1912: New Moon Consolidated: 27ozs 3dwt obtained from 875 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 1100ozs 19dwt from 5324 tons of stone. [4]

- The New Moon Consolidated Company erected a battery during the year, but the yields since its completion have been disappointing. [4.120]
- 1913: New Moon Consolidated: 333ozs 8dwt obtained from 1100 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 1416ozs 5dwt from 6652 tons of stone. [4]

- The New Moon Consolidated Company has been crushing intermittently from the reef at 1080 feet, but up to the present the yields have been rather disappointing. [4.117]

29.07.1914 - New Moon Consolidated - Since 1908 the company has milled 7475 tons for a gold production of 1432ozs 7 dwt, an average of just on 4 dwt per ton. That average in the past has not nearly defrayed working costs, and the company has had recourse to calls to carry on the work of the mine. In order to economise, the company a year or two ago erected a 10-head battery, but until quite recently the plant has only been worked intermittently. Mr. P. Schruhm, who took over the management a few months ago, is pursuing a more active policy, however, and the mill, which has a capacity of about 135 tons per week, is now being worked full time. The manager, under the present conditions of working, expects the mining and treatment costs will be covered by 4 dwt per ton, and he is hopeful regarding the future of the mine. [7]
- 1914: New Moon Consolidated: 514ozs 12dwt obtained from 2181 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 1917ozs 17dwt from 8822 tons of stone. [4]

- The New Moon Consolidated Company has been working regularly on the reef at the 1080 feet level, and crushing at its own battery, but there has been little or no profits as the result of the year’s work. [4]

- 07.09.1915 - Bendigo Mining Companies - Dividends, Calls and Scrip Values -
The war census, which is now being taken, and the income tax schedules, which will shortly have to be filled in, impose on holders of mining scrip the responsibility of recording dividends received and the amount paid in calls, together with a statement of the value of scrip held. In order to assist the investing public in the compilation of the statistics we have compiled the records of the Bendigo mining companies. The following is the list of Bendigo mining companies:

- Birds Reef
- Carlisle
- Casley Red
- White and Blue
- Catherine Reef
- United Red
- White and Blue
- Clarence United
- Collmann and Tacchi
- Confidence Extended
- Cornish United
- Central Nell Gwynne
- Constellation
- East Virginia
- Fortuna Hustler's
- Garden Gully United
- Golden Age
- Golden Pyke
- Goldfields Consolidated
- Goldfields Extended
- Goldfields North
- Goldfields South
- Great Extended Hustler's
- Great Northern
- Great Southern
- Hercules and Energetic
- Hustler's Consols
- Hustler's Reef
- Ironbark
- Johnson's Reef
- Koch's Pioneer
- Manning's Central Blue
- Murchison
- Nell Gwynne
- New Argus
- New Chum Goldfields
- New Golden Fleece
- New Moon
- New Moon United
- New Moon Consolidated
- New Nil
- New Prince of Wales
- New Red White and Blue
- New Shenandoah
- New St Mungo
- North Bendigo
- North Johnson's
- North New Moon
- Pearl
- Princess Dagmar
- Red
- White and Blue United
- Sea
- South New Moon
- South Garden United
- South Prince of Wales
- Specimen Hill
- Spring Gully
- Suffolk United
- Sheepshead
- South Johnson's
- Stafford Reef
- The Langdon
- Thistle Reef
- United Ulster
- United Devonshire
- Unity
- United Hustler's
- and Redan
- Virginia
- Victoria Consols
- Victoria and Pandora
- Williams United
- Windmill Hill
- White Hills Gold Recovery.

1915
- New Moon Consolidated: 33ozs 14dwt obtained from 337 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 1951ozs 11dwt from 9139 tons of stone. [4]

1916
- New Moon Consolidated: 7ozs obtained. The company had now obtained 1958ozs from 6652 tons of stone. [4]
NEW MOON UNITED MINE

Other Names

Location
Parcel No. P123950, State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park, 500 metres north of the New Moon Consolidated north shaft, Garden Gully Reef, Eaglehawk

Map Reference
Marong 1:25,000 - BV526.365

Victorian Heritage Register
No

National Estate Register
No

Planning Scheme
No

Description
The Moon United mine had two shafts, 50 metres apart, both with attendant machinery. New Moon United west shaft
North of the remains of a largely quarried mullock heap is an 8 foot-square concrete winding engine base, associated with which is a scatter of hand-made bricks.

New Moon United east shaft
On the north side of another largely quarried mullock heap is a large brick winding engine foundation, measuring 25 by 4¾ feet and 3¾ feet high. Running parallel is a second, much smaller foundation, 6½ by 2½ feet and 3¼ feet high. Both foundations are constructed of hand-made bricks set in concrete mortar, the brickwork resting on concrete footings. The brickwork of the foundations are stepped at each end, with 1¼ inch diameter mounting bolts. The area east of these foundations is littered with building stone and brick rubble, from which protrude lines of mounting bolts which appear to be set in a stone and mortar engine foundation, presumably from an earlier phase of operation. On the eastern edge of this fragmented engine foundation is a stone boiler setting, with walls 5½ feet apart and 24 feet long. From the south end of the boiler setting runs a 5 metre-long flue depression, terminating at the remains of a stone chimney stack base. In an easterly line from the base is a 20 metre scatter of brick rubble, marking the line of the collapsed chimney stack.

History
Period of activity: 1902-1924 (machinery erected in 1906)
Line of reef: Moon/Garden Gully
Maximum recorded annual production: 9ozs 17dwt obtained from 59 tons in 1910
Total production: 13½ozs obtained from 102 tons between 1902 and 1915
Dividends: none
Calls: £22,183
Deepest working level: 1200 feet
Deepest shaft: 1540 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The site is one of four at the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef which were both productive and economically significant for a short period of time in the first decade of the twentieth century. The other mines in this group (from
south to north) are Suffolk United (1870-1918), North New Moon (1894-1924) and New Moon Consolidated (1901-1916). This site marks the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef beyond which no mining was successful.

**Statement of Significance**

The site is associated with the big-mine period of Bendigo's mining history (1888-1914), was a success as a mine in terms of its production levels, having been an important mine in the 1890s, and is part of a group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant (criterion A). The site defines the northernmost productive end of the Garden Gully line of reef (criterion C).

**Level of Significance**

Regional

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lower Beelzebub Gully Road and the Bendigo-Pyramid Road, on the north and south by private property boundaries, and on the east by a line 100 metres east of Beelzebub Gully Road as far as Sandner Road and thence by direct line to intersect the northern boundary at a point 250 metres east of the junction of Janaways Road and Lower Beelzebub Gully Road.

**References**

7. The Bendigo Advertiser, 7 September 1915.
8. Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records - Files.

**Notes**

Lower Beelzebub Gully Road is the title given to an otherwise unnamed track connecting Janaways Road southwards across Beelzebub Gully to the Bendigo-Pyramid Road and running parallel to, and west of Beelzebub Gully Road.

**Assessed by**

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

**Chronology**

1902: The four great mines - New Moon, South New Moon, Suffolk United and North New Moon- their leases extending for almost a mile from the southern boundary of the Whipstick yielded in all 555,906ozs of gold. To obtain this amount of gold 1,194,002 tons of quartz was reduced to sand. Excavations to mine this amount of crushing material entailed the removal of 29,253,049 cubic feet of quartz. In comparison to the great amount of quartz removed the volume of gold recovered was almost negligible. It would have amounted to only 32.84 cubic feet... encouraged no doubt by the success of the four companies, a number of companies later sunk shafts further along the course of Murray's survey and beyond. While none were particularly successful, most of their names clung to the Moon image. In order northwards from the lease of the North New Moon the mines were the New Moon Consolidated (with north and south shafts), New Moon United (two shafts), Adelaide New Moon, Full Moon, Northern Blocks, Rising Moon and Basset's, which was the most northern along the Garden Gully line or so called Moon Reef. New Moon United - had one shaft sunk to 1545 feet. At first a small steam...
winch proved sufficient for haulage purposes until the shaft was gradually
deepened and the winch had to be replaced by a large engine. This was one of
the largest steam winding engines ever erected on the Bendigo goldfield. The
winding drums were 11 feet in diameter. However, when this huge engine was
erected, no extra boilers were installed. While this mine never made a name in
history for its gold production, the eccentricities of the huge engine caused
mainly through insufficient steam, were to remain a source of humour to local
miners for many years. [1.214-227]

1905: The New Moon United Company has been engaged in prospecting
work. The main shaft has been sunk to 771 feet from the surface, and cross-
cuts put out at every 100 feet, but nothing of a payable nature has been found.
17 men were continuously employed. [2.117]

1906: Another crowd of investors have pinned their faith to this company who
hold 700 yards along the line of reef. There are 40,000 contributing shares. The
line of reef, it has been proved, takes a bend to the east. Since the inception of
this and the more northern ventures the absence of the lava which is a common
guide in locating the reef channel where there is an absence of outcrops also
left a doubt as to where the reef channel is. In the dark as it were they put down
a shaft to a depth of over 300 feet before they discovered it was far too west.
Nothing daunted, and with wisdom that will be apparent in after years they
changed the site for one further east. In the period covering about 24 months a
commodious well timbered shaft has been taken to depth of 899 feet. They are
now preparing to open out in the deeper levels in search of golden country ...Mr
J Mamoumey attends to the mine management. [3]

1906: The New Moon United shaft is down 1125 feet; 20 men were
employed. [2.126]

14.09.1907: New Moon United - shaft which was deepened 27 feet for the
fortnight, is down 1273 feet. The strata is now underlying west, indicating that
centre country is to the east of the shaft. It is intended to cut a plat at 1300 feet,
and at that level a crosscut will be drive east. When sinking is finished the
company will also direct attention to exploiting the stone associated with the
slide extending from 1200 to 1100 feet. [4]

1909: The New Moon United Company has been sinking for some time. A
loan has recently been given by the Government, and a portion of the money
has been spent in erecting an air compressing plant. [5.136]

21.10.1910: New Moon United Company occupied with dewatering the shaft
which is down about 1540 feet ... Some time ago an air- compressing plant was
installed. [6]

1910: New Moon United: 9ozs 17dwt obtained from 59 tons of stone. [5]
At the New Moon United mine the shaft is 1540 feet to plat. After a term
of idleness baling was resumed in September. On the 2nd October operations
commenced on the 1100 feet level south and 1200 feet level north. From the
south end two crushings were taken out, one gave a return of 5dwt per son, the
other 4½dwt per ton. The winch drum became disabled, and work has ceased
until stronger machinery is obtained. [5.134]

1912: The New Moon United Company is engaged prospecting. [5.120]
1913: The New Moon United Company is still engaged prospecting. [5.117]
1914: The New Moon United Company has been engaged driving and cross-
cutting at the 1100 feet level, and although it has a reef of a very promising
nature, nothing of a payable character has been discovered. [5.118]

1914: The New Moon United Company is engaged prospecting at the 1200
feet level. ... The New Moon United Company, working with assistance given
under the Mines Development Act, has been engaged prospecting the reef at the
1100 feet level, and recently has been engaged cross-cutting at the 1200 feet level, but up to the present its efforts have not met with any measure of
success. [5.105]

07.09.1915: Bendigo Mining Companies - Dividends, Calls and Scrip Values -
The war census, which is now being taken, and the income tax schedules,
which will shortly have to be filled in, impose on holders of mining scrip the
responsibility of recording dividends received and the amount paid in calls,
together with a statement of the value of scrip held In order to assist the
investing public in the compilation of the statistics we have compiled the records of the Bendigo mining companies. The following is the list of Bendigo mining companies: - Birds Reef, Carlisle, Casley Red, White and Blue, Catherine Reef United, Central Red, White and Blue, Clarence United, Collmann and Tacchi, Confidence Extended, Cornish United, Central Nell Gwynne, Constellation, East Virginia, Fortuna Hustler’s, Garden Gully United, Golden Age, Golden Pyke, Goldfields Consolidated, Goldfields Extended, Goldfields North, Goldfields South, Great Extended Hustler’s, Great Northern, Great Southern, Hercules and Energetic, Hustler’s Consols, Hustler’s Reef, Ironbark, Johnson's Reef, Koch’s Pioneer, Manning’s Central Blue, Murchison, Nell Gwynne, New Argus, New Chum Goldfields, New Golden Fleece, New Moon, New Moon United, New Moon Consolidated, New Nil, New Prince of Wales, New Red White and Blue, New Shenandoah, New St Mungo, North Bendigo, North Johnson’s, North New Moon, Pearl, Princess Dagmar, Red, White and Blue United, Sea, South New Moon, South Garden United, South Prince of Wales, Specimen Hill, Spring Gully, Suffolk United, Sheepshead, South Johnson's, Stafford Reef, The Langdon, Thistle Reef, United Ulster, United Devonshire, Unity, United Hustler’s and Redan, Virginia, Victoria Consols, Victoria and Pandora, Williams United, Windmill Hill, White Hills Gold Recovery. [7]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

NO.7 RESERVOIR, BENDIGO WATERWORKS

Other Names

Location: Parcel No. P126603, Crusoe Gully, Kangaroo Flat

Map Reference: Crusoe 1:25,000 - BV530.198

Victorian Heritage Register: No
National Estate Register: No
Planning Scheme: No

Description: Reservoir and associated filtration tanks on the flat below the wall of the dam; all in a serviceable condition

History: Period of activity: 1861-1998+

Thematic Context: Mining

Comparative Examples: Within the study area there are at least seventeen dams constructed to provide water for mining purposes. These are: Peter the Great Dam (right hand branch)(1856), Wallace Reef (1856), Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858), Old Tom Reef (1860), No.7 Reservoir (1861), Frederick the Great (1865), Raywood Reservoir (1865), Frühling Reef (1871), Liddell’s (probably 1876), at least one at Fiddler’s Green (by 1879), Elliott’s Reef (by 1887), Christoff Reef (1895), Wilson’s Hill (by 1896), Lightning Hill (by 1903), on the ridge above the Lancashire Reef workings (by 1908) and New Moon Consolidated (by 1910). Several of these dams are still serviceable and at least three are still in use. These three are Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858) and No.7 Reservoir (by 1861). No.7 reservoir is the largest, one of the earliest and the most intact.

Statement of Significance: The site is part of a group or network of sites, all associated with the first public supply of water to Bendigo, which had an important influence on the economic development of the region (criterion A). It is a particularly well preserved example of an early water storage and filtration system (criterion D), and has the potential to educate and illustrate an important period in the development of Bendigo mining (criterion C).

Level of Significance: Regional

Recommendation: The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries: The site should include all ground within 50 metres of the high water level at the reservoir and should include the reservoir itself, the dam wall, filtration tanks and all associated buildings.

References:
Saturday, 22 May 1858, p2, col.3.
10. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Kangaroo Flat division.

Notes Emmett later became mining surveyor for the Raywood division.

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in July 1998

Chronology 1854: Coliban-Campaspe country surveyed as a source of water for Bendigo/Sandhurst. [1.130]
1855: E. N. Emmett attempted to initiate a scheme to provide Sandhurst with water. Interest was lacking but Emmett was persistent. [1.130]
19.04.1858: At a public meeting in Melbourne Emmett announced plans entered into with the Municipality of Sandhurst for providing a permanent water supply. A reservoir holding 86,259,000 gallons was to be built at Golden Square. Company promotion was in the air and Emmett envisaged the formation of a company incorporated by Act of Parliament, and possessing capital of £60,000, subscribed in 12,000 £5 shares. [1.130]
07.05.1858: We are in possession of satisfactory information with reference to the prospects of the Bendigo Water Company. The difficulty to which we lately alluded has been entirely got rid of, by the Government undertaking to issue the lease itself; ... We repeat that it is impossible we can have too much water. We shall find, after the reservoir is formed, that we shall want a further supply, and we are therefore glad to be able to assure our readers that the Government have cast aside all difficulties and that the Golden Square reservoir, which, although an immense acquisition, we look upon as a mere instalment of our requirements, will most certainly be proceeded with, with every prospect of
being satisfactorily completed. [2]

22.05.1858: It will have been seen by an advertisement in our columns that the share list of the Bendigo Water Works Company has been further opened until the 5th June. This postponement has given rise to the idea that there is something wrong. ... We are happy, however, to learn that such is not the case, ... [3]

28.06.1858: The company is in high feather about the decision of the Government in the matter of the Golden Square Water Reserve. ... The company will set to work under the most favorable possible auspices. ... [4]

13.08.1858: It will be seen by the report of the meeting in another column that a general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held on Wednesday in Melbourne. ... [5]

10.09.1858: Mr Brady has been appointed to prepare parliamentary drawings, etc for the water works, and will be at Sandhurst in a day or two. [6]

14.12.1858: The important work is now fairly under weigh ... The watershed of the valley of the Bendigo, contained between the ranges, consists of an area of rather more than 13½ square miles. The direction of the hills forms a sort of bottle-shaped enclosure, with a steady descent from the upper end to a sort of narrow neck at the lower. It is quite evident that if a reservoir be formed in the narrow neck, during heavy floods this will be kept filled. This idea first originated the scheme of forming a Bendigo water works and a site of 21 acres at Golden Square (the neck in question) was obtained from Government. This reservoir, it is estimated, will of itself store 86,259,000 gallons of water. In addition to this, however, as it has been ascertained that this basin contains several mineral springs which would render the water unfit for domestic consumption, seven other reservoirs are contemplated, along the line of the watershed; No.8, the highest level, being 440 feet above the level of Pall Mall, and No.7, 294 feet above the same level. An open watercourse or race will connect the whole of the reservoirs, of which Nos 7 and 8 the two highest, will be exclusively devoted to supplying the town with water ... [7]

29.12.1858: This evening a special meeting of the Sandhurst Mining Board is to be held, convened by the Chairman for the purpose of taking into consideration the provisions of the Bendigo Water Works Bill, at present before Parliament. ... [8]

04.01.1859: We are ready to admit - as indeed we have always been since the matter was first mooted by Mr E. N. Emmett - that the Bendigo water works scheme, if carried to a successful issue, will be productive of considerable benefit to the district. It is impossible, however, to conceal from ourselves that the company is endeavouring to secure a monopoly of no little magnitude. ..... When the matter was first proposed the public were led to believe that the only grant sought for was that of 21 acres in the bed of the creek opposite Golden Square. Now, it seems, sites are required for no less than seven other reservoirs, and these are to be connected by a contour race extending from the Big Hill to the head of New Chum Gully, and for this distance the whole of the watershed from the ranges on one side of the creek will be cut off from the valley, and the gullies running into it. ... [9]

11.08.1859: The Bendigo Waterworks Company was launched. The company was concerned with more than water. Gold won from the excavations for the bank of its first reservoir would, it was anticipated, pay for the reservoir's construction. Seven subsidiary reservoirs were planned. In effect, the Waterworks Company was a fully-fledged mining company. Its shares quickly soared to £13 and attention focussed upon Sandhurst and its reefs. Speculators descended on the field. Elated by his success with the Hercules, Butters launched the Johnson's Reef Company and so great was the rush to invest in the venture, the Company had to close its doors at 3pm. on the day of its launching and refuse to accept further moneys. Sandhurst found itself in the throes of its first great investment spree. [1.130]

12.1859: By the end of the year about a hundred mining companies had been floated on the prospect of a supply of water so essential to mining. Their number doubled over the ensuing twelve months. At the height of the boom 391 applications for leases were lodged within a fortnight, involving 2,280 acres of
alluvial ground and 27,000 yards of quartz reef. Much of the activity represented a 'take-over' of existing claims. [1.130]

1860: During 1859 only three mining leases had been issued in the Mining District of Sandhurst. In 1860 the figure increased to 214, most of them on Sandhurst itself and representing more than half of the total number of leases granted in the colony that year. Such, however, was the deceptively ephemeral nature of the boom that by 1861 the figure had dropped to 59, and as early as January of that year, no more than fourteen of the hundred or so surviving companies were paying their way. The rest had mostly ceased operations, if, in fact, they had ever started. Some £1,000,000 in capital investment, or approximately $30,000,000 in today's currency, had disappeared. Many of the companies got no further than the broker's office and were never intended to do so. Others 'put in an appearance' on the field and folded overnight. A very few prospered. Mostly, these were companies operating on proven ground and controlled by mining men who had served an apprenticeship on the field. [1]

1860: This line is being well worked, but there are no great results as yet. This reef runs through the waterworks ground, upon which a pumping engine and crushing engine has been erected. It is more than possible that a revenue will be obtained by the Waterworks Company, by the drainage of this and Whip Reef, the water from which will always be the objective of the company.[10]

1860: The Bendigo Waterworks Company which had, to a large extent, initiated the boom, found itself in difficulties ...When the earth excavations failed to yield their expected gold, Emmett was (castigated by shareholders ...and on the 22 May, work on the main reservoir was suspended and eventually discontinued. The company had planned seven subsidiary reservoirs along the watershed of the Bendigo Valley with planned gross storage of 22,118,000 (gallons). Only the one at Big Hill had been commenced. [1]

1860: The waterworks alluvial washing ground is still lying idle; shutting up a valuable piece of ground which could be advantageously worked by the puddlers. [10]

28.02.1861: The following appears in the commercial columns of yesterday's Argus:-
The half-yearly report of the board of directors of the Bendigo Waterworks Company has been issued to shareholders in anticipation of the meeting to be held on 28th instant. ... The main pipes are being laid. The reservoir is full, the height of the water being 12 feet 3 inches above the valve, the total quantity stored amounting to 20 millions gallons. One mining company is already supplied with 4000 gallons daily at the rate of £100 per annum, and other companies are waiting till the supply is available to them. ... [13]

04.03.1861: The half yearly meeting of the Bendigo Water Works Company was held on Thursday at the Company's offices. ... it appeared that the main pipes will be laid about half way from the Reservoir into Sandhurst within the next three weeks, and that arrangements are in hand by which it is expected that the remaining portion will be completed considerably within the estimated cost and within the next three months. [14]

06.1862: Although one important point has been gained towards obtaining a permanent and ample water supply for the districts of Bendigo and Castlemaine, in the appropriation of £2000 for the survey from Malmesbury, a great deal more remains to be done before the object in view can be considered in a fair way of
being obtained. The survey will, it is expected, be completed within three months, and will therefore in all probability be referred to the Select Committee in the early part of the next parliamentary session. [16]

01.09.1862 - An ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders in the Bendigo Water Works Company was held... on Friday. ... The directors have the satisfaction of stating that the whole of the works are in good order. The dam of No.7 reservoir is sound and the pipe track in every way satisfactory. The races have all been kept clean from slips and fallen timber, and the reservoir is now nearly full up to the bye-wash, the height above the outlet pipe being 23 feet 6 inches and comprising about 60 million gallons. The courses and races have been well washed by heavy rains, the water nor runs unto the reservoir almost clear and bright. It will be recollected that at the last meeting the process of filtration had not been quite perfected, and it was not until the end of March that water could be supplied sufficiently free from clay for domestic purposes. Since then, however, the filtration has been highly satisfactory, and consumers are well pleased. ... The directors are glad to announce that Government has conceded to the company the increased catchment area of about 2000 acres, to the east of Big Hill. ... [17]

22.08.1864 - At the meeting of the Bendigo Waterworks Company held on Tuesday last, in Melbourne, the directors announced their intention to apply to Parliament in the next session, for an Act authorising the company to levy an assessment, or compulsory rate, in other words to compel householders to pay for water whether they want it or not. [11]

25.08.1864 - It seems utterly incompatible with the success of the Coliban project to give the Bendigo Waterworks Company the power they seek. ... [12]

1865 - Report of the Select Committee on the Coliban water supply scheme for Castlemaine and Bendigo tabled in the Legislative Assembly. [18]

20.11.1877 - Completion of the Coliban water supply scheme which now linked No.7 reservoir to a large storage reservoir at Malmsbury. [19]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

NORTH NEW MOON MINE

Other Names
New North Moon

Location
North New Moon North: Parcel No. P123952, State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park, next mine north of Suffolk United, Garden Gully /Moon Reef, Eaglehawk, and
North New Moon South: Parcel No. P123918, State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park, next mine north of Suffolk United, Garden Gully /Moon Reef, Eaglehawk

Map Reference
Eaglehawk 1:10,000 - 533.349 (North New Moon North) and Eaglehawk 1:10,000 - 533.347 (North New Moon South)

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description
The North New Moon company operated two shafts. At the north shaft there was a 20-head battery. An aerial tramway delivered quartz from the south shaft. At the North New Moon South site there is an intact mullock dump, with at least ten dumping lines radiating north from the shaft. The dump measures approximately 70 metres in diameter and stands 6-8 metres high. At the southern end of the dump there is an open shaft, which is fenced. Close to the shaft is a large concrete pad with two iron eyelets (anchor points) protruding from its upper surface. 10 metres south of the shaft, at the edge of the mullock paddock, is a brick engine/winding engine foundation - 7½ feet by about 14 feet. The foundation has eight protruding mounting bolts and is largely buried by brick rubble. South of the shaft and west of the winding engine foundations are the remains of a brick boiler setting. There is a scatter of chimney bricks to the south of this setting.

At the North New Moon North site there was a well-formed tailings heap the centre of which has been quarried out. To the east of this heap is the main shaft, which has been filled. It is surrounded by a 40 metre wide flattened working surface (mullock paddock). On the mullock paddock, are two intact linear mullock heaps, each approximately 20 metres long. On the north side of the mullock paddock there is a battery site. The stone battery engine foundation measures 21 by 5¼ feet wide and stands approximately 1 metre high. Running south from the engine foundation is a line of battery stumps set in rough concrete. The four sets of triple stumps, indicate the site of a 20-head stamp battery. In front of the battery stumps are the ripped-up remains of a concrete floor.

7 metres east of the stone engine foundation there is a concrete aerial tramway anchor pad. It measures 6 by 12 feet, and stands approximately one foot above ground level. The pad has two 1½-inch diameter eyelets which are angled south towards the mullock heap.

7 metres east of the concrete anchor pad is a mound of brick rubble associated with a boiler setting and a possible winding engine. These remains are in line with the filled shaft, some 25 metres south. Running north from the boiler site is a linear spread of red bricks indicative of a collapsed chimney stack. The spread
contains some shaped bricks, suggesting a round stack. The bricks are hand-
made and flat-faced.
The surviving features are in good condition, but the crater-like remains of the
battery tailings dump is being eroded by trail bikes.

History
Period of activity: 1871-1872, 1890-1894, 1894-1924
Maximum recorded annual production: 5966ozs obtained from 10,116 tons in
1906
Total production: 26,600ozs
Dividends: £18,000
Deepest working level: 1150 feet
Deepest shaft: 1442 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The site is one of four at the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef which
were both productive and economically significant for a short period of time in
the first decade of the twentieth century. The other mines in this group (from
south to north) are Suffolk United (1870-1918), New Moon Consolidated (1901-
1916) and New Moon United (1902-1915).

Statement of Significance
The site is associated with the big-mine period of Bendigo's mining history
(1888-1914), it was a success as a mine in terms of its production levels, having
been an important mine in the period between 1904 and 1912, and is part of a
group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant
(criterion A). The site displays important early twentieth century mining
technology, especially the use of aerial tramways (criterion C).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage
Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration
with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of
the conservation policy for mining sites and should be included as a significant
sub-area in the proposed Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area. Further historical
research should be undertaken to determine the history of mining on the site
prior to 1895 and how this relates to features now extant.

Heritage Boundaries
The Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lower
Beelzebub Gully Road and the Bendigo-Pyramid Road, on the north and south
by private property boundaries, and on the east by a line 100 metres east of
Beelzebub Gully Road as far as Sandner Road and thence by direct line to
intersect the northern boundary at a point 250 metres east of the junction of
Janaways Road and Lower Beelzebub Gully Road.

References
1. “Mining intelligence. North Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
Monday, 10 July 1871, p3, col.1.
2. “Mining intelligence. North Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser,
Wednesday, 26 July 1871, p3, col.2.
3. “North Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 7 August 1871, p3,
col.2.
4. “North Moon Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 4 September
1871, p3, col.1.
Advertiser, Monday, 1 July 1872, p.5, col.4.
Advertiser, Monday, 8 July 1872, p3, col.1.
Advertiser, Wednesday, 10 July 1872, p2, col.1.
46. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.

Notes
Lower Beelzebub Gully Road is the name given to an otherwise unnamed track connecting Janaways Road southwards across Beelzebub Gully to the Bendigo-Pyramid Road and running parallel to, and west of Beelzebub Gully Road.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
Mining appears to have begun in ground to the north of the Suffolk United by 1871, firstly with the North Moon Company (1871) and then Hart’s Moon Reef Tribute Company (1872), but without a great deal of success, and it is not until 1890 that mining re-commences with the New North Moon Company (1890-1894) and the North Moon Company (1890-1898). In 1894 the first of these companies was re-organized as the North New Moon Company (1894-1924) and the second company appears to have been amalgamated/absorbed into this new company by 1899. The precise relationship between the various companies working this ground has yet to be worked out.

North Moon Company, Moon Reef
10.07.1871 The shaft has been sunk an additional 14 feet, making 99 feet in all. The country looks very likely for quartz, being slate and sandstone. A black leader has been cut, underlying east. [1]
26.07.1871 The half yearly meeting of this company was held ... yesterday afternoon ...
Directors’ report - Good progress has been made at the mine the last few months. A substantial shaft has been sunk from the surface to a depth of 107 feet. Several promising looking spurs have been cut in sinking, underlying west, and from the present appearance of the ground at the bottom, there is every prospect that if the sinking is continued for another 50 feet we shall come upon the rich reef at present being successfully worked by the New Moon Company. [2]
07.08.1871 The contractors have completed sinking and slabbing the shaft to a depth of 115 feet. A further contract has been let to sink 50 feet deeper, when we expect to strike the New Moon Reef. [3]
04.09.1871 The shaft has been sunk 10 feet additional, making a total depth of 130 feet. [4]

Hart’s Moon Reef Tribute Company, Moon Reef, Whipstick
14.06.1872 A meeting of the promoters of Hart’s Moon Reef Tribute Company was held last evening ... The claim consists of 100 yards on Graham’s Moon Reef. There are two runs of stone now open on the ground, upon which work will be commenced at once, and from the prospects already obtained, and the last crushing of the stone (which went 2ozs 8dwt to the ton) it is expected to continue to maintain this yield. About 87 feet west of these two runs of stone is the stone of the New Moon Tribute Company from which they are now crushing
6ozs to the ton. The shaft here is down 200 feet, and it is expected that the South New Moon Tribute stone will be met with at the 100 foot level. The claim also takes in the run of Ashman’s Tribute, and this includes the whole width of Graham’s lease. [5]

01.07.1872: Hart’s Moon Reef has sprung into demand with a sudden jump from 5 pence to 9½ pence. They are raising some very nice stone from the 182 foot level, and at 160 feet they are driving for the South New Moon Tribute stone. The stone, it is fully expected now being raised at the 182 foot will go 3ozs to the ton. [48]

The run of stone struck at the 180 foot level still continues to show well, gold being seen freely in breaking, and expect it will yield fairly 3ozs to the ton. Shall crush next fortnight. At the 120 foot level we yesterday struck the tribute stone, which shows gold. [6]

08.07.1872: The stone now raising still continues to look well. Some fine specimens were brought in on Saturday. Shall commence crushing on Wednesday, and from the quality of the stone expect a good yield. [7]

10.07.1872: The manager (Mr Frank A Flint) reports: still continue to raise good stone from the 180 foot level. At the 120 foot level are opening out on the South New Moon Tribute stone. The quartz already broken will be raised to grass tomorrow (Wednesday), and crushing will be commenced on Thursday, and a yield of 3ozs per ton, it is believed, will be obtained. Driving and stoping up the two leaders 2 feet apart at the 3200 foot level will be proceeded with, and at the same time a drive will be put in east of the same level, to cut the stone worked by the New Moon Company. From the richness of the stone raised, and in sight, this company should speedily rank amongst the dividend paying mines. [8]

15.07.1872: Mr Frank A Flint reports: Hart’s Moon Reef Tribute Company have crushed a trial crushing from the old levels at the 180 foot level, which yielded 19dwt to the ton, there was none of the South New Moon Tribute stone in this crushing, as we intend raising from this lode and crushing during the next fortnight, and as it is now showing gold freely, expect it to yield far better than that crushed from the 180 foot level. Shall also open out on the two spurs at the 200 foot level. [9]

29.07.1872: The new lode in the blind shaft, at 190 feet, is making larger and showing gold, sinking through slate, and intend sinking 50 feet. The South New Moon Company have struck the Tribute stone about 40 feet from our boundary. [10]

New North Moon, Moon Reef

06.10.1890: The manager (Mr F. Pringle) reports - instructions given to repair shaft preparatory to commencing mining operations. [11]

30.07.1892: The half yearly meeting of shareholders in this company was held yesterday. Directors’ report - In submitting your half-yearly report and account, your directors have to inform you that finding the mine could not be worked efficiently without the aid of machinery, decided upon the purchase and erection of same. A compact winding plant was purchased from J. W. Bayly and Company, of Melbourne, and tenders accepted from Aitken Brothers for erection of engine house etc, the whole of the work is just upon completion. Mining operations will be at once commenced, and energetically carried on. The Prospecting Board have recommended the company for a portion of the grant. ... [12]

15.08.1892: The manager (Mr R. Pringle) reports - a satisfactory trial of machinery was made on Friday. Mr Morgan Jenkin appointed mining manager. Mining operations will be commenced at once. [13]

28.09.1892: The manager (Mr F. Pringle) reports - in the past fortnight reduced the water 60 feet, timbered same distance. Now down to No.3 crosscut, 260 feet from surface. Expect to get to the bottom in about a fortnight. [14]

02.03.1893: The half-yearly meeting of shareholders which was to have been held on Tuesday ... lapsed for want of a quorum. Directors’ report - your directors beg to report that the erection of machinery was
completed in August last and Mr M. Jenkins was appointed mining manager. On commencing operations it was found that a good deal of necessary work was required to be done before baling could be commenced. Work was carried on constantly and the water was forked. As it continued to make as heavy as ever entailing a heavy expenditure, your directors deemed it advisable to stop mining operations in the engine shaft for the present, and prospecting is now being carried on in No.2 shaft.

Mining manager’s report - when I took charge of your mine on 15th. August last the erection of machinery was completed and the engine shaft was working satisfactorily. I at once commenced to put the shaft in order down to the water level, 90 feet from the surface. This work occupied a fortnight, the shaft having to be divided into 2 compartments and several sets of frame timber replaced before starting to bale. On the 29th. August we commenced to bale out the water, and continued night and day for 10 weeks before the bottom was reached. The shaft required a considerable amount of repairing as the water was lowered. Old timber had to be taken out, and new put in to make the mine safe to work in, and the division had to be continued to the bottom. The depth of this shaft is 317 feet. There are several crosscuts both east and west from the shaft. No.1 100 foot level east, into old workings; No.2 160 foot level also east, into old ground. Below these levels the ground is solid to the bottom of the shaft. No.3 crosscut, 200 foot level, is in 60 feet east. At 40 feet in there is a lava, 2 feet thick, going west, but there is no stone on it. 4 feet from the end of the drive there is a strong flucan underlying to the east, with small stone alongside. The west crosscut, at the same level, is in 16 feet into the main back. Stone on the wall 6 inches thick. A winze has been sunk here 22 feet along the wall, and the stone carries a little gold, but not sufficiently to pay. At the bottom of winze there is a crosscut west 12 feet. The 310 foot crosscut, bottom level, was in 28 feet west, but not far enough to cut the west back. We extended this crosscut 12 feet without meeting the wall as I expected. I decided to clean out the winze in the 200 foot crosscut, following down the back. At the bottom of the winze the stone and back are cut out by a slide dipping north and east. Work here and in the west crosscut was stopped, and we drove east from the shaft 36 feet. At 4 feet in we met the stone and back, which were cut out in the winze 28 feet west and above this level. The stone was small, but carried minerals in abundance, and also fine colours of gold. On 7th. December work at the engine shaft was stopped and since then the No.2 shaft has been repaired and ladders put in down to the bottom, 120 feet. At this depth there is a crosscut into the western lava 20 feet from the shaft. Stone on the east side of the lava is 3 feet thick, with a little gold, but not payable. We are now extending the crosscut east, and may at any time meet with payable stone, the ground having very favourable indications. ...[15]

26.07.1893: The half-yearly meeting of this company was held ... yesterday. ... Directors’ report - In our last half-yearly report we informed you that on account of the heavy expenditure, mining operations in the engine shaft were suspended, and work commenced in No.2 shaft; cleaned out mullock from drives and crosscuts and secured same north and south. The crosscut east was then extended 45 feet, and 49 feet from the west lava, in all from shaft 69 feet, country passed through consisting of sandstone and slate, intermixed with quartz spurs dipping west. The crosscut east in No.3 shaft was also extended, and in March last we were compelled to stop mining operations in consequence of the difficulty in getting in calls. A suspension of the labour covenants has been granted by the Mining Department. [16]

07.02.1894: An extraordinary meeting of shareholders was held ... yesterday. ... It was resolved that the company be voluntarily wound up, and that the assets, lease, machinery etc. be handed over to a new company, to be formed called the North New Moon Company. ... [17]

North Moon Company, Moon Reef

13.06.1890: Mr W. Keating has successfully placed on the market a company of 30,000 shares at 3 pence each, to work Hart and Company’s lease north of the New North Moon, and thus the third claim north of the New Moon. This is to
be called the North Moon. [18]
21.11.1892: Shaft sunk 12 feet from plat, total from surface 100 feet; ground principally sandstone with small bars of slate. We also have a lava in west end of shaft. [19]
06.12.1892: Shaft sunk 8 feet, and timbered 11 feet; total from plat 20 feet, and from surface 108 feet; ground sandstone, lava going down in western end of shaft. [20]
30.12.1892: North Moon - The half-yearly meeting of shareholders in this company was held yesterday ...
Directors’ report - Work was started in July last and since that time the old shaft in centre country has been cut down from surface and sunk to a depth of 137 feet and timbered as well. A plat was cut at 81 feet from surface and a crosscut was formed here which was used for prospecting some spurs, but as we did not think them payable, we continued the shaft, hoping before long to find something of a more permanent character. A good blacksmith’s shop has been erected and whip pole and pulleys all complete, so that everything is in good working order. It is the recommendation of your directors that the shaft sinking be let by contract for at least the next 50 feet...
Mining manager’s report - I took charge of your mine in June, and since then I have been engaged in the following works:- operations were commenced in Hart’s shaft which was 88 feet in depth, and in about centre country. The shaft has passed through a number of spurs, some of which appear to have been well tried and worked through to the surface at the south, and breaking up at the north. At 55 feet from the surface there had been a saddle reef worked through the old cutting to the south, and 35 feet north of the shaft, where it appears to dip very fast, and break up. The country underneath is clean and very hard. The logs and mullock were removed and a winding compartment and ladder-way was timbered in red gum. In cutting down we passed through a small bunch of stone about 46 feet surface showing a little gold, but the prospect was not worth following. A plat 10 feet by 10 feet was cut at the bottom to connect two crosscuts which had been driven, and which were full of mullock. The western of them is in 13 feet, and the eastern 29 feet, with a level driven north from the end, 34 feet. In the end of this level there is stone showing which has not been tried. The level was extended north 26 feet, or a total from crosscut of 60 feet; stone 2½ feet thick, of regular appearance but poor. I deemed it advisable to sink the shaft and put in a frame set at the plat 10 feet high. The ladderway was also made complete to the plat. The depth of shaft from the plat is now 39 feet, and from the surface 127 feet. The ground has been hard, and a lava has been encountered in the last 30 feet. The lava has made a turn to the east, and spurs from 2 to 5 inches are making in the bottom. I would recommend that you continue sinking the shaft. ... [21]
04.09.1893: North Moon - An extraordinary meeting of shareholders in this company was held ... on Saturday afternoon. ... The directors were empowered to dispose of the shares held in trust by the company. ... [22]
29.12.1893: North Moon - The half-yearly meeting was held ... yesterday afternoon. ...
Directors’ report - Since last half-yearly meeting your shaft has been sunk 15 feet, but owing to a number of shares being forfeited for non-payment of call, work was suspended for a time. ... The leases are no doubt valuable, being on the continuation of the ground worked by the Clarence, South New Moon and other adjoining mines, and should be fully prospected, when, no doubt, payable reefs will be found. [23]
22.12.1895: North Moon - The half-yearly meeting of shareholders was held ... on Thursday. Directors’ report - During the past 6 months your directors have not been in a position to carry on operations in the way they should like to do, owing to the apathetic way in which some of the shareholders have refrained from paying their calls. ... [24]
29.06.1895: North Moon - The half-yearly meeting of shareholders was held ... on Thursday. ...
Directors’ report - Your directors have been prospecting your mine as fast as the
financial position would warrant, as owing to general depression calls have been somewhat tardy. However, we are glad to state that since the improved prospects of the New Moon Company, shareholders have recognized the fact that the northern extension of that line of reef are well worth attention and so we have been enabled to go on. At present a crosscut is being extended west at 160 feet in depth for the purpose if intersecting the run of country so profitably worked by the New Moon Company some years ago, and which in your mine has never been reached. The water is not troublesome so far, and the expenses are light. ...

Mining manager’s report - During the half year the shaft has been sunk 14 feet, total depth from surface 164 feet 6 inches; ground on the bottom of shaft principally slate with two small spurs, and at this depth appears to hold a deal of water. Cut a plat - 9 feet by 8 feet - 4 feet 6 inches off the bottom of the shaft and 72 feet below No.1 plat, or 160 feet from the surface. Have put in 25 feet of timber in the shaft and securely timbered same to the back of plat. Have driven a crosscut west from No.2 plat, or 160 feet from the surface, 43 feet, through very hard sandstone. Went through two small spurs about 3 inches thick, carrying a good deal of water. The manager recommended the directors to continue crosscut at this depth as the ground in the western crosscut was very much broken up at present and the combs had taken a western underlay. [25]

13.12.1895
North Moon - The half-yearly meeting of shareholders was held yesterday...

Directors’ report - This stated that operations had again been commenced during the past 6 months. An extraordinary meeting had been held, and the directors given power to dispose of the property on the English market. ... Mining manager’s report - Since starting on 5th October, the following work has been done. The eastern crosscut from No.1 plat or 88 feet from surface has been extended 50 feet; total from shaft 79 feet. In this crosscut we passed through a slide and a soft channel of ground with small threads of stone. I believe if this ground were further prospected more stone would be met with. We are now engaged driving a crosscut west at the same level, 60 feet north of the shaft, and it is now in 22 feet from the level. In this crosscut we have passed through a number of spurs, some of them 18 inches thick, of payable appearances, and I think with further prospecting some of them will be found gold-bearing. [26] 26.06.1896
North Moon - The half-yearly meeting was held yesterday...

Directors’ report - Since last meeting of shareholders your directors have not been so far successful in discovering anything payable in the old workings, or in the ground they had opened up some time ago. They then decided to sink a shaft contiguous to where some tributers were securing very good returns. That shaft is now under way, and it will be sufficiently deep in course of a month or so to crosscut for the reef referred to. The offer to float the property on the London market was not successful owing to the depression that existed there some months ago...

Mining manager’s report - At last half-yearly meeting we were engaged crosscutting west from No.1 north level, or 88 feet from surface. This crosscut has been extended 54 feet; total distance from level, 76 feet. Passed through a number of spurs in this crosscut from 2 to 18 inches thick, some of them of regular appearance, but could not see any gold in them. Put up a rise, all stone, 13 feet, and crushed 9 loads from the top of the rise, which were very poor. We are now engaged sinking a shaft from the surface near the south boundary to try and cut the run of stone which has been profitably worked in the New North Moon. The shaft is down 59 feet, and so far we have been unsuccessful in meeting with any stone. [27] 11.12.1896
North Moon - The half-yearly meeting was held... yesterday.... Mining manager’s report - At last meeting we were engaged sinking a shaft from the surface near the south boundary of the lease to try to cut the runs of stone which were being worked in the next claim. The shaft is down 102 feet from surface, 43 feet having been sunk during this half year. W have cut several spurs in sinking, but they all appear to be poor. The shaft has been divided with boards, and ladderway put in and whip pole erected. Now engaged driving
North New Moon, Moon Reef

1894 - North New Moon - next to Suffolk United. This company had two machinery shafts on its lease. The south shaft was the deepest, to 1,442 feet, while the north shaft was only 278 feet. The mine was worked continuously from 1894 to 1924 during which period 74,778 tons of stone were crushed for 26,734 out, paying £18,000 dividends. The main shaft was in Dead Horse Gully, the north shaft some four to five hundred yards distant near the crest of a low hill. Here also was a 20-head battery. Quartz from the main shaft was carried to the battery on a flying fox. This consisted of a fixed overhead cable on which ran suspended cages carrying the trucks of ore. An endless, revolving steel cable towed the full and empty cages to their destinations. These four great mines - New Moon, South New Moon, Suffolk United and North New Moon - their leases extending for almost a mile from the southern boundary of the Whipstick yielded in all 555,906ozs of gold. To obtain this amount of gold 1,194,002 tons of quartz was reduced to sand. Excavations to mine this amount of crushing material entailed the removal of 29,253,049 cubic feet of quartz. In comparison to the great amount of quartz removed the volume of gold recovered was almost negligible. It would have amounted to only 32.84 cubic feet. [33.214-227]

1895 - The half yearly meeting was held ... on Saturday. ... The manager’s report, which was adopted, showed that work had been steadily carried on, and the new shaft commenced. [34]

08.06.1895 - The New North Moon put through a crushing of 26 tons for 1ozs 3dwt gold. [35]

28.06.1895 - The half yearly meeting of this company was held ... the necessary arrangements to resume operations at an early date. [36]
28.02.1899: The half-yearly meeting of this company ... lapsed for want of a quorum. [37]
25.02.1899: The half-yearly meeting of this company, which was called for yesterday ... was adjourned for a fortnight owing to some of the largest shareholders not being able to attend. [38]
23.10.1899: Cages and machinery tested. Skidded shaft to 253 feet. Resumed sinking. [39]
20.12.1899: North New Moon continue to meet with spurs in their shaft, which is now down close to 700 feet, and yesterday they notices a few colours of gold in the portions dislodged by the shots. [40]
24.02.1900: The half-yearly meeting was held ... yesterday. ... Mining manager’s report - completed winding plant, and fixed skids to 254 foot plat, also fixed penthouse etc. for sinking shaft; sunk 55 feet, and timbered 30 feet; ground, hard and difficult to break. Passed through 3 spurs, showing mundic and galena and a little gold. Total depth of shaft 350 feet. Should now be able to test above-mentioned spurs, and should cut old Undaunted company’s saddle reef, which proved payable many years ago. ... [41]
11.08.1900: The half-yearly meeting was held ... yesterday. Mining manager’s report - main shaft sunk and timbered further depth of 85 feet, making total depth of 403 feet. Cut plat at 350 feet and put in a crosscut at 16 feet 6 inches west to form a small dam. This crosscut should be useful in driving for old Undaunted reef. Made small dam at 254 feet east in crosscut. Cleared lease of all scrub and removed water from Whipstick races running through ground. Erection of air compressor is in progress, and when completed would recommend that shaft be deepened further distance by working three shifts. Should also sink north shaft another 50 feet, and make dam for storage water. [42]
1902: North New Moon: 9ozs 1dwt obtained from 75 tons of stone. [43]
1903: North New Moon: 544ozs 7dwt obtained from 1992 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 553ozs 8dwt from 2067 tons of stone. [43]
Several shafts have been sunk, but only one company, the North New Moon, has been successful so far. This company have a payable reef at the 1,150 foot level. [43]
1904: North New Moon: 2957ozs 8dwt obtained from 8032 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 8180ozs 11dwt from 16,750 tons of stone and paid £8000 in dividends. [43]
The North New Moon Company’s southern shaft is 1250 feet deep, and is equipped with winding plant and air compressor. Operations have been carried on principally at the 1050 foot and 1150-foot levels. The reef formations worked at these levels have given good returns: 8718 loads yielded 5223ozs. There is a large quantity of ground at these levels yet to be operated on, and it gives promise of a continuance of payable work. Another shaft has been started further north, and sunk 300 feet. A steam winch, boiler, poppet heads etc have been erected. 45 men are employed. [43.117]
1906: North New Moon: 5966ozs 12dwt obtained from 10,116 tons of stone and £10,000 paid in dividends. The company had now obtained 14,147ozs 3dwt from 26,866 tons of stone and paid £18000 in dividends. [43]
1907: At the North New Moon mine the shaft is 1150 feet deep. A 20-head battery and aerial tramway have been erected; 62 men were employed. [43.126]
This company were so encouraged from its inception, by the prospects revealed in mines further south, that they struck out a bold policy from the start by sinking their shaft direct to the 1250 feet level. The sum of 7/6d per share on 40,000 shares was incurred in calls which has since been refunded in dividends. Lately they have been very successful on a formation situated above the 1150 feet level. Previously they worked another formation with varying results at the 1150 feet level further west. The present formation promises to hold good for sometime to come. This company have a lease 633 yards long. The directors are wisely sinking another shaft near their north boundary, and are
also preparing for the future by putting up a 20 head battery with provisions for additions as circumstances warrant. An aerial tramway, the first of its kind in the district, will convey the ore from the south shaft to the battery. The shares in the venture are well held and always command good rates. In the north shaft they will soon be in a position to open out for a reef at the 400 feet level. Any discovery at this shaft would give good impetus for the mines further afield. Mr J Guerin and Messrs McColl and Rankin are the mining and legal managers respectively. [44]

1907
North New Moon: 2324ozs 8dwt obtained from 9370 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 16,451ozs 11dwt from 36,236 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

1908
North New Moon: 2470ozs 10dwt obtained from 9799 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 18,922ozs 1dwt from 46,035 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

1909
North New Moon: 1639ozs 12dwt obtained from 7396 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 20,561ozs 14dwt from 53,431 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

1910
North New Moon: 1412ozs 19dwt obtained from 5699 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 21,974ozs 15dwt from 59,130 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

The New North Moon Company has sunk the shaft, and is now endeavouring to locate the make of stone on the south boundary so successfully worked by the Suffolk United Company; 28 men are working underground including tributers. Nothing of note has been done in the north shaft. [45.134]

1911
North New Moon: 1051ozs 3dwt obtained from 3308 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 23,025ozs 19dwt from 62,438 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

1912
North New Moon: 2357ozs 17dwt obtained from 5892 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 24,996ozs 7dwt from 66,951 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

The North New Moon Company has been engaged shaft sinking and cross-cutting, and also crushing from the reef at 1414 feet at intervals. [45.117]

1913
North New Moon: 936ozs 17dwt obtained from 3771 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 26,320ozs 15dwt from 72,101 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

1914
North New Moon: 224ozs 9dwt obtained from 1630 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 26,545ozs 4dwt from 73,371 tons of stone and paid £18,000 in dividends. [45]

The North New Moon Company has been principally occupied in development; at the 1580 feet level, a reef was exploited for a considerable distance, but the results were discouraging, and late in the year the company found it necessary to get an exemption from the labour covenants, resulting in a temporary cessation of operations. [45.105]

1916
North New Moon Company:- No work has been done in their engine shafts, but a shallow shaft was sunk on the Paddy’s Gully Line of Reef without meeting any stone of value. This shaft is stopped for the present, and the company is engaged in prospecting in a shallow shaft west from their south engine shaft on the Moon Line of Reef. [45.15]

1917
North New Moon:- Prospecting on reef at the 1478 and 1562 feet levels. [45.13]

1918
North New Moon: 32ozs obtained from 409 tons of stone. [45]

The North New Moon, after unsuccessfully prospecting at the 1150 and 1250 feet levels, has decided to further sink its shaft two lifts of 80 feet each below the 1582 feet level, and this should put the company in a position to prospect a reef unprofitably worked some years ago by the New Moon Company. [45.13]

1920
North New Moon: 44ozs obtained from 213 tons of stone. [46]

1921
North New Moon: 16ozs obtained from 24 tons of stone. [46]

1924
North New Moon . . . The shaft was taken to 1442 feet, and payable saddle reefs were worked at 1,050 feet, 1,100 feet, and 350 feet. Gold produced was 26,800ozs and dividends £18,000. Operations ceased in 1924. [47]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

OLD TOM REEF CYANIDE WORKS

Other Names

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Parcel No. P127170, State Park, west side of Old Tom Road, Old Tom Reef, Whipstick</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Marong 1:25,000 - BV550.413</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Victorian Heritage Register: No
National Estate Register: No
Planning Scheme: No

Description
North of Old Tom Mine, across a concrete-lined water race, is a dump of treated battery sand, which has apparently been shifted from near the battery. On top of the sand dump is a line of depressions signifying three 22 foot diameter cyanide vats. The corrugated iron of which the vats were originally constructed has apparently rusted away. North of the vats is the circular depression for a drainage vat.

History
Period of activity: post 1930

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
There are five other cyanide works sites within the study area. These are: Moon, Devonshire Sand, Frederick the Great, Shamrock and Wilson’s Hill. All are from the 1930’s period of mining on Bendigo and therefore relate to the second phase of cyaniding in Victoria. There are no sites on Bendigo which belong to the first phase of cyaniding prior to 1914.

Statement of Significance
The site is associated with the small-scale re-treatment of tailings by the cyanide process and represents the last phase of mining on Old Tom Reef which first began in 1860 (criterion A). The Old Tom Reef site is the most intact of the smaller cyaniding sites in the study area (criterion B) and is associated with other significant sites in the neighbourhood (that is, Old Tom Reef mine and alluvial workings and the Raywood Channel).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries
The approximately triangular site is bounded on the south-west by the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road, on the north by Scotsmans Track and on the east by Old Tom Road between the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road and the Raywood Channel and by the Raywood Channel between Old Tom Road and Scotsman Track.

References
5. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
7. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998.

Chronology
1930s: Gold production in the thirties was appreciably supplemented by local alluvial mining and cyaniding. A great many hydraulic sluices were working in the Bendigo district by the mid-thirties and some 1,500 men found employment in alluvial mining. The mountains of tailings or battery sand that rose about the valley and filled houses in summer with a gritty dust, were a cyanider’s dream, and in the 1930s some history plants, employing 300 men, were operating about Bendigo. The largest company, the Adelaide-based Devonshire Sands, paid out £3,700 in dividends in 1935. [1.222]
1936: Cyanide - Approximately 23 plants are operating at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, and Huntly, between 200 and 300 men employed. [2]
1937: Approximately 30 cyanide plants, employing in all about 300 men, have been operating at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Huntly, Fosterville, and Sebastian. [2]

Tailings treatment, principally by cyaniding, in Victoria
- 1893: 5291ozs 2dwt 2 grains of gold obtained from 43,521 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [3.12]
- 1894: 2097ozs 14dwt 6 grains of gold obtained from 53,849 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [3.14]
- 1895: 5380ozs 8dwt 14 grains of gold obtained from 62,319 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [4.10]
- 1896: 8822ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 115,702.5 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes, but with cyaniding now on the increase. [4.11]
- 09.07.1897: From the Herald we learn that the Minister of Mines has received from Mr Stone, the departmental assayer, a report on 2 tons of tailings sent to him from Axedale for cyanide experiment. Mr Stone says the lot was treated in four half ton parcels, and the results showed that the best results were secured in each successive parcel, the causes of the loss of gold and consumption being gradually found out and overcome, until in the final parcel an extraction of 74.6 per cent of the gold was obtained for a consumption of 0.53 pounds of cyanide per ton; or a cost of one shilling 4 pence for chemicals, including caustic soda. The value of the gold recovered being 7 shillings 9 pence per ton, the profit was then 6 shillings 5 pence per ton to cover cost and handling and depreciation of plant. ... Some interesting hints are added by Mr Stone, as well as a table, and the whole report is to be printed for the information of the mining community. [8]
- 1897: 15,717ozs 4dwt of gold obtained from 161,723 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [4.10]
- 1898: 17,845ozs 1dwt of gold obtained from 351,067 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [4.11]
- 1899: 17,412ozs 13dwt of gold obtained from 359,848 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.11]
- 1900: 28,741ozs 16dwt of gold obtained from 283,532 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.10]
- 1901: 41,990ozs 10dwt of gold obtained from 482,278 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.11]
- 1902: 43,302ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 504,212 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.14]
- 1903: 35,839ozs of gold obtained from 444,897 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.16]
1904 - 48,035 ozs 16 dwt of gold obtained from 644,925 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.18]
1905 - 45,221 ozs 4 dwt of gold obtained from 626,745 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.20]
1906 - 44,495 ozs 15 dwt of gold obtained from 665,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.18]
1907 - 65,961 ozs of gold obtained from 983,034 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.17]
1908 - 77,245 ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,768 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.15]
1909 - 75,429 ozs of gold obtained from 1,257,338 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.18]
1910 - 68,583 ozs of gold obtained from 1,177,232 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.18]
1911 - 59,986 ozs of gold obtained from 1,102,956 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.20]
1912 - 55,740 ozs of gold obtained from 881,306 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.18]
1913 - 45,397 ozs of gold obtained from 692,256 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.17]
1914 - 39,920 ozs of gold obtained from 607,260 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.16]
1915 - 21,511 ozs of gold obtained from 317,636 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.12]
1916 - 14,635 ozs of gold obtained from 203,016 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [3.5]
1917 - 8930 ozs of gold obtained from 127,012 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 66 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [3.3]
1918 - 4420 ozs of gold obtained from 45,600 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 34 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [3.3]
1919 - 4198 ozs of gold obtained from 43,000 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.4]
1920 - 4226 ozs of gold obtained from 37,596 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.4]
1921 - 5326 ozs of gold obtained from 39,937 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 20 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1922 - 5847 ozs of gold obtained from 41,163 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 12 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1923 - 3415 ozs of gold obtained from 18,644 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1924 - 2052 ozs of gold obtained from 12,108 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1925 - 971 ozs of gold obtained from 8344 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1926 - 1323 ozs of gold obtained from 7748 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1927 - 1672 ozs of gold obtained from 11,060 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1928 - 1199 ozs of gold obtained from 6397 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1929 - 772 ozs of gold obtained from 4047 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 10 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [5.3]
1930 - There were no reports of gold being obtained from tailings by cyaniding during the year. There were no reports of cyanide plants in operation during the year. [2.3]
1931 - 807 ozs of gold obtained from 8933 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [2.3]
1932 - 2060 ozs of gold obtained from 39,317 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 5 Government plants. [2.5]
1933 - 3550 ozs of gold obtained from 63,565 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 323 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 5 Government plants. [2.5]
1934: 14,842 ozs of gold obtained from 321,104 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 86 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [2.20]
1935: 22,460 ozs of gold obtained from 630,318 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 121 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [2.24]
1936: 28,565 ozs of gold obtained from 794,640 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 141 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [2.29]
1937: 41,923 ozs of gold obtained from 1,233,914 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 157 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [2.21]
1938: 40,384 ozs of gold obtained from 1,202,623 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 165 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [6.32]
1939: 43,458 ozs of gold obtained from 1,358,304 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 150 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [6.25]
1939: Cyanide plants at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Ironbark, Huntly, Sebastian, Fosterville and Marong are giving in most cases payable results. [6]
1940: 38,759 ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,301 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 188 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [6.25]
1941: 37,050 ozs of gold obtained from 1,176,936 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 165 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 4 Government plants. [6.23]
1942: 19,869 ozs of gold obtained from 626,643 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 85 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [6.20]
1943: 6626 ozs of gold obtained from 78,716 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 36 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [6.19]
1944: 2936 ozs of gold obtained from 59,045 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 19 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [6.19]
1945: 2442 ozs of gold obtained from 47,197 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [6.19]
1946: 8694 ozs of gold obtained from 262,810 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 40 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [6.22]
1947: 9977 ozs of gold obtained from 268,893 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 39 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [6.22]
1948: 10,746 ozs of gold obtained from 376,143 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 30 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [6.26]
1949: 10,312 ozs of gold obtained from 359,577 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 24 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [2.34]
1950: 10,834 ozs of gold obtained from 468,758 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 27 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.31]
1951: 5093 ozs of gold obtained from 220,625 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7]
1952: 1453 ozs of gold obtained from 60,466 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 9 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.27]
1953: 1025 ozs of gold obtained from 15,807 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.24]
1954: 789 ozs of gold obtained from 14,677 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.21]
1955: 764 ozs of gold obtained from 13,805 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.23]
1956: 476 ozs of gold obtained from 10,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 6 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.23]
1957: 523 ozs of gold obtained from 11,861 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.23]
1958: 569 ozs of gold obtained from 11,150 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 5 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.31]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

OLD TOM REEF MINE AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Description
Mine site
40 metre-long mullock heap with one dumping line running north from a filled shaft. The heap has been partially quarried. 20 metres south is a scatter of red hand-made bricks and rough concrete rubble. Further south there are smaller mullock dumps and a line of shallow reef workings
Surface workings
30 metres west of the mullock dump, running north, is a line of small mullock paddocks, terminating in a shallow open cut. On the same line to the south, in an area north and west of the most southerly section of reef workings there is an area of hydraulic sluicing. West of the cyanide works and along Scotchman Gully there are patches of shallow alluvial workings.
Battery site
On the eastern side of the open-cut is a small mullock paddock, below which is a spread of hand-made red bricks and fire bricks. Near this rubble is a dry dam, with traces of battery sand nearby.
Puddling machine site
10 metres north of the water race is the outline of a 20 foot diameter puddling machine. The central mound retains its wooden post and fragments of timber side-boarding are still present in the puddling trench. Water was fed to the puddling machine from the race by a pipe, now largely buried.

The dumps are weathered and partially quarried, but the puddling machine is in good condition

History
Period of activity: 1857-1900, including Moore and party (1860+), Tyneside (1861), Derbyshire Gold Mining Company (1865-1867), Bashton and Company (1869+), Old Tom Company/Nicholas Bolle (1872-1887), Young Tom Company (1896+) and J. R. Exploration Syndicate (1898-1900); in the 1930s there was a puddling machine and cyanide works.
Line of reef: Old Tom
Maximum recorded annual production: 231ozs obtained from 698 tons in 1876
Total production: 1670ozs obtained from 5828 tons between 1872 and 1884; 868ozs obtained from 2273 tons by Nicholas Bolle between 1885 and 1887 [38]
Deepest working level: 247 feet
Deepest shaft: 408 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The site is one of a number of representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the study area, namely: Lightning Hill (1852-1907), Black Forest (1858-1907), Frühling Reef (1860-1931), King of Prussia (1871-1885) and Lancashire
Reef (1890-1908).

This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Flat (1852), Fiddler’s Green (1852), One-Eye Gully (1852), Peter the Great (right hand branch)(1856) and Shallow Diggings (1858).

Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district, and there were reports of fossickers in the area.

Within the study area at least sixteen pudding machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron’s Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter’s Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully.

Nineteenth century pudding machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron’s Dam, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two pudding machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, pudding machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are pudding machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter’s Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts.

**Statement of Significance**

The site has considerable potential to educate and illustrate important aspects of mining on Bendigo because it displays a comprehensive sequence of activities over time: shallow surface alluvial workings, quartz mining, sluicing, pudding, cyaniding; being part of a group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant (criterion C) and is associated with all the stages of mining in the Whipstick area (criterion A). The pudding machine at this site is significant because it is well preserved, because it is of large size and there is anecdotal evidence that it was not constructed until after 1930. It is therefore extremely useful as a reference site for comparing and dating with pudding machines found at other sites (criterion C).

**Level of Significance**

Regional

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The approximately triangular site is bounded on the south-west by the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road, on the north by Scotsmans Track and on the east by Old Tom Road between the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road and the Raywood Channel and by the Raywood Channel between Old Tom Road and Scotsmans Track.
References

1. "Mining Intelligence. The Whipstick quartz reefs." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 August 1857.
2. "Prospecting at the Whipstick diggings." From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 31 May 1860.
5. "Mining memoranda. The Whipstick." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 16 November 1861, p2, col.3.
6. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
8. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk and Huntly division.
9. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
13. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 7 June 1881, p3, col.3.
15. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.
27. "Bendigo mining intelligence. The Whipstick." From our own Correspondent, 15 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 16 September 1858.
28. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
34. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
35. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
38. Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records.
39. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.
40. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes

The Old Tom Reef was one of the main sources of alluvia later worked in Drunken Scotchman’s and Old Tom gullies.

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998.

Chronology

01.08.1857: We were yesterday shown a very rich specimen from a gold bearing reef, which has been found within the last 2 or 3 days at the Whipstick. The gold in it was nuggety and if this specimen is any indication of the richness of the reef, we shall have the pleasure of seeing the Whipstick soon furnishing profitable employment to a large population. The specimen was found, with several others, on the side of a hill, a short distance from the head of Scotchman's Gully. A reef passes over a hill, which is covered with masses of quartz. The discovery has excited some interest among the population at the Whipstick, whose prospects did not seem of the brightest description. [1]

31.05.1860: Very lately, the reefers, who opened Old Tom Gully at the head of Brandy Gully, has been rewarded without much expense, with payable stone; two claims having struck the reef. An engine is likely to be established here by Moore’s party, who have a prospecting claim, and have crushed about 60 tons of stone at a mill on Huntly, with a yield of over 2ozs from the last lot sent them. [2]

05.1860: Old Tom Reef. On the western side of Old Tom Gully is a long, low hill known as Swiper’s Hill which extends from Elizabeth Gully to Scotchman’s, a distance of three quarters of a mile. Along the crest of the hill, numerous old shafts and open cuts. Reef miners were operating along Old Tom Reef during May 1860. Moore and party struck rich stone, which they carted to their crushing mill at Huntly. . . . A few months later, in September, this party was erecting a crushing battery in the gully which remained in operation till the turn of the century. In 1861 the Tyneside Quartz Mining Company was successful in the area, while from the top of Swiper's Hill down to Scotchman’s, numerous claims were working. At this time, a small township had sprung up in the vicinity of the gully, and today, one may see the remnants of old chimneys and huts among the trees and scrub. Numerous small companies worked on the Old Tom Reef over the years, one of which was the Derbyshire Gold Mining Company (c. 1864-1867). [3.7]

06.07.1861: Our notice of the success of the Tyneside Quartz Mining Company, in Old Tom Gully, has induced many to take up claims on this line of reef; and now, from Elizabeth Gully, over Swiper's Hill, along the top of Brandy Gully, down Old Tom to Scotchman’s Gully, every claim is occupied. In fact a little township has sprung up in Old Tom Gully, every inhabitant of which is annoyed that the mail should go by Lower Huntly and Tyson’s Swamp, where very few reside, instead of going the old road by Scotchman’s, where the bulk of the people are now settled. [4]

16.11.1861: The township of Old Tom increases rapidly. A cab has commenced running thence to Sandhurst. [5]

09.1864: Old Tom: 6 reef miners at work. [6.37-40]

12.1864: Old Tom: 10 reef miners at work. [6.39-42]

03.1865: Old Tom: 14 reef miners at work. [6.42-44]

06.1865: Old Tom: 20 reef miners at work. [6.43-44]

09.1865: Old Tom: 16 reef miners at work. [6.47-49]

12.1865: Old Tom: 12 reef miners at work. [6.45-46]
03.1866: Old Tom: 7 reef miners at work. [6.44-45]

28.07.1869: At Old Tom Gully, Whipstick, Bashton and Company on their leased ground have come upon a surface reef of large size which promises to turn out well. A number of specimens broken from the stone may be seen at the Bank of Victoria, Eaglehawk. They contain rough gold. [7]

06.1872: Old Tom Company, Whipstick: 42ozs 5dwt obtained from 180 tons of stone at 80 feet in a reef 16 feet thick. [8.33-34, 11]

09.1873: Old Tom, Whipstick: 37ozs 3dwt 18 grains obtained from 350 tons of stone. [9]

12.1873: Old Tom, Whipstick: 63ozs 6dwt 6 grains obtained from 655 tons of stone. [9]

12.1876: Old Tom, Whipstick: 231ozs 1dwt obtained from 698 tons of stone. [9]

03.1877: Old Tom, Whipstick: 88ozs 18dwt obtained from 128 tons of stone. [9]

06.1877: Old Tom, Whipstick: 56ozs 5dwt 2 grains obtained from 253 tons of stone. [9]

03.1878: Old Tom, Whipstick: 79ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 259 tons of stone. [9]

06.1878: Old Tom, Whipstick: 60ozs obtained from 400 tons of stone. [9]

09.1878: Old Tom, Whipstick: 63ozs 13dwt obtained from 204 tons of stone. [9]

12.1878: Old Tom, Whipstick: 262ozs 8dwt obtained from 236 tons of stone. [9]

06.1879: Old Tom, Whipstick: 88ozs 14dwt obtained from 500 tons of stone. [9]

09.1879: Old Tom, Whipstick: 16ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from 240 tons of stone. [9]

06.1880: Old Tom, Whipstick: 37ozs 17dwt obtained from 201 tons of stone. [9]

17.12.1880: That there are rich reefs in the Whipstick which would well repay the time spent in looking for them is a well-known fact, but for all that is a portion of the district which has been greatly neglected. Only a few parties are prospecting in it, but occasionally the discovery of a large nugget or a new reef attracts attention for a time and all is quiet again. Another rich patch has been discovered by a party of men - Motherston and Company - on the Old Tom Reef, in the Whipstick, from which a crushing of 4 tons yielded 47ozs 9dwt, or nearly 12ozs to the ton. The men registered their claim at the Warden’s office yesterday. It is the second claim north from the prospectors. The stone from which this fine yield was obtained consists of a run of spurs making into the Old Tom Reef, and was found at a depth of only 40 feet from the surface, and the spurs are from 6 to 12 inches thick. The stone was crushed at Bolle’s machine. The alluvial gold found in the Whipstick is of a heavy nuggety character, and it is therefore certain that the reefs must contain exceedingly rich patches of gold, yet, as remarked, the amount of prospecting done is merely of a nominal character. [10]

23.12.1880: Several claims have been taken up in the Whipstick on the Old Tom Reef, adjoining Motherston and party, who crushed for such a fine return a few days ago. One or two of those claims have been registered at the Warden’s office; but the greater part of them have not been registered. It may not be generally known by miners that they have no rights or protection at law unless they register their claims and their names as shareholders. [11]

Old Tom, Whipstick: 80ozs 18dwt obtained from 302 tons of stone. [11]

23.03.1881: Some magnificent quartz specimens were shown in Mr H. Jones’ window, View Point, yesterday afternoon. They were obtained from Mr N. Bolle’s claim on the Old Tom reef, Whipstick. The stone was obtained at a depth of 40 feet from the surface, and was taken from the same run that a party of men obtained over 12ozs to the ton from about 3 months ago. 6 or 7 claims
have been taken up north of Bolle's claim, which is 280 yards in length. Mining operations are, however, greatly retarded for the want of water. [12]

03.1881
Old Tom, Whipstick: 89ozs 5dwt obtained from 165 tons of stone.

On the Old Tom Reef, Whipstick, several parties are doing well, and Mr Bolle has come on an exceedingly rich patch in his claim, but all the reef is good. Unfortunately he is obliged to cease working his engine on account of want of water, which will seriously interfere with mining in that district until a supply can be obtained from some source. [8.30]

07.06.1881
A considerable amount of prospecting, we hear, is being carried out in the neighbourhood of the Old Tom Reef on the Whipstick. A large quantity of stone has lately been crushed at Mr Bolle's battery, and a number of miners have yet at grass sufficient quartz to keep the battery going for some time, and now that water is becoming abundant we may expect to hear of some fair returns. The stone crushed was payable, and that at grass looks well. [13]

06.1881
Old Tom, Whipstick: 97ozs 13dwt obtained from 400 tons of stone.

09.1881
Old Tom, Whipstick: 68ozs 17dwt obtained from 194 tons of stone.

Numerous parties or companies operated the reefs in the vicinity of Old Tom Gully... One of the successful miners on the Old Tom Reef in 1881 was Nicholas Bolle. [3.7]

06.1882
Old Tom, Whipstick: 36ozs 7dwt obtained from 133 tons of stone. [9]

01.07.1884
Application for lease.

We, the undersigned, hereby give notice that, within 6 days from the day hereof, we will leave with the Warden of the Mining Division of Eaglehawk, an application for a gold mining lease, the particulars whereof are hereunder set forth:

Name in full of each applicant, with the full address of each, and style under which it is intended that the business shall be carried on - Joseph Shadbolt, Walter Motherstone and Company, Sydney Flat.

Extent of ground applied for, and whether on or below the surface, or both, or a lode - 8 acres, more or less, both.....

Precise locality of the ground - north of Nicholas Bolle’s prospecting claim, Old Tom Reef, Whipstick...

Date and place - Whipstick, Eaglehawk, 30 June 1884. [14]

12.1884
Old Tom, Whipstick: 182ozs 14dwt obtained from 330 tons of stone at 150 feet. [15]

09.1885
Bolle’s Claim, Old Tom Reef: 229ozs 15dwt obtained from 615 tons of stone. [15]

12.1885
Bolle’s Claim, Old Tom Reef: 350ozs 15dwt obtained from 650 tons of stone at 150 feet. [15]

06.1886
Bolle’s Claim, Old Tom Reef: 58ozs 5dwt obtained from 305 tons of stone at 130 feet. [15]

09.1886
Bolle’s Claim, Old Tom Reef: 149ozs 7dwt obtained from 443 tons of stone at 145 feet. [15]

06.1887
Old Tom Company, Old Tom Reef, Whipstick: 81ozs obtained from 260 tons of stone. [15]

15.06.1896
Young Tom Company - A start is being made at Whipstick on the lease pegged out by Mr Young Purves, and the intention is to carry out vigorous prospecting. The lease comprises the territory surrounding Mr Bolle’s lease, known as the Old Tom Company, out of which such splendid results were obtained by Mr Bolle a few years ago. Prospecting on the latter lease has only been carried on down to 200 feet. The new lease has been called the Young Tom Company, and on it as high as 7ozs to the ton and over have been obtained at a depth of 150 feet and above. The probabilities of gold-bearing stone existing in this neighbourhood has long been apparent, and it is hoped the start which is being made on the Young Tom Company’s lease may unearth some of the treasure which the Whipstick is said to possess, and thus attract capital to this neglected quarter. [16]

22.07.1896
Young Tom Company - The manager reports: during the past
fortnight the western crosscut has been driven 10 feet; total from shaft 15 feet. Eastern crosscut driven 7 feet, total 17 feet. Have gone through a spur 6 inches thick, from which some fine colour of gold were obtained in the dish. [17]

24.01.1898: English capital is doing valuable prospecting on the ... Old Tom line. [19]

12.09.1898: A gold-bearing spur has been struck in the Old Tom shaft, Whipstick, at a depth of 247 feet. This is one of the companies owned by the J. R. Exploration Syndicate. [20]

1898: English Company, the J R Exploration Syndicate began mining in the Old Tom area, and after sinking a new shaft to a depth of 274 feet, struck a small leader which yielded 6dwt to the ton. The mine was unsuccessful. [3.7]

02.01.1899: The J. R. Exploration Syndicate are still prospecting the large body of stone at ... and 180 foot, the crushing barely averaging ... dwt. East of these workings they are ... down a splendid main shaft. It is now ... 260 feet, and are awaiting the re-erection of ... machinery. [18]

18.05.1899: Messrs Roberts and Sons, having completed the machinery at the Old Tom mine, Whipstick, the work of baling out the water will be started today. The shaft is down 239 feet, and during the last 30 feet of sinking they had a promising looking leader in the shaft. [21]

19.05.1899: Old Tom - yesterday the Government inspection and trial of the machinery erected by Messrs Roberts and Sons for the J. R. Exploration Syndicate took place on this mine. ... The machinery having been passed by the inspector and duly handed over, the sentiments “Success to the Syndicate” and the “Contractors” were given.

Although the machinery is not new, it has been thoroughly overhauled, and is practically so, the new housing and poppet legs completing what may be considered an up-to-date winding plant. At present it is intended to sink about 1000 feet, and every provision has been made in the way of room, etc, for the reception of more powerful machinery should the exigencies of the case so demand it. The boiler is of the Cornish type, 27 feet long by 6 feet 6 inches, with 8 Galloway tubes and a water bridge in the flue, and is capable of carrying 100 pounds of steam. The engine has a pair of 12 inch cylinders, 2 foot stroke, geared on to two new loose drums, 4 feet 6 inches diameter, fitted with brakes, dial indicator, levers etc. complete. A large sized vertical pump of the “Roberts” type, which, by the arrangement of a few valves and pipes, draws water some 300 yards from the Government race, and delivers it into a 5000 gallon supply tank. The pump also takes the water from the exhaust tank and feeds the boiler. The wooden poppet legs are 50 feet high and the engine house is 35 feet by 30 feet, covered with corrugated iron. The plant reflects credit on the contractors, and as everything works smoothly, shaft sinking operations will be started at once. [22]

15.11.1899: The J. K. Exploration Syndicate are carrying on active operations at the Old Tom mine (Whipstick) and at present they have four crosscuts out at different levels. At 408 feet they have met with a very heavy inflow of water, and it is expected that they are nearing a reef formation. The discovery of anything of a payable character in this locality would lead to a revival of mining in this long neglected auriferous area. [23]

01.01.1900: The J. K. Exploration Syndicate are giving the deeper ground a practical trial, and the results of their crosscutting operations will be awaited with interest. [24]

1930s: In the depression years there were at least two puddling machines operating in the Whipstick - one at Ironstone Hill, the other at Old Tom Reef. [25]

12.09.1931: In order to make a general survey of the Whipstick area, where a good deal of mining prospecting is at present being carried on, Mr H. W. Gepp, Dr Stillwell and Mr W. Baragwanath (Director of Geological Survey) visited that part of the Bendigo goldfields yesterday. They were accompanied by Mr R. V. Keane, M.H.R., the Mayor of Eaglehawk (Cr J. H. Stewart) and Messrs J. Enroe and W. F. Dennis. Among the mines visited were the Flagstaff and the Old Tom. Before returning to Bendigo the experts also inspected the old Black Forest and Lightning Hill, which were worked by the J. R. Exploration Syndicate about 30 years ago. An examination of the records affecting this part of the field
was made later in the Bendigo Mines office. [26]

Sluicing on Bendigo
16.09.1858: The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry's" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [27]

06.1874: At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well. [28]

06.1875: A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [28]

12.1877: The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [28]

03.1878: Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [28]

03.1878: Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [28,27]

09.1878: Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...

The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.
To quartz mining companies : 11,267,000gals
To sluicing companies : 11,000,000 gals
Total : 22,267,000 gals [28]

15.12.1879: The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [29,30]

22.08.1885: In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and ... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as "Proud Bobby" and "Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing
companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [31]

- 1890: 3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [32]
- 1891: 4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [32]
- 1892: 5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [32]
- 1893: 5576ozs 13dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [32]
- 1894: 8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [32]
- 1895: 5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [33]
- 1896: 14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [33]
- 1897: 15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [33]
- 01.10.1898: Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer’s Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [34]
- 1898: 15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 12,680ozs 15dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [33]
- 1899: 12,444ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [33]
- 1900: 12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [33]
- 1901: 9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [33]

1902: 12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [33]

1903: 9860ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [33]

1904: 12,745ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [33]

1905: 12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district. [33]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [33]

Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [33]

1906: 9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district. [33]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [33]

1907: 18,696ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [32]

1908: 6293ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618ozs 17dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [32]

1909: 2926ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [32]

1910: 1992ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district. [32]

Bendigo Dredging: 86ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

Green Brothers Dredge: 121ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1911: 2519ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070ozs 15dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district. [32]

Bendigo Dredging: 853ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

B. Ford's Dredge: 622ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1912: 2812ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on
Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district. [32]

Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
B. Ford's Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1913. 3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district. [32]
Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
B. Ford's Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1914. 2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district. [32]
Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1915. 3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434ozs 1dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district. [32]
Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1916. 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district. [32]
Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]
Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1917. 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [32]
Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [32]

1918. 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [32]

1919. 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1920. 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners
1921 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1922 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1923 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1924 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1925 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Knapman and Wingrave: 168ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1926 367ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1927 287ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1928 573ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1929 585ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1930 688ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

24.08.1931 Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [37]

1931 3867ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

H. E. Knapman: 174ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]

1932 5051ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

H. E. Knapman: 125ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]

1933 4429ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

H. E. Knapman: 119ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]

1934 5395ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial
miners in the district. [36]
Day and Mason: 41ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
H. E. Knapman: 252ozs obtained from 2.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
1935: 4609ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial miners in the district. [36]
1936: 7196ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district. [36]
Aurum Dredging Development: 132ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
C. Barton and G. Barton: 14ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
Henderson and party: 21ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
Knapman and party: 85ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
Meldrum and party: 42ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
G. Miller: 28ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
Noble and party: 20ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
Stringer and party: 43ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
1936: (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their work this year and are transferring to another location.
The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo gold field for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>DWT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1937: 2151ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district. [36]
Aurum Dredging Development: 32ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
Henderson and Hopgood: 13ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]
D. J. Rigbye: 48ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [36]

1938: 2346ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

H. R. Hansen: 22ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

D. J. Rigbye: 67ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1939: 2671ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

H. R. Hansen: 38ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1940: 4862ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

A. Maynard: 67ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

D. J. Rigbye: 61ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1941: 682ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

G. Barton and party: 4.9ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

J. N. Day: 62ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

P. S. Floyd: 16ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

R. Lethlean: 60ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

P. Lougoon: 110ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

D. J. Rigbye: 24ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

H. L. Rigbye and party: 85ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1942: 510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1943: 527ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1944: 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [39]

- Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [39]
- 1945: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [39]
  - J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]
- 1946: 423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district. [39]
  - J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]
  - L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]
  - Styles Brothers: 43ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]
- 1947: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [39]
  - J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]
  - D. J. Rigbye: 9ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully. [39]
  - Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [39]
- 1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district. [39]
  - J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [39]
  - D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [39]
- 1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [36]
  - P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [36]
  - Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [36]
- 1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [40]
  - Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
  - C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully. [40]
  - P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [40]
  - Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [40]
  - G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [40]
- 1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district. [40]
  - P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [40]
  - Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [40]
- 1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial
miners in the district. [40]
Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [40]
1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [40]
Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [40]
1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [40]
A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial miners in the district. [40]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [40]
W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [40]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 105ozs obtained from 1980 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [40]
W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [40]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [40]
W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [40]
W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [40]
W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [40]
Description
There is a band of shallow sinkings (8-10 feet) running along the gully east of Boundary Road. The holes are located close together and are associated with at least two puddling machine sites and several stone fireplaces (camp sites). Further east, and running across the gully in a roughly north-south direction, are several lines of shallow reef workings. The mullock heaps are between one and 2 metres in height and in the vicinity there is a scatter of domestic rubbish. Between the most westerly line of reef and the road some parts of the gully have been hydraulically sluiced.

History
Period of activity: 1857-1931
Lines of reef: Manly and Somerset
Maximum recorded annual production: 88ozs 3dwt/598 tons in 1878
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: 90 feet
Deepest shaft: 150 feet

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Creek (1852), Fiddler’s Green (1852), One-Eye Gully (1852), Peter the Great (1856) and Elysian Lead (1857).

Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron Dam, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (1856), Old Tom Reef (1857) and Splitter’s Gully (1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts.

Statement of Significance
The site is associated with an important event (the Phillips Gully Gold Rush) and is representative of small-scale alluvial and shallow-level low-production quartz mining (criterion D). It may also contains at least one nineteenth century puddling machine (criterion B).
Level of Significance  Local

Recommendation  The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries  The site is bounded by Boundary Road on the west and extends for a distance of about 200 metres along the line of the main gully and for a distance of 75 metres on either side.

References  
16. “Mining intelligence.  The new rush to the Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 16 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 18 August 1858.
17. “Mining intelligence.  Elysian Flat.” From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 30 May 1859.
20. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.
23. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, Wednesday, 6 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 7 June 1866.
24. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Tuesday, 3 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 July 1866.
25. "Raywood." From our Own Correspondent, Monday, 9 July; The Bendigo
Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 July 1866.

26. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.

27. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.


34. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 22 August 1885, p5, col.7.


37. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.

38. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.


40. Victoria, Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records.

41. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.

42. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.


Notes

The alluvial rush to Phillips Gully lasted no more than three months in 1857, and was reported in some detail in the local newspapers. There is, at that time, no mention of puddling machines in use there. Reef mining began in 1865. Before this, although a few alluvial miners continued to work in the area and there were frequent references to puddling machines in the local newspapers in use in other gullies, there are no references to any puddling machines at Phillips Gully.

Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district, and there were reports of fossickers in the area.

The site is remote from centres of population.

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

07.05.1857: A large number of persons yesterday morning started from Scotchman's Gully and its neighbourhood for a new gully, said to be distant about eight miles from the Flagstaff Hill, in which it is reported that three men have been working for the past fortnight, and have obtained a large quantity of gold. We expect today to receive further information on the subject. A day or two since a party in the Whipstick showed Dr. Roche, Coroner, a parcel of gold weighing 10 pounds 15dwt, all in nuggets, which had been obtained at the Whipstick diggings. [1]

12.05.1857: The news of the new rush has caused a considerable “running to
and fro among the mining population here, especially as it is reported that some of the claims are yielding half an ounce to the tub; but strange to say, the whereabouts or exact locality of the rush is not generally known, more than that it lies somewhere in the scrub, in the direction of Moorhead's Reef, and is about eight miles distant from Scotchman's Gully. ... The new road through the scrub is going ahead wonderfully; there are now about five miles of it 15 feet wide, any one going over the road as far as it has been opened must be struck with the splendid country through which it passes. ... Things remain nearly in status quo since my last with this difference that the population is still progressive and some more small nuggets are reported to have been found in a gully in the scrub lying to the north of Scotchman's Gully. [2]

19.05.1857: The new rush still remains incognito to the multitude, and as yet it is only known to a favoured few. Yesterday morning two pack horses heavily swagged were tracked from this several miles into the scrub in a north west direction from Moorhead's reef. It is well known that their destination was the new rush, but unfortunately their trail was lost on a hillock thickly embedded with quartz debris. Many diggers doubt the existence of the new rush, and some of them say that they have lost several days searching for it in vain. That the rush does exist in reality can scarcely be doubted, and a few days will in all probability make it public enough, and available to all who desire to try their luck in it. The original discoverers are said to be two mates - tall, bushy whiskered men, of respectable appearance, and but recently arrived at the Whipstick, where, after prospecting for some time, they were fortunate enough to drop on gold in the ground whose whereabouts is now exciting so much attention. It is also said on good authority that most of the stuff that has been tried will run from a quarter to half an ounce to the tub. For several miles in the mine direction that the new rush is supposed to be in, small parties of diggers may be here and there met with busily engaged sinking and prospecting. It is a refreshing sight, and forcibly reminds one of the golden days of old to see these enterprising stalwart fellows pioneering a way through the primeval and unknown wilds of the Whipstick wilderness.... [3]

22.05.1857: There is no new phase of importance to report in the mining intelligence of this district, nor have any extraordinary finds come to light since my last despatch. Indeed the lucky diggers here seem to be wide awake to their own interests, and no one can blame them for it. At all events, they endeavour to secure themselves against any possibility of being discovered or disturbed by "fraternal rushers" by having recourse to a somewhat successful "ruse; and rather a new dodge, namely, in carrying off their gold to other diggings, and there disposing of it. They there conceal for the time being all suspicion of their whereabouts, and are better enabled to successfully carry on their operations in incognito. It is now well known here by parties cognizant of the fact, and may be relied on as substantially correct, that the men who discovered the (unknown) ground termed the "new rush", and now so anxiously sought after by many a weary itinerant recently started off to Dunolly, where they sold 12 pounds weight of Whipstick gold; and accompanied by some of their friends, and two new horse drays and horses (purchased at Dunolly), have returned again last week to the Whipstick. The camping ground of these men is known only to a few persons - but the locality of the ground they are working is still a mystery. Cunningly enough they have not pitched their tents in the vicinity of their claims, and they are said to have ground only turned out as it has hitherto done; in a few weeks they shall be satisfied; in other words, they will have made their "piles". This is the right sort of talk, and a pleasing conclusion to arrive at indeed. Many extraordinary rumours are going the rounds here, but it would be imprudent to take cognizance of them in the absence of some more reliable information. It is believed that the locality where these men are at work is in a very remote part of the scrub, and upwards of 10 miles from this (Scotchman's Gully). [4]

29.05.1857: Intelligence reached Sandhurst yesterday that a new and payable goldfield has been discovered by some parties working near the outskirts of the Whipstick scrub, in the vicinity of Picaninny Creek, about 28 miles from town. [5]

01.06.1857: A report having reached us on Thursday evening that new and
payable ground had been opened in a distant portion of the Whipstick Scrub, a
gentleman from this office visited the locality on the following day, who reports
as follows:-
A miner of the name of Phillips, who, five years ago, was engaged in
prospecting various portions of the Whipstick Scrub, lately returned to it, and
pitched upon the gully, the opening of which has given grist to the rumours lately
spread through Sandhurst. This is the same place where the dead body of a
man (unknown) was found some time since by Whipstick Bob. It is situated
about two miles and a half from the four mile post on the new road, its bearing
being about 45 degrees east of that point. An inexperienced bushman might
find considerable difficulty in discovering it, and unless very careful, would run a
risk of getting entangled in the numerous belts of scrub with which it is almost
entirely surrounded. From the four mile post, to the foot of the gully the country
consists of tolerably open box forest, into which the gully runs through mallee or
whipstick scrub. There are a few cart tracks leading to it, but having been made
during the dry weather, they are very easily missed. If any person should be
induced to visit they should take care to obtain very accurate directions before
attempting it. I do not think, however, that there is much likelihood of there
being any considerable rush thither for the present at all events. Gold, it is true,
has been struck there, but as yet not in what is generally considered payable
quantities. I saw several buckets of stuff washed out and the heaviest prospect
amounted to about half a pennyweight to the bucket. The heaviest that has
been obtained there was a pennyweight and a half to the bucket. Phillips sunk
about 50 holes in the neighbourhood before striking gold. The country to the
north is very unlikely looking, but to the southward, and especially to the south-
west, at no very great distance, there are ranges which have a promising
appearance. The locality of this little rush, which by-the-bye bears the name of
Phillip's Gully, is comparatively very flat, and bears no surface indications of
being rich. The sinking varies from 8 to 10 feet; the bottom is a soft white
sandstone, and the washdirt, which is pretty tenacious, consists of gravel and
variegated clay. There are about 60 men sat present on the ground, who are
prospecting in every direction about it. The water is very scarce, nor are there
any holes of sufficient capacity to contain a large supply. On part of the gully is,
however, admirably adapted for a dam, which it is the intention of those located
there to combine for the purpose of forming.
There are said to be parties working in adjacent gullies, who have not yet been
found out. Most of the diggers I met were of opinion that Phillips was playing a
double game with them, and that he was nearly staying in the place, and
applying for an extended claim in order to blind them, while his mates were
working in a much richer gully. This I heard more than one of them say to his
face. I do not pretend to express an opinion in the matter. I merely give the
facts as I have seen and heard them. Several parties left while I was there,
declaring that it was not worth their while to work in such ground.
In going out there I took the new road, which is now cut completely through the
scrub into the box forest beyond. The road is straight enough, but the scrub has
been very badly cut down - sharp-pointed stakes, about 6 inches long, being left
standing above the surface - which render the travelling very difficult and
dangerous, for horses and other cattle. The contract was taken for nine miles,
but the cutting having been completed in seven, about two miles having been
cut by the contractors, commencing somewhere between the second and third
mile posts, and running easterly in the direction of the great quartz reef,
commonly known as the Black Rock. This is an extensive outcrop of quartz,
rising to about 20 feet from its base, the surfacing about which, I am told, has
been found to pay very well. It does not seem, after all, that the north and south
road will be of very much use; and people travelling along it, who are
unacquainted with the country will do well to be very careful how they trust
themselves beyond the last or seventh mile post. The east and west road, if
continued to the Piccaninny, or rather the lower Bendigo Creek, would be of
more service, as it would lead to water and a main road to Sandhurst, neither of
which the other one does.
On leaving Phillip's Gully on Saturday morning I took a cattle track running south-
easterly through the scrub, which, in about the distance of a mile brought me out into a fine, open and well-grassed box forest. Following this cattle track, in about a couple of miles, I came upon some tolerably good water-holes, which I ascertained to be the head of Reedy Creek. Passing there, I still followed the track which continued all the way to trend south east, until about four or five miles from Phillip’s Gully it struck a road newly made by some splitters. Turning to the right along this in about two or three miles I made the Bendigo railway at a point about 13 miles from Sandhurst, and close to a farm belonging as I understand to a Mrs. Pritchard. At all event, the next farm above it belongs to a person of the name of Hand. Just above this place I crossed the creek and got on to the main road, which brought me up to Epsom.

By reversing the order of my homeward route the digger desirous of examining for himself the discoveries of Mr. Phillips will find by far the pleasantest and safest road. We blazed a couple of trees about two miles from the head of the gully in the box forest with a knife, and wrote pencilled directions to the diggings on the bark. [6]

03.06.1857. I visited yesterday the new rush or what is commonly called Dead Man's Gully. It is situate in the scrub, about eight miles from the Whipstick Diggings, and is reached by going along the new line of road from Moorehead's Reef for about five miles, and then diverging off the road into the bush to the right in an east by north direction, for about three miles. There are about 70 miners at work on the ground, and some of the claims are paying well, others are running from one and a half to 3 dwts to the tub, while others are scarcely getting the colour. The sinking is shallow with pipe clay bottoms, and the diggings are on a water-worn track or gully, in the centre of a somewhat spacious flat, presenting slightly auriferous indications, and hemmed in on either side by an impenetrable scrub with outlets of open timber ground at either end. There is one small branch store on the ground, and as the road becomes better known, doubtless others will follow. There is no direct path or beaten track from the 5 mile post on the main road to where the diggers are at work, and in consequence some difficulty is presented to strangers and others in reaching the ground, and there is considerable danger to new chums or persons unacquainted with bush travelling in attempting it. It is said by some of the "knowing ones" and very generally believed that this rush is a mere "decoy bait" from the rich incognito diggings already chronicled and alluded to in former despatches. ...

The new branch road that strikes off at right angles 3 miles on the main (north and south) road, and running between 2 and 3 miles in an east by south direction, opens up one of the most wild and picturesquely grand scrub countries that could be well conceived. The road passes close to the "black rock", a formation of the most fantastic form and singularly diversified character. It consists of huge colossal masses of a sort of decomposed granite intersected with veins or strata of a vitrified conglomerate of felspar. ...

Mining affairs are rather dull here at present, everybody being absorbed with the conflicting and exciting news about the new rushes, and there has been little or no addition to the population since my last, but many are leaving for Dead Man's Flat and the other Whipstick rushes. Notwithstanding, Scotchman’s Gully is still being worked in many parts with energy and apparent success, and Brandy Gully still retains its small population. No heavy finds have some to light since my last. A goodly number of miners have left the Sydney Flat rush for Dead Man's ...
of Dead Man's Gully - the road to it, its auriferous capabilities, and original discoverers. It is scarcely necessary to remark that the majority of these statements are only to be taken for what they are worth; and while some of them are substantially correct in general particulars, they are, on the other hand, defective in important details. It may be here generally remarked with regard to Dead Man's Gully, and the road to it, that no man unacquainted with the route, and who is a nonce in bush travelling, should attempt going there without a guide, or strict and well understood instructions where to go, and how to act after leaving the "Five Mile Post"... Considerable anxiety is naturally felt by the population here to know the exact whereabouts of these rushes, and speculation has been, as usual, quite rife on the subject for the last week. Many of those who have visited Dead Man's Gully have returned here again, preparing to chance it where the heavy nuggets are knocking about, and certainly if Scotchman's Gully only continue producing nuggets at the same rate it has hitherto done, no more desirable spot could be selected for a winter diggings. [9]

15.06.1857: There is no news of importance to communicate in the mining intelligence of this district. Phillip's Gully is still the attraction, and numbers of diggers are daily leaving this and going there, while a few are returning back again to their old quarters. Yesterday and today the reports from this gully have been rather favorable, and of all that is stated to be true concerning it, certainly there is no reason to despond. Three small stores and a butcher's shop are this day on the ground. ... At the present time there cannot be less than from 150 to 200 men in and about the gully at work. Water is not to be had. A large number of diggers have cojointly united to construct a dam for general purposes, and they have availed themselves of certain natural features which the gully presents ... No tidings of the rich alluvial diggings, still supposed to be in incognito, have yet come to hand. The gold found at Phillip's Gully, though coarse and sound seems to be from a different matrix and of a different description to the general run of Whipstick gold. Considerable quantities of washdirt are stacked up, waiting the coming of the rain. [10]

25.06.1857: The effects of the water dearth (for it now amounts to a dearth) is probably no where more tryingly felt than in the Whipstick ... The rush to Phillip's Gully still continues, and threatens to end in a general exodus from this part of the Whipstick. The diggers are daily leaving, and the population here is fast being transferred to Phillip's, where things are beginning to look up although matters there, as far as regards water, are still worse. Nevertheless, gold seems to be more equally distributed, and washdirt is being piled up in all direction. ... [11]

13.07.1857: From Phillip's things are not so encouraging as have been anticipated, although some parties are doing remarkably well; still a considerable falling off of population is observable. The Dead Horse Flat rush is now the attraction from this locality. ... [12]

28.07.1857: There is noting of importance to report in the mining intelligence of this district. The population is very much thinned by the drain to Ararat, and mining operations go on uninterruptedly. At Phillip's Gully, matters remain in statu quo, but the population is very small. ... There has been a bit of a rush this week to some payable ground in the vicinity of the Dead Man's Hut, but no heavy finds have come to hand. ... The present state of affairs. Phillip's Gully is anything but encouraging and although any man may without difficulty knock out a mere living here, yet it cannot, on the whole, be pronounced remunerative and payable ground. It is true, a few are doing well, but the majority are doing little better than grubbing themselves. The bulk of the population have left, and even the storekeepers and butchers talk of "lifting their beds and walking". This is certainly discouraging. [13]

1857: Whipstick - A note in 1857 tells us that one of the chief openers of the Whipstick was a Mr Moorehead, who discovered Sandfly Reef. Early that year Drunken Scotchman's Gully, Paddy's Gully and Sandfly and Brandy Gullies were opened up ...The gullies north-west of Scotchman's, near Flagstaff Hill, were discovered at this time, and in May 1857 Phillips and party discovered gold...
about eight miles to the north-east at what became Phillip's Gully, where 400 men were working in July. [14.146-247]

1857

The Bendigo Advertiser, 29 May 1857 - made Phillip's Gully Rush public - new and payable gold-field had been discovered by some parties working near the outskirts of the Whipstick Scrub, in the vicinity of Picininny Creek, about 28 miles from town. The greatest drawback to mining in the Whipstick had been the almost continual shortage of water. At Phillip's Gully, the diggers united in an effort to improve their supply. By mid-June it was possible for anyone to reach Phillip's Gully without becoming lost. From the recently-finished road from Scotchman's Gully to the northern plains, a rough track branched off to the new rush. At this rush the population was estimated at between 150 and 200. Three small stores and a butchers shop had been erected and the miners were busy building their new dam. The gold in this gully was very fine, no nuggets were found and only a few were successful. For most it was a failure and the end of June spelled "Finish" to this rush. Seven years later, Phillip's Gully was again the scene of a minor rush. In April 1864, some 50 miners were working here, but with unspectacular results. Today, Phillip's Gully is deserted, but numerous eroded, shallow holes remain. Also there are remnants of several puddling machines, relics of those who worked in the gully later. [15.33-37]

16.08.1858 - One or two tents are still to be seen at Phillip's Gully, whose respective occupants notwithstanding the close proximity of Elysian Flat are still strong of faith in this once promising gully. ... [16]

30.05.1859 - Some ground was opened on Thursday last, near Mr Goodfellow's dairy, on a flat leading to Phillip's Gully. Two holes have up to this time only been bottomed. Gold was found in each, but not of any moment. [17]

11.07.1859 - The miners here are about to form themselves into prospecting parties in order to find the continuation of the old lead, and also to prospect the flat near where Goodfellow's dairy used to be. Gold has been found thereabouts on some small made White Hills, better than half a mile to the east of the old lead. ... [18]

15.08.1863 - The country in the Whipstick wears a fresh green covering at this season; indeed the appearance of growth is wonderful in what appear such stray ground. ... The Whipstick, so far as population is concerned, has a desolate appearance. In Red Jacket a number of peoples are at work, most of them securing a livelihood, and dreaming when it will be his turn to get the nuggets that are every now and then found. There are rumours that some Chinamen found a nugget recently, each report giving it a different weight, from 5ozs to 5 pounds. In White and Black Horse gullies a few puddlers are at work. Dead Man's Gully is to all appearance more dead than alive. ... [19]

06.1864 - Philip Gully: 150 miners at work. [20.48-49]

09.1864 - Philip Gully: 40 miners at work. [20.46-47]

06.1865 - Manly Reef, Elysian Flat: 35ozs obtained from 30 to 40 tons of stone at 40 feet. [20.50-52]

02.09.1865 - Under date of yesterday our Raywood correspondent writes:- 2 cakes of gold were sold at the bank of Victoria this morning, the first weighing 7ozs 11dwt, the produce of 7 tons of stone from Manly's Reef, Phillip's Gully; the other weighed 5ozs 17dwt 12 grains, the produce of 9 tons of stone from the claim of Wyeth Brothers, Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat. ... [21]

15.09.1865 - Under date of yesterday our Raywood correspondent writes:- 2 men, named John Hookway and Frederick Loeser, registered a quartz claim of 200 yards this morning, situated half a mile from Phillip's Gully. They found the reef by using the tin dish. Three loads of surface quartz and red clay yielded 7ozs 4dwt of gold. The Mining Surveyor will survey the claim on the 15th. The lucky owners have named the reef the Somerset. [22]

09.1865 - Manly Reef, Elysian Flat: 25ozs obtained from 20 tons of stone. [20.54-55]

09.1865 - Nine new quartz claims have been registered:- 1, Somerset Reef, 200 yards, Phillip's Gully, Whipstick [20.54-55]

12.1865 - Manly Reef, Elysian Flat: 17ozs 11dwt obtained from 11 tons of stone.
Somerset Reef, Elysian Flat: 13ozs 10dwt obtained from 12 tons of stone.

07.06.1866... the Austrian, the Hope and Manly's reefs (are) all raising great quantities of stone. [23]

06.1866 Manly and Company, Philip's Gully, Elysian Flat: 20ozs obtained from 20 tons of stone at 90 feet.

Somerset Reef Company, Whipstick: 18ozs obtained from 12 tons of stone at 10 feet. [20.48-50]

06.1866 About a mile east of the Hope is Philip's Gully; the reef is called Manly. This reef has been worked for two years with excellent results, both as to the quantity of stone and yield of gold; the shaft as yet is only 60 feet down. Somerset is a good reef in Philip's Gully. [20.48-50]

04.07.1866 11 tons of stone from Manly's Reef, Phillip's Gully, produced 5ozs 2dwt. A new body of stone has been found on this reef, about 50 feet to the east of the old workings, which looks very well. [24]

19.07.1866 At Manly's Reef, Phillip's Gully, a new and large body of stone, which is supposed to be the main reef, has been discovered, and in which gold is plainly visible through it. [25]

12.1866 Barkly, Manly, Hope and Austrian Reefs, Elysian Flat: 148ozs 10dwt obtained from 170 tons of stone at between 60 and 100 feet. [20.45-46]

09.1878 Who Can Tell Company, Manly Reef: 88ozs 3dwt obtained from 598 tons of stone at between 30 and 50 feet in flat spurs. [26.29-30]

06.1879 Lease No 4050 for 5 acres 1 rood and 24 perches and 3 men granted on 3 June to C. Sinnott and others in Phillip's Gully. [27]

02.10.1885 Our Huntly correspondent writes:- I have been informed of a case in which it may truly be said that perseverance is about to be rewarded. The case in point is of the Who Can Tell Company, of Philip's Gully, Whipstick. This company to my own knowledge have been working for some time past, with but poor results, consequent on their having worked down to water. Being unable to master it without machinery, they for some time past have had it in the market with the intention of floating it into a large company, and in the meantime (some 12 or 15 months) they have been prospecting the dry ground, and last week their efforts were crowned with success, so much so that, on Saturday last they went into Sandhurst to withdraw the company from the market, and as Mr. J. G. Smith, one of the company informs me, with good reason, having struck stone that will yield from 4 to 6ozs to the ton. Previous to that, he informs me that they cut spurs which he is sure will yield from 10dwt to 1ozs to the ton, and the stone is about 30 feet from the surface, where they have struck it, and about 30 feet west of the back of their former workings, but as the party intend staring to sink a shaft this week on to the stone, and I contemplate visiting the spot when they reach it, I will then be in a position to send you more particulars... [28]

19.07.1887 The next stoppage (by the Sandhurst Prospecting Board) was at Phillip's Gully, from which two applications for assistance were received. J. Doyle and Company have been working for years with at times very fair results. They were now sinking a new shaft which is down 35 feet, and would sink to 150 feet (water level), to cut a stone which in an adjoining shaft had given half an ounce per ton, but which would not pay owing to the distance they had to cart. It would take £200 to do all the preliminary work. The application of W. F. Butler was of a similar character. He proposed to sink a new shaft west to cut stone previously worked, and which had yielded as high as 2ozs 10dwt per ton. [29]

29.08.1931 In the scrub to the east and north (of Flagstaff Hill) there are numerous gullies where gold has been found in considerable quantities. Among these are the Whipstick, Beehive, Phillip's and Skylark. All these gullies, however, are being exploited by the fossickers at the present. ... [30]

Sluicing on Bendigo
16.09.1858 The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. “German Harry’s” machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as
handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [31]

06.1874: At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well.[20]

06.1875: A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [20]

12.1877: The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [20]

03.1878: Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [20]

03.1878: Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [26, 27]

09.1878: Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c., of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...

The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.

To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000 gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals

22,267,000 gals [20]

15.12.1879: The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [32, 33]

22.08.1885: In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as "Proud Bobby" and "Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [34]

1890: 3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [35]
1891 4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [35]

1892 5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [35]

1893 5576ozs 13dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [35]

1894 8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [34]

1895 5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [36]

1896 14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [36]

1897 15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [36]

01.10.1898 Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer's Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [37]

1898 15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 12,680ozs 15dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [36]

1899 12,444ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [36]

1900 12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

1901 9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

1902 12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [36]
1903 9,860 ozs 19 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8,268 ozs 4 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

1904 12,745 ozs 10 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481 ozs 3 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [36]

1905 12,748 ozs 15 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260 ozs 11 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district.

Break O'Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48 ozs 3 dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo.

Murray and Company: 122 ozs 6 dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [36]

1906 9,269 ozs 12 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6,164 ozs 11 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district.

Break O'Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53 ozs 2 dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [36]

1907 18,696 ozs 5 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317 ozs 6 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1908 6,293 ozs 19 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4,618 ozs 17 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1909 7,292 ozs 10 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2,035 ozs 10 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1910 19,920 ozs 15 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 13,020 ozs 11 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 860 ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 1,210 ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1911 2,519 ozs 18 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2,070 ozs 15 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 853 ozs 18 dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 622 ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 1,560 ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1912 2,812 ozs 1 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2,562 ozs 14 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1,255 ozs 19 dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 541 ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Green Brothers Dredge: 1,170 ozs 6 dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of...
ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1913: 3310 ozs 4 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182 ozs 12 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1750 ozs 11 dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 463 ozs 10 dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1914: 2859 ozs 17 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721 ozs 9 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1575 ozs 8 dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 529 ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25 ozs 8 dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1915: 3582 ozs 11 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434 ozs 1 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 1686 ozs 12 dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 175 ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194 ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1916: 5000 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 897 ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo.

B. Ford's Dredge: 250 ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194 ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1917: 2114 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district.

Bendigo Dredging: 897 ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1918: 705 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [35]

1919: 826 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [38]

1920: 587 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [38]

1921: 988 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 140 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [38]

1922: 914 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial
miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [38]

1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [38]

1924: 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [38]

1925: 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district.

Knapman and Wingrave: 168ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [38]

1926: 367ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [38]

1927: 287ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [38]

1928: 573ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [38]

1929: 585ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [38]

1930: 688ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [39]

24.08.1931 Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [40]

1931: 3867ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district.

H. E. Knapman: 174ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1932: 5051ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district.

H. E. Knapman: 125ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1933: 4429ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial miners in the district.

H. E. Knapman: 119ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1934: 5395ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial miners in the district.

H. E. Knapman: 252ozs obtained from 2.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [39]

1935: 4690ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial miners in the district. [39]
1936: 7196 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district.

Aurum Dredging Development: 132 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

C. Barton and G. Barton: 14 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

Henderson and party: 21 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Knapman and party: 85 ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Meldrum and party: 42 ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

G. Miller: 28 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Noble and party: 20 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

Stringer and party: 43 ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.

1936 (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their work this year and are transferring to another location.

The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo goldfield for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>DWT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1937: 2151 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district.

Aurum Dredging Development: 32 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

Henderson and Hopgood: 13 ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 48 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 67 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
1939: 2671ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district.

H. R. Hansen: 38ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

1940: 4662ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district.

A. Maynard: 67ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 41ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

1941: 682ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district.

G. Barton and party: 4.9ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
J. N. Day: 62ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
P. S. Floyd: 16ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
R. Lethlean: 60ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
P. Lougoon: 110ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 24ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
H. L. Rigbye and party: 85ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

1942: 510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

1943: 527ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district.

D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

1944: 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [41]

1945: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

1946: 423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

Styles Brothers: 43ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [41]

1947: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 9ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully.

Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [41]

1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [41]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district.

P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [39]

1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district.

Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully.

P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [42]

1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district.

P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat.

Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [42]

1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial miners in the district.

Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [42]

1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.

Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [42]
1954: 81 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.
A. J. Brauman: 16 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1955: 1916 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial miners in the district.
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71 ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk.
W. J. Lock: 31 ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.
W. K. Wood: 31 ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.
W. K. Wood: 114 ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44 ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk.
W. K. Wood: 181 ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.
W. K. Wood: 135 ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district.
W. K. Wood: 60 ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1963: G. Holt: 3 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1964: G. Holt: 61 ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]

1965: G. Holt: 8 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [42]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

PETER THE GREAT (LEFT HAND BRANCH) ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

Location
Parcel No. P127149, State Forest, west of Neilborough Road, Peter the Great Gully, Whipstick

Map Reference
- Puddling machine No. 1 - Epsom 1:25,000 - BV563.354
- Puddling machine No. 2 - Epsom 1:25,000 - BV562.353
- Puddling machine No. 3 - Epsom 1:25,000 - BV559.354
- Puddling machine No. 4 - Epsom 1:25,000 - BV563.358

Victorian Heritage Register: No
National Estate Register: No
Planning Scheme: No

Description
Puddling machine No. 1
On the south side of a track leading generally west and about 300 metres from Neilborough Road is an outline of a puddling machine. The inner mound of this machine is still visible, but has weathered badly, partly filling the puddling trench. There is no sign of the wooden pivot post.

Puddling machine No. 2
This is located about 100 metres south of Puddling machine No. 1. The puddling machine's outline is very weathered and has a large tree growing from it.

Puddling machine No. 3
This is located 10 metres east of Puddling machine No. 2. Half of the puddling machine's outline has been sluiced away. What survives is very weathered. Upstream from the puddling machine site a low earthen embankment has been placed across the gully. The dam's outlet channel has been repaired with concrete.

Puddling machine No. 4
This is located 300 metres north of Puddling machine No. 1, behind and to the west of private land. The inner mound of the puddling machine has been quarried, leaving only the outer mound to mark the site. The puddling machine site has a large tree growing on it and is associated with a small dam.

Alluvial workings
The western side of the right branch of the gully at a point just downstream from Puddling Machine No. 1 and as far as its junction with the main gully has been extensively sluiced hydraulically to bedrock. Downstream (south and east) of Puddling machine No. 3, is a patch of shallow alluvial holes which have been sunk through a half-metre surface layer of compacted cemented gravels. There are some 40 holes visible, covering an area 70 by 30 metres. The shape of the holes range from circular to rectangular in shape. Most of the holes have silted-up. The gully is relatively undisturbed.

History
Period of activity: unknown; initially worked in the mid 1850s so the puddling machines may all date from the 19th century; but as the gully has been sluiced then they may be no earlier than 1930.

Thematic Context
Mining
Comparative Examples

This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Creek (1852), Fiddlers Green (1852), Peter the Great (1856), Elysian Lead (1857) and Phillips Gully (1857). The rush to Myers Creek was more extensive and involved more miners. Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district. Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron's Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter's Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully. Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron's Dam, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter's Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts. The use of concrete at puddling machine site No.3 suggests a twentieth century activity.

Statement of Significance

The site has potential for education and interpretation as it contains a sequence of uses or functions over time from well-defined shallow alluvial sinkings and puddling to ground sluicing (criterion C and criterion D).

Level of Significance

Local

Recommendation

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, further historical and archaeological work should be undertaken to determine the provenance of the puddling machines.

Heritage Boundaries

The site is situated at the head of the leftmost branch of Peter the Great Gully, extending 500 metres from north to south and for 50 metres either side of the centre line of the gully.

References

4. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
7. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 22 August 1885, p5,
col.7.
10. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
11. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
13. Department of Mining and Industrial Development, records.
15. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

15. 08.1856 I have not thought it necessary to notice the diggings on the south-eastern extremity of the Whipstick, such as Peter the Great, One-Eye, Blue Jacket etc, as the public are already familiar with these places through the reports of your special correspondent. [2]
1856 Whipstick - Early in 1856 Myer's Flat had been rushed, Wellington Gully was opened and there was a rush to Adelaide Hill in the Whipstick. ... In April 1856 'a new gully in the Whipstick' was discovered and 600 men were there in a few days. The chief places worked at that time were on the Whipstick verge, at Red Jacket and Blue Jacket Gullies, German Gully and One-Eye, where a one-eyed man got twenty-seven ounces of gold in a patch. In May 1856 surfacing on Canadian Hill was opened up, and a few weeks later Dead Horse Gully, Centipede and Sydney Flat depopulated the other places round about, and there was a rush of about 3000 men. In July 1856 Peter the Great's Gully and Opossum Gully were opened, and the following December there was a large rush near Wood's Pick and Shovel Hotel ...[1.246]

Sluicing on Bendigo

16.09.1858 The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry's" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [3]
06.1874 At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well.[4]
06.1875 A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [4]
12.1877 The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [4]
03.1878 Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for
sluicing purposes [4]

03.1878: Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [4.27]

09.1878: Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...

The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.

To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000 gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals

22.12.1879: The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90 ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [5, 6]

22.08.1885: In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [7]

1889: 3293 ozs 3 dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [8]

1891: 4944 ozs 9 dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [8]

1892: 5750 ozs 2 dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [8]

1893: 5576 ozs 13 dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [8]

1894: 3065 ozs 2 dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600 ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [8]

1895: 5489 ozs 18 dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and
1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [9]

1896: 14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [9]

1897: 15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [9]

01.10.1898: Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer's Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [10]

1898: 15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 12,680ozs 15dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [9]

1899: 12,444ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [9]

1900: 12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [9]

1901: 9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [9]

1902: 12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [9]

1903: 9846ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [9]

1904: 12,745ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [9]

1905: 12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district. [9]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [9]

Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [9]

1906: 9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district. [9]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [9]
1907. 18,696 ozs 5 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317 ozs 6 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

1908. 6293 ozs 19 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618 ozs 17 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

1909. 2926 ozs 10 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035 ozs 10 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

1910. 1992 ozs 15 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302 ozs 11 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

Bendigo Dredging: 86 ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
Green Brothers Dredge: 121 ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

1911. 2519 ozs 18 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070 ozs 15 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

Bendigo Dredging: 853 ozs 18 dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
B. Ford's Dredge: 622 ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
Green Brothers Dredge: 156 ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

1912. 2812 ozs 1 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562 ozs 14 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

Bendigo Dredging: 1255 ozs 19 dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
B. Ford's Dredge: 541 ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
Green Brothers Dredge: 117 ozs 6 dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

1913. 3310 ozs 4 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182 ozs 12 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

Bendigo Dredging: 1750 ozs 11 dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
B. Ford's Dredge: 463 ozs 10 dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

1914. 2859 ozs 17 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721 ozs 9 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

Bendigo Dredging: 1575 ozs 8 dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
B. Ford's Dredge: 529 ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]  
F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25 ozs 8 dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

1915. 3582 ozs 11 dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434 ozs 1 dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners
Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [11]

1916: 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district. [8]

Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

1917: 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [8]

Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [8]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [11]

1918: 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [8]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [11]

1920: 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [11]

1921: 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [11]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [11]

1922: 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [11]

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [11]

1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district. [11]

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [11]

1924: 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [11]

Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [11]

1925: 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district. [11]

Knapman and Wingrave: 168ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [11]

1926: 367ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [11]

Knapman and Wingrave: 287ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial
miners in the district. [11]

1928: 573ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial
miners in the district. [11]

1929: 585ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial
miners in the district. [11]

1930: 688ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial
miners in the district. [12]

24.08.1931: Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near
Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports
received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working
under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [16]

1931: 3867ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial
miners in the district. [12]

H. E. Knapman: 174ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at
Bendigo. [12]

1932: 5051ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial
miners in the district. [12]

H. E. Knapman: 125ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
[12]

1933: 4290ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial
miners in the district. [12]

H. E. Knapman: 119ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at
Bendigo. [12]

1934: 5395ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial
miners in the district. [12]

Day and Mason: 41ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
[12]

H. E. Knapman: 252ozs obtained from 2.25 acres of ground by sluicing at
Bendigo. [12]

1935: 4609ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial
miners in the district. [12]

1936: 7196ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial
miners in the district. [12]

Aurum Dredging Development: 132ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [12]
C. Barton and G. Barton: 14ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [12]

Henderson and party: 21ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by
sluicing at Bendigo. [12]

Knapman and party: 85ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at
Bendigo. [12]

Meldrum and party: 42ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at
Bendigo. [12]

G. Miller: 28ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at
Bendigo. [12]

Noble and party: 20ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing
at Bendigo. [12]

Stringer and party: 43ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by
sluicing at Bendigo. [12]

1936: (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were
erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water
restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until
September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has
provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their work this year and are transferring to another location.

The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo gold field for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>Dwt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1937: 1151 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district. [12]

Aurum Dredging Development: 32 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [12]

Henderson and Hopgood: 13 ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [12]

D. J. Rigbye: 48 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [12]

1938: 2346 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district. [14]

H. R. Hansen: 22 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

D. J. Rigbye: 67 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1939: 2671 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district. [14]

H. R. Hansen: 38 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

D. J. Rigbye: 46 ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25 ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1940: 4862 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district. [14]

A. Maynard: 67 ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

D. J. Rigbye: 61 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1941: 682 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district. [14]

G. Barton and party: 4.9 ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
J. N. Day: 62ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
P. S. Floyd: 16ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
R. Lethlean: 60ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
P. Lougoon: 110ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
D. J. Rigbye: 240ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 850ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1942
510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [14]
J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1943
527ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district. [14]
D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1944
30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district. [14]
J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [14]

1945
119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [14]
J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1946
423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district. [14]
J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1947
119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [14]
J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]

1948
262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district. [14]
J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [14]
Bendigo. [14]
D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [25]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [12]
P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [12]

Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [12]

1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [15]
Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [15]

C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully. [15]
P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [15]

Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [15]

G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [15]

1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district. [15]
P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [15]

Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [15]

1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial miners in the district. [15]
Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [15]

1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [15]

Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [15]

1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [15]

A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [15]

1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial miners in the district. [15]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [15]

W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [15]

W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [15]

1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [15]


W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [15]

1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [15]

H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [15]

W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [15]

1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [15]

W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [15]

1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [15]

W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]
Towards the head of the gully there is a shallow dam which still retains water. The nearby puddling machine site has almost vanished, but in the gully downstream from the dam there is a band of shallow alluvial workings. Further upstream, at the junction of Peter the Great and Blue Jacket gullies, are twelve small mullock heaps, partially bulldozed to fill the shafts of some shallow reef workings. The largest of the heaps has a radius of 20 metres and stands 5 metres high. There are no machinery footings associated with this heap.

**History**
Period of activity: 1856-1866

**Comparative Examples**
Within the study area there are at least seventeen dams constructed to provide water for mining purposes. These are: Peter the Great Dam (right hand branch)(1856), Wallace Reef (1856), Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron's Dam (1858), Old Tom Reef (1860), No.7 Reservoir (1861), Frederick the Great (1865), Raywood Reservoir (1865), Frühling Reef (1871), Liddell's (probably 1876), at least one at Fiddler's Green (by 1879), Elliott’s Reef (by 1887), Christoff Reef (1895), Wilson's Hill (by 1896), Lightning Hill (by 1903), on the ridge above the Lancashire Reef workings (by1908) and New Moon Consolidated (by 1910). Several of these dams are still serviceable and at least three are still in use. These three are Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858) and No.7 Reservoir (by 1861). This dam would appear to be the oldest, if indeed it was associated with the shallow alluvial workings extending downstream for several hundred metres.

This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Creek (1852), Fiddlers Green (1852), Peter the Great (1856), Elysian Lead (1857) and Phillips Gully (1857). The rush to Myers Creek was more extensive and involved more miners.

Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron’s Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter’s Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully.

Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron’s Dam, but then only by a process of elimination.
That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter's Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts.

Statement of Significance
The site has a representative sample of shallow alluvial and reef workings (criterion C). It contains what is probably the oldest mining dam in the Bendigo region and an early, relatively intact and representative area of shallow alluvial workings which has potential for education and interpretation (criterion A and criterion D).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area within the Blue Jacket Reef Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries
The Blue Jacket Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lennon Road between Prowse Road and the junction of One Eye Gully and Opossum Gully, on the south by an eastern branch of One Eye Gully, on the east by a line 75 metres east of the reef workings in one of the northern branches of One Eye Gully, extending northwards to the reef workings in Blue Jacket Gully and then further north and east at the same distance along Blue Jacket Gully and Peter the Great Gully to a cross track between the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road and Whipstick Road, on the north by this cross track, on the north west by a line 75 metres north west of Peter the Great Gully and Mosquito Gully to a point on the line of Lennon Road extended.

References
3. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.

Notes
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998
Chronology
15. 08.1856: I have not thought it necessary to notice the diggings on the south-eastern extremity of the Whipstick, such as Peter the Great, One-Eye, Blue Jacket etc, as the public are already familiar with these places through the reports of your special correspondent. [3]
20. 1856: Whipstick - Early in 1856 Myer's Flat had been rushed, Wellington Gully was opened and there was a rush to Adelaide Hill in the Whipstick. ... In April 1856 'a new gully in the Whipstick' was discovered and 600 men were there in a few days. The chief places worked at that time were on the Whipstick verge, at Red Jacket and Blue Jacket Gullies, German Gully and One-Eye, where a one-eyed man got twenty-seven ounces of gold in a patch. In May 1856 surfacing on Canadian Hill was opened up, and a few weeks later Dead Horse Gully, Centipede and Sydney Flat depopulated the other places round about, and there was a rush of about 3000 men. In July 1856 Peter the Great's Gully and Opossum Gully were opened, and the following December there was a large rush near Wood's Pick and Shovel Hotel ...[1.246]
19. 09.1864: Peter the Great Reef: 2 reef miners at work. [3.37-40]
12.1864: Peter the Great Reef: 4 reef miners at work. [3.39-42]
03.1865: Peter the Great: 4 reef miners at work. [3.42-44]
06.1865: Peter the Great Reef: 4 reef miners at work. [3.43-44]
09.1865: Peter the Great Reef: 4 reef miners at work. [3.47-49]
12.1865: Peter the Great Reef: 6 reef miners at work. [3.45-46]
03.1866: Peter the Great Reef: 8 reef miners at work. [3.44-45]
06.1866: Peter the Great Reef: 4 reef miners at work. [3.41-43]
09.1866: Peter the Great Reef: 2 reef miners at work. [3.43-45]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

RAYWOOD CHANNEL WATER RACE

Other Names
Location  Parcel No.P127176, State Park,

Map Reference  Epsom 1:25,000 - BV550.414

Description  A trench, generally and approximately trapezoidal in section, sometimes lined in concrete, approximately 1.5 metres in width, generally open and cut along the contour, with culverts at road/track crossings, connecting Blue Jacket Gully reservoir to Cockatoo Hill reservoir, and beyond to Neilborough and Raywood, or beyond by a branch channel to Sebastian. At a point approximately 200 metres north-east of the junction of Scotsmans Track and Old Tom Road, Scotchman's Gully, there is a water race tunnel. A 40 metre-long trench leads to the entrance of a tunnel passing through a low hill. In constructing the tunnel, a series of shafts was cut down to the tunnel depth along its entire length, and the tunnel was driven from the bottom of one shaft to the next. A total of twenty-two shafts were sunk, at 6 foot intervals, each having its own rectangular wooden collar. At the tunnel's east end is another long section of trench. The water race has now been diverted around the site by a concrete channel. The wooden collars of the shafts are decaying and some shafts are collapsing.

History  Period of activity: 1886-1998+

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  There are few examples of water races within the study area. The only other ones are the Wilson's Hill Channel and the raceway on the ridge above the Lancashire reef workings. Raceways rarely have tunnels; the only other ones to be found in the neighbourhood are on the Coliban water race. These are much earlier and are lined.

Statement of Significance  The lack of water and the flatness of much of the landscape (which made storage dams difficult to construct) were factors influential in determining the progress of mining in the Whipstick area throughout most of the nineteenth century. Before the construction of this raceway the supply of water to such settlements as Sebastian, Neilborough and Raywood was also precarious. After its construction it provided a stimulus to mining at those sites in its proximity (e.g. Old Tom and Flagstaff Hill)(criterion A). The site also has potential to illustrate aspects of Victoria’s cultural heritage due to the intactness of the raceway and linking together of sites representative of mining in the Whipstick (criterion C).

Level of Significance  Regional

Recommendation  The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in
accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, a walking track should be progressively constructed to provide access to the water race and the significant mining sites in its vicinity.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The site is defined for 5 metres either side of the raceway from Blue Jacket Gully Reservoir to Cockatoo Hill Reservoir and includes all conduits, culverts, tunnels and sluiceheads.

**References**

5. “Mining Intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 15 March 1857.
60. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, Thursday, 15 July 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 17 July 1858.
63. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 2 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 August 1858.
64. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 7 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 11 August 1858.
67. “Mining intelligence. The new rush to the Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 16 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 18 August 1858.
68. “Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 27 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 26 August 1858.
69. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, 8 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 10 September 1858.
70. “Bendigo mining intelligence. The Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 15 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 16 September 1858.
71. “Bendigo mining intelligence. The Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 15 October 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 9 October 1858.
73. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, 26 October 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 29 October 1858.
74. “Elysian Flat as it is.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 23 December 1858.
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81. “Skylark Gully.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 12 December 1860, p2, col.3.
82. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk and Huntly division.
83. “Mining memoranda. The Whipstick.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 16 November 1861, p2, col.3.
85. Abstracts of the Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
86. “Mining. The rush at the Seven Mile Hut, Myers’ Creek.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 1 June 1863, p2, cols.5/6.
87. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
88. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood subdivision.
89. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.
90. “Raywood.” From our own Correspondent, Tuesday, 19 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 20 July 1864, p2, col.3.
93. “Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, Wednesday, 6 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 7 June 1866.
95. “Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, Monday, 18 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 June 1866.
96. “Raywood.” From our own Correspondent, Monday, 14 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 16 October 1867, p2, col.6.
97. “Myer’s Creek rush.” From our own Correspondent.” Saturday, 30 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 2 December 1867, p2, col.5.
98. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district.
110. “Whipstick, Bendigo.” The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette, 10 October 1868, 93.
111. The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette.
115. “Deputations to the Minister of Mines (Mr. Dickson).” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 17 May 1880, p2, cols.6/7.
117. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 7 June 1881, p3,
118. "Water supply for the Whipstick." Friday, 13 November 1885, p3, col.2.
119. "A battery for the Whipstick." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 8 October 1897, p2, col.5.
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Notes
Two Italians drove the tunnel . . .(and) were paid £10 per week. Tunnel driven east-west, thought they would pick up a reef on the way. Water goes as far as Raywood. [122]

The Raywood Channel passes in close proximity to: Blue Jacket Reef (White Jacket Gully) mine and alluvial workings, Jib Horse Gully alluvial workings, Old Tom Reef mine and alluvial workings, Old Tom Reef

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
1852: Three quarters of a mile north of the site of the Government Camp rose Lightning Hill . . . The pioneers knew it as White Horse Hill ...soon to be gouged and ever scarred. It too, contained golden treasure. By the close of 1852 most of the gullies around Bendigo and as far north as Sailors Gully had been worked, although some were still receiving attention. A few miles north, over the ridges from Sailors Gully, Sydney Flat let and neighbouring gullies were perhaps the northern limit of activity on the Bendigo goldfield at the time. W S Urquhart's map of Bendigo diggings, 1852, shows Wellington and Napoleon Gullies, Fiddler's Green (now Fiddler's Gully) and Sydney Flat as the northern limits of the Bendigo goldfield.
C. Rudston Read, a gold commissioner, established his camp at Myers Creek in 1852. Napoleon Gully was about a mile east of his camp ...The extension of mining was in 1852 temporarily halted along a curved line extending some ten miles from Sydney Flat, along the northern side of Lightning Hill to Epsom. The Whipstick had been reached. The scrub and dense forest, together with a shortage of water and a reduction of population were perhaps the main reasons for halting the advance. [1.8-9]

15. .01.1857: The Bendigo correspondent of the Argus has the following interesting account of a visit to the diggings in the Whipstick scrub:- Having heard of several nuggets, none of them of a considerable size, that have lately been found in the Whipstick, a distance of about 15 miles from here, I determined to ascertain from personal observation what was going on in this gold-bearing land of mystery, and so a few mornings since I tramped out to the Ironstone Hill, four miles from here, where I had engaged to meet a nautical blue shirt, who promised to act as a guide, a promise which he kept much better than another, that I should secure "lots of wild turkey and pigeons, as many as you can carry". The Ironstone Hill lies about half a mile to the westward of Epsom and had formerly only one lead, which runs about north-west. The sinking is very hard, through cement, which although pretty rich, takes so long to get through, that its value is much counter-balanced by this disadvantage. A few weeks previous to my visiting it, the place was almost deserted in consequence of the temptations held out by Epsom, but within the last few days another lead running in a north-easterly direction which has been opened after the other, and portions of which had yielded splendid returns, but had also been almost entirely deserted, was rushed in consequence of the holes most in advance having 'struck it heavy'. In a short time the news was passed to Epsom, and those who had been shepherding their holes at the Ironstone Hill whilst working at the former place came over, and in a very few hours the lead was extended half a mile and holes going down on all sides. It is supposed that
the lead will join the Epsom lead. The ground between them is in the form of a
wedge, the thin end pointing northwards. The sinking is from 50 to 70 feet.
My pioneer being ready we descended the hill and plunged into the bush; here
onward we went over a flat and up a range, down into the gully below, and up
the opposite range, and so on mile after mile. Everywhere was quartz. Quartz
in the gullies broken into fragments, and unpleasantly introducing itself to your
attention by the effects upon your feet. Quartz on the ranges, making them
snowy white, and constantly cropping out in large masses. ...
When some distance on our road we overtook a miner washing a dish of stuff.
According to his statement he had had a good prospect; but had sunk several
holes and scarcely got "the color". ...
Still proceeding onward and passing through a country displaying the finest
auriferous indications we reached a solitary log hut. Here a quantity of surfacing
had been heaped up and a puddling machine and dam constructed, in
readiness for the winter rains. The party, a small one, was composed of
Germans, had been in this state of isolation for some time. At first starting they
had neither horse or dray; now they possessed both; it would appear, therefore,
that they, like others, have been successful in discovering nuggets, for during
their stay they have had little if any water wherewith to wash their stuff. Onward
still, till at length we reach the object of my journey, the scene of the late rush,
which we approached through a lane cut through the Whipstick by some
speculative storekeeper, who thought to find his profit in turning the tide of life
past his store. From the lane we debouched on Drunken Scotchman's Gully,
which is about a mile and a half in length, and from six to eight claims wide.
Adjacent to it is Blacksmith, Sunfly and Brandy gullies. In the last named, during
the past week, several very respectable nuggets have been found: one weighing
40 ounces and another 70 ounces. The gold is extremely patchy and a miner
may work for a long time and obtain scarcely anything, and then suddenly come
upon a rich deposit all nuggety. Prior to the Dunolly rush (of July 1856), a large
population was working in these gullies, but with it came their desertion, and
few, if any, have returned. Water is very scarce, as is usual on all new ground,
indeed, this is one of the principal reasons which have prevented the tract of
country between Ironstone Hill and these gullies from being worked. [2]
There has been a large influx of strangers and visitors in this
locality in the neighbourhood of Drunken Scotchman's, Brandy and Sand Fly
gullies, since I last addressed you from the Whipstick, many of whom have
camped and settled down with the determination of giving these diggings a fair
trial, and the majority of those who have made a flying visit have expressed their
intention of returning again as soon as the rain sets in. ... The sinking is
shallow - from five to nine feet - the gold patchy and nuggetty, the driving easy,
the bottoms are composed of pipe clay, sandstone and slate. ... The Bendigo correspondent to the Argus has given a very graphic and correct
account, in a visit recently made to this district, of the auriferous appearance of
the country, and this gentleman's description of the splendid prospect of bush
scenery from Moorehead's Reef is faithful, and not overdrawn. ...
Several nuggets, varying from one to six ounces, have been to my personal
knowledge taken up since my last communication, and there has been a report
of some heavy nuggets having been found in some newly opened ground; but
as I have not seen any of these nuggets or the parties who found them, I cannot
authenticate the correctness of the report, but give it as I received it. ...
Mr. Panton, the Resident Warden, paid a visit to these diggings a few days ago,
and from his enquiries from several of the diggers, it would seem that a more
direct and main line of road, or approach to the Whipstick is in contemplation by
"the powers that be". A greater boon than this could not be afforded the
inhabitants of the Whipstick and the public at large. The present roads are
indirect, circuitous, detached and disconnected, in fact, a regular bush chart, or
topographical map, to enable strangers to reach the Whipstick, is almost
indispensably necessary, the route usually traversed being through Eaglehawk
and Sailor's Gully, on to Sydney Flat, from which place there is a road of about
nine miles nearly unfit to travel in wet weather, and making a total distance of
about 16 miles from Bendigo. A more distant route again than this is round by
Myer’s Flat, past the Creek Hotel and Mann’s Paddock, the shingle hut, on to the Four Mile Hut from whence a circuitous route of a few miles through the bush will enable the traveller to catch the Sydney Flat Road, which leads up into the Whipstick, a rather difficult and precarious road certainly to strangers and parties unacquainted with bush travelling. By far the shortest and most available road is to strike off the main road about half a mile on the Bendigo side of Eaglehawk township and between it and the Lord Nelson Hotel, and after pulling up White Horse Gully, which you cross over, and keeping Eaglehawk and White Horse at your back, and passing through the two adjoining gullies, diverging a little to the left, you come out on a track that will lead out at Fiddler’s Green, then by following the main road, you pass through Black Horse, and by taking the turn off to the right when coming out at Black Horse Flat, this road followed for about five miles, will lead direct into the Whipstick diggings. From Bendigo this road is not computed at more than 10 or 11 miles.

About a mile from the Whipstick, as you approach the digging on the Black Horse Flat Road, a substantial new puddling machine, with comfortable bark hut and four-horse stable attached, and immediately adjoining the right hand side of the road, attracts the visitors attention. Three months ago a small white tent with a small hand (iron tub) puddling machine not larger apparently than a couple of good large sized puddling tubs, worked by two men, and supplied by surfacing of about three inches in deepness, in a wheel barrow, occupied the same spot. Since then the scene is changed for the better. The machine above alluded has replaced the sheet-iron hand tub, horses supply the stuff and work the machine, and a neat and comfortable bark hut has taken the place of the small hatter-like tent, with a substantial four-horse stable adjoining, while a huge pile of wash stuff awaits the winter rains, and a capacious and well-formed dam seems ready to receive a supply of water when it comes. ... [31]

03.03.1857 Since my last, things remain nearly in status quo, on these diggings with the difference that the timely supply of water afforded by the late rains is fast disappearing, while the population is evidently on the increase. ...

While I write a bush fire of rather formidable dimensions is raging in the vicinity of Brandy Gully, which it has actually cleaned and burnt out. [4]

15.03.1857 The great want of water, which is everywhere felt throughout the diggings, prevents the occurrence of any very particularly interesting event at the present moment. Go in what direction we will we find puddling machines at a standstill, and the diggers generally relaxing their usual energy, whether in new or old ground. Thus, in the Whipstick, we find that there are not more than 200 to 250 persons at present located, while we believe that the ground is capable of affording remunerative work to at least 2000, were the water convenient and tolerably abundant. The coming winter will unquestionably develop the resources of this valuable and somewhat extensive portion of the Bendigo goldfield, and we have no doubt that many a lucky miner will make a tolerable pile there within the ensuing six months. We were shown on Sunday several samples of gold from various gullies in the scrub. They were all of a heavy nuggety description. One lot from some ground in the vicinity of Moorhead’s reef weighing 2ozs 1dwt was obtained from a single tub full of stuff. Another lot, in the possession of the proprietor of the Sydney Store, head of Drunken Scotchman’s Gully, was obtained in the latter locality, and was a splendid sample of shotty gold. Numerous parties are in the habit of visiting these diggings, but very few remain for any length of time. Some few put down holes, and if not at once successful leave immediately. [5]

19.03.1857 The rain which fell on Monday has in some measure replenished the tanks and holes throughout the diggings. ... There has been somewhat of a rush to the Whipstick since the rain, but I am mistaken if the population in that quarter had been increased thereby. Most if not all the adventurers will have no doubt returned to the quarters they had left. [6]

30.04.1857 A gentleman who arrived in town yesterday afternoon from the Whipstick speaks in very favourable terms of the diggings in the above-named locality, but complains of the hindrance to gold mining operations consequent upon the extreme scarcity of water. With the exception of a transient shower on Monday, the Whipstick has not shared in the rain with which Sandhurst has
recently been favoured. ... A report reached town last evening, which we believe to be authentic, that a nugget of 4 pounds weight has been found in the Whipstick diggings within the last day or two. On Tuesday evening Mr. George Dearey obtained a nugget weighing 19ozs 7dwt. Another was found yesterday morning weighing 23ozs. Several smaller ones have lately been found. ... The cutting of the road through the scrub has begun. It commences at the Flagstaff; on the top of the hill on which Moorhead’s Reef is situated. [7]

05.05.1857: On Wednesday last a nugget weighing 26ozs was taken up in Scotchman’s Gully, a short distance from the claim where the 370ozs nugget was found; and on the day previous (Tuesday) another nugget was taken out of a different claim in the same ground weighing 19ozs. This gully has proved itself truly prolific in nuggets, and if it only go on producing them at this rate, it will set Brandy Gully and all the other gullies in the shade, and would require to have its name changed from Drunken Scotchman’s Gully to Nuggetty Gully - a name more in keeping perhaps with its auriferous properties. ... The recent showers here have been a perfect boon to the miners of this district. Water was beginning to be very scarce indeed, and rain most anxiously looked for. A considerable quantity of washdirt has been piled up for want of water, and will now undergo the final process. [8]

19.05.1857: A considerable number of miners have left within the last few days for the Sydney Flat rush, and numbers are again daily arriving, so that on the whole the population may be regarded as having neither diminished or increased during the past week. ... An immense quantity of ground has been opened up, it cannot be denied - in Scotchman’s Gully especially - without any suitable remuneration or paying returns whatever having been obtained and a very large proportion of those who have left have gone away with feelings of dissatisfaction and disappointment, not so much at the Whipstick diggings as at their own ill luck and want of success, for in some instances, the men working in the next claims to these unlucky ones have hit upon it heavy. A curious instance of how Dame Fortune showers her favours on the persevering and the “die hards” and the capricious manner in which these favours are sometimes bestowed, occurred here on Monday last. Two mates had been working together for better than two weeks without any success whatever, and they were well nigh on their last legs for “tucker”. One of them was desirous of trying a piece of ground farther up the gully (nearly as high up as Luxton’s smithy, Scotchman’s Gully) that he fancied when first arriving there. His mate would not hear of it, and in language not very polite, expressed his determination of leaving the Whipstick at once, which he eventually did. The other man remained, and set to work as a hatter in the ground he had fancied. The first day he sold a 3½ozs nugget, and exhibited two other smaller sized nuggets, got the same day, and the final result of little better than two days’ work amounted to upwards of £57 sterling. The ground has, of course, been slightly rushed. ... Water is becoming somewhat scarce, and rain is anxiously looked for. ... [9]

22.05.1857: Scotchman’s Gully still continues to yield small nuggets, from half ounces upwards. Fine gold in particles below specific gravity, and consequently light enough to float on water, is no uncommon thing here. On various parts of these diggings I have seen considerable quantities of it months ago very frequently. That a regular lead of fine gold exists I believe to be purely hypothetical. The surface soil in many places produces very fine gold, and if clear water could be had for the puddling of it, would unquestionably yielding in paying quantities very fine gold of this description is useless and absurd to attempt to extract with muck water or by that old experimental process - blanket lined sides. Nothing but clear water, and plenty of it too, and very cautious treatment in cradling off, will disintegrate the minute atoms of this sort of gold from the muck. The characteristic of the Whipstick diggings are, as is well known, its nuggety and patchy peculiarities, notwithstanding a lead of fine gold may in all probability exist, for there is much to learn, and will be for years to come, of the auriferous capabilities of this wonderful country. Water is again scarce. ... The weather here still continues delightful with sharp and nipping morning frosts. The population is apparently stationary, and the new arrivals equal and fully exceed the exits. The new road progresses
satisfactorily, there being now between 8 and 10 miles of it opened. Itinerant hurdy-gurdy grinders have for the first time made their appearance on these diggings, and the hitherto silent Whipstick at this moment rebounds with the echoes of the tambourine and the viol. [10]

10.05.1857: The recent showers have once more supplied the necessary demand for water in this locality, at least for the time being, and limited as the supply is, it has come very apropos. ... Mining operations appear to have already received a fresh impetus from this timely supply of the all-important element, and the neighbouring gullies, namely Blackhorse Flat, Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, White Horse and Sydney Flat etc. all exhibit symptoms of revival. ... In some of the above named gullies puddling machines have been to my knowledge standing idle for the last six months, these machines are now in full operation. A considerable number of miners have still continued to leave for the Sydney Flat Rush. ... When the new road is finished through the scrub, and if the highly laudable endeavours of the gentlemen forming the Whipstick Road Committee to curt another road from east to west.

... Mr. Panton visited these diggings today and briefly inspected the progress of the new road, which still continues to go ahead. There are no new finds of importance to report in mining matters from any of the established gullies; instead the miners, generally speaking, are somewhat chary about telling their luck, and no one can blame them. The miners working in Brandy Gully, are apparently doing well, and seem settled for the winter. [11]

10.06.1857: A report having reached us on Thursday evening that new and payable ground had been opened in a distant portion of the Whipstick Scrub, a gentleman from this office visited the locality on the following day, who reports as follows:-

A miner of the name of Phillips, who, five years ago, was engaged in prospecting various portions of the Whipstick Scrub, lately returned to it, and pitched upon the gully, the opening of which has given grist to the rumours lately spread through Sandhurst. This is the same place where the dead body of a man (unknown) was found some time since by Whipstick Bob. It is situated about two miles and a half from the four mile post on the new road, its bearing being about 45 degrees east of that point. An inexperienced bushman might find considerable difficulty in discovering it, and unless very careful, would run a risk of getting entangled in the numerous belts of scrub with which it is almost entirely surrounded. From the four mile post, to the foot of the gully the country consists of tolerably open box forest, into which the gully runs through mallee or whipstick scrub. There are a few cart tracks leading to it, but having been made during the dry weather, they are very easily missed. If any person should be induced to visit they should take care to obtain very accurate directions before attempting it. I do not think, however, that there is much likelihood of there being any considerable rush thither for the present at all events. Gold, it is true, has been struck there, but as yet not in what is generally considered payable quantities. I saw several buckets of stuff washed out and the heaviest prospect amounted to about half a pennyweight to the bucket. The heaviest that has been obtained there was a pennyweight and a half to the bucket. Phillips sunk about 50 holes in the neighbourhood before striking gold. The country to the north is very unlikely looking, but to the southward, and especially to the south-west, at no very great distance, there are ranges which have a promising appearance. The locality of this little rush, which by-the-bye bears the name of Phillip's Gully, is comparatively very flat, and bears no surface indications of
being rich. The sinking varies from 8 to 10 feet; the bottom is a soft white sandstone, and the washdirt, which is pretty tenacious, consists of gravel and variegated clay. There are about 60 men at present on the ground, who are prospecting in every direction about it. The water is very scarce, nor are there any holes of sufficient capacity to contain a large supply. On part of the gully is, however, admirably adapted for a dam, which it is the intention of those located there to combine for the purpose of forming.

There are said to be parties working in adjacent gullies, who have not yet been found out. Most of the diggers I met were of opinion that Phillips was playing a double game with them, and that he was nearly staying in the place, and applying for an extended claim in order to blind them, while his mates were working in a much richer gully. This I heard more than one of them say to his face. I do not pretend to express an opinion in the matter. I merely give the facts as I have seen and heard them. Several parties left while I was there, declaring that it was not worth their while to work in such ground.

In going out there I took the new road, which is now cut completely through the scrub into the box forest beyond. The road is straight enough, but the scrub has been very badly cut down - sharp-pointed stakes, about 6 inches long, being left standing above the surface - which render the travelling very difficult and dangerous, for horses and other cattle. The contract was taken for nine miles, but the cutting having been completed in seven, about two miles having been cut by the contractors, commencing somewhere between the second and third mile posts, and running easterly in the direction of the great quartz reef, commonly known as the Black Rock. This is an extensive outcrop of quartz, rising to about 20 feet from its base, the surfacing about which, I am told, has been found to pay very well. It does not seem, after all, that the north and south road will be of very much use; and people travelling along it, who are unacquainted with the country will do well to be very careful how they trust themselves beyond the last or seventh mile post. The east and west road, if continued to the Piccaninny, or rather the lower Bendigo Creek, would be of more service, as it would lead to water and a main road to Sandhurst; neither of which the other one does.

On leaving Phillip’s Gully on Saturday morning I took a cattle track running south-easterly through the scrub, which, in about the distance of a mile brought me out into a fine, open and well-grassed box forest. Following this cattle track, in about a couple of miles, I came upon some tolerably good water-holes, which I ascertained to be the head of Reedy Creek. Passing there, I still followed the track which continued all the way to trend south-east, until about four or five miles from Phillip’s Gully it struck a road newly made by some splitters. Turning to the right along this in about two or three miles I made the Bendigo railway at a point about 13 miles from Sandhurst, and close to a farm belonging as I understand to a Mrs. Pritchard. At all event, the next farm above it belongs to a person of the name of Hand. Just above this place I crossed the creek and got on to the main road, which brought me up to Epsom.

By reversing the order of my homeward route the digger desirous of examining for himself the discoveries of Mr. Phillips will find by far the pleasantest and safest road. We blazed a couple of trees about two miles from the head of the gully in the box forest with a knife, and wrote pencilled directions to the diggings on the bark. [12]

02.06.1857: We have received the following from a correspondent:
I have just returned from the Whipstick, where I was shown some very fine specimens and nuggets - one of which was found last night and was purchased by Mr Woods of the Pick and Shovel Store, weighing one pound 4 ounces. The same party found several smaller ones near it. Considerable excitement prevails here in consequence of several rushes which have taken place during the week.

The following piece of information collected by one of our reporters may be taken for what it is worth. There is clearly some glaring mistake about the matter, as no scrub exists ten miles south of the old Whipstick diggings. A young man arrived in town on Saturday with the intelligence that several fine and valuable nuggets of gold have been obtained at a new rush in the Whipstick
scrub. One nugget weighed upwards of five pounds and another weighs nearly two pounds. At the ground, about ten miles to the southward of the old diggings the diggers are getting as much as 3dwt to the bucket. Unfortunately, there is a great drawback to this pleasant state of affairs, in the lamentable deficiency of water. The transient supply of the late rain is fast disappearing, and many of the miners are obliged to carry their stuff a great distance before they can get water to wash it. The gold is very much scattered, so much so that our informant states an instance of a party having washed 96 buckets of stuff on Monday and Tuesday, and only getting three quarters of an ounce out of the whole. But the gold which is obtained is heavy and nuggety. He also states that there is plenty of fine gold, but no means of obtaining it through the scarcity of water. [13]

08.06.1857: The want of rain is everywhere bitterly complained of ... in Sailor’s Gully, Eaglehawk, White Horse and the adjacent gullies, things look very flat indeed. A large number of puddling machines are at a standstill, and some of the crushing machines are unable to perform the work required of them for want of a sufficient supply of water. ... In the Whipstick scrub matters are still worse, and it is said that immense quantities of fine gold are being lost, in consequence of the miners having to use water almost as thick as pea-soup, for their washing purposes. Some good-sized nuggets, in addition to the large one purchased by Mr. Carpenter, have been found there recently. One of about 16ozs has been purchased by Mr Andrews, of Epsom: it was obtained in Scotchman’s Gully, close to the place where the large one was found. In consequence of the great scarcity of water, the population of Scotchman’s Gully has considerably dwindled away during the past week; ... [14]

11.06.1857: There is no news of importance to communicate in the mining intelligence of this district. Phillip's Gully is still the attraction, and numbers of diggers are daily leaving this and going there, while a few are returning back again to their old quarters. Yesterday and today the reports from this gully have been rather favorable, and of all that is stated to be true concerning it, certainly there is no reason to despond. Three small stores and a butcher's shop are this day on the ground. ... At the present time there cannot be less than from 150 to 200 men in and about the gully at work. Water is not to be had. A large number of diggers have cojointly united to construct a dam for general purposes, and they have availed themselves of certain natural features which the gully presents ...

In Scotchman's and adjoining gullies things look rather dull, chiefly owing to the want of water. 

Small and detached parties of diggers are still to be met with for many miles in the scrub in a totally opposite direction from the new roads and Phillip's Gully, and some of these parties have been observed to remain at work in one spot for several weeks. In the vicinity of the German's reef and round by Black Horse Flat, various prospecting parties are at work with apparent success. In the ground where the 66oz nugget (purchased by Mr. Carpenter last week) was found, a good sprinkling of miners are at work, and it is supposed there are diggers in the Whipstick who could turn out nuggets (now snugly in bond) that would equal, if not exceed, the monster nugget itself. ... No tidings of the rich alluvial diggings, still supposed to be in incognito, have yet come to hand. The gold found at Phillip's Gully, though coarse and sound seems to be from a different matrix and of a different description to the general run of Whipstick gold. Considerable quantities of washdirt are stacked up, waiting the coming of the rain. [15]

15.06.1857: There is no news of importance to communicate in the mining intelligence of this district. Phillip's Gully is still the attraction, and numbers of diggers are daily leaving this and going there, while a few are returning back again to their old quarters. Yesterday and today the reports from this gully have been rather favorable, and of all that is stated to be true concerning it, certainly there is no reason to despond. Three small stores and a butcher's shop are this day on the ground. ... At the present time there cannot be less than from 150 to 200 men in and about the gully at work. Water is not to be had. A large number of diggers have cojointly united to construct a dam for general purposes, and they have availed themselves of certain natural features which the gully presents ...
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25.06.1857: The effects of the water dearth (for it now amounts to a dearth) is probably no where more tryingly felt than in the Whipstick ... The rush to Phillip's Gully still continues, and threatens to end in a general exodus from this part of the Whipstick. The diggers are daily leaving, and the population here is fast being transferred to Phillip's, where things are beginning to look up although matters there, as far as regards water, are still worse. Nevertheless, gold seems to be more equally distributed, and washdirt is being piled up in all direction. ... [16]

29.06.1857: A nugget weighing over 6ozs was picked up off the surface in Brandy Gully last week. ... Several small nuggets, varying from 1½ to 5ozs have been taken up this week in Scotchman's Gully, and some of them in close proximity to the ground where the monster nugget came from ... The fortunate individuals (whoever they may be) who will have the puddling of such gullies as Brandy and Scotchman's by horse machine or by steam, when the time comes for introducing such operations and their paraphernalia, into the Whipstick will be a lucky man and no mistake. ... The ground, in all the Whipstick gullies that has been worked, presents every ... facilities, independent of its auriferous capabilities, for puddling operations, the ground averaging about 6 feet in depth, and presenting every facility for filling and carting - the only drawback being water. ... [17]

09.07.1857: Puddling mills that have been a long time idle for want of water, are now observed to be at work in the neighbourhood of Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, Mosquito, White Horse, bottom of Eaglehawk and California, Jackass and Long gullies. ...Another nugget, weighing 150ozs 3dwt, was taken up on Saturday morning last in Scotchman's Gully in the immediate vicinity of the ground of monster nugget notoriety. ... At Phillip's Gully, before the coming of the rain, the population had fallen off considerably, and although many were doing well, yet the bulk of the diggers were barely averaging current wages. Water is now plentiful and the ensuring week will enable parties to form a tolerably correct estimate of the capabilities of this district. Many are returning here again, and Scotchman's Gully is at present the theatre of somewhat extensive operations. [18]

28.07.1857: There is nothing of importance to report in the mining intelligence of this district. The population is very much thinned by the drain to Ararat, and mining operations go on uninterruptedly. At Phillip's Gully, matters remain in statu quo, but the population is very small. ... There has been a bit of a rush this week to some payable ground in the vicinity of the Dead Man's Hut, but no heavy finds have come to hand. Scotchman's Gully seems all but deserted. ... No heavy finds, however, have come to light this week, Brandy Creek still retains its population, and vigorous operations are going on in the adjoining gullies with apparently successful results. Surface tomming would appear to be a payable affair here, at least, so long as water is available. ... [19]

10.08.1857: The mining intelligence of this district presents no important phase since my last. A very considerable falling off of population is still perceptible, and the majority of those who are leaving and wending their way Ararat-wards, while others are heading to Dead Horse Flat. ... Mining operations in the Whipstick Scrub and neighbouring gullies still continue to go on with vigour. Some half dozen puddling machines, however, at the bottom of One-Eye, head of White Horse and Growler gullies are still observed to be idle for want of water. [20]

14.08.1857: Whilst diggers, butchers and storekeepers are daily leaving the Whipstick to try their fortunes at Ararat and elsewhere, it is no less gratifying and important to observe that quartz reefers, puddling machine proprietors, and
married miners with families, and other diggers of moderate pretensions, are now locating themselves permanently at the Whipstick. ... In the vicinity of Brandy Gully and in the direction of Black Horse Flat, considerable bustle and activity prevails; preparations for surface tomming and puddling mill operations, on an extensive scale, are the order of the day, while the construction of dams, conduits and surface tracks of endless dimensions to convey the water to the conserves are everywhere apparent in this locality; together with substantial puddling mills going down, and comfortable log huts going up, give promise of puddlers and puddling "coming it strong" at the Whipstick; and in the words of Old Tom (the unsophisticated Hibernian, from whom Old Tom Gully has derived its name) "may the world wonder at the luck they will have". At present there is better than half a score of puddling machines in course of erection, and in actual operation in and about the Whipstick. [21]

19.08.1857 □ There is nothing additional to communicate in the mining intelligence of the Whipstick. Small nuggets are occasionally turning up, but no heavy finds have come to hand. Water is plentiful in some parts of the Whipstick, but in some places it is not to be had. Scotchman's Gully presents a forsaken and deserted appearance; the bulk of the population being in the scrub, and in the vicinity of the Old Whipstick and Brandy Gully. Most of all the old hands still "hold on". [22]

26.08.1857 □ Copious showers of rain have fallen here at intervals during the whole of Thursday and Friday nights, and water is now plentiful. [23]

09.09.1857 □ The reviving effects of the rain that has fallen during the last ten days is everywhere apparent all over this goldfield, and water is now plentiful enough for a short time, for all purposes. Puddling mill operations at the Whipstick and its immediate vicinity are going ahead in right earnest. The new rush still maintains its original population, and what was a dense walled scrub a few weeks ago is now a populous neighbourhood, with cart roads approach it in all directions, and the gully or ground opened has assumed the appearance of old diggings of considerable extent. Some of the claims are running from 2 to 3dwts to the tub, others are averaging a pennyweight, and it is said one or two lucky ones have taken it up even heavier than this, while on the other hand some of the claims will not go beyond a quarter and half a pennyweight to the tub. ... The population at present at the Whipstick may be said to be a fixed population, comparatively few are leaving, while occasionally newcomers are arriving. [24]

29.09.1857 □ There is nothing of importance to report in mining matters. A few parties have set into work in Scotchman's Gully and Old Tom Gully, and the mining population stick steadily to work, and although there are not many new arrivals, on the other hand there are little or no exits. Water still holds out to the demand, but this cannot long be the case, unless a supply should in the interim arrive. [25]

17.10.1857 □ The rain that fell here on Monday last, and at intervals through the week, has put a new face on the aspect of mining affairs, and indeed everything else connected with mining in this locality. [26]

23.10.1857 □ The late rains have given a fresh impetus to everything in the mining way in this district. Puddlers and tub and cradle men are alike busy, and enabled to work full time in consequence. [27]

09.11.1857 □ In Friday's issue notice was taken of the discovery of a new gold field the other side of the Whipstick. We are now in a position to give more positive information on the subject. To find the site of the present rush, the road to the Flagstaff Hill must be taken. On arriving there, you proceed along the new road for nearly two miles and a half to an open flat, where dray tracks turn off to the right. You follow these tracks for three miles along the Box Forest, and at last you come upon the tents and the diggings. The gold obtained is rough and free from iron, and evidently very pure. There is an extent of ground sufficient to employ thousands; in fact it is equal to Epsom in extent. The prospecting party, likewise mentioned on Friday, washed out about half an ounce to a bag of stuff. One shaft has been sunk 30 feet and driven about 25 feet and the washdirt yields about 10dwts to the load. Another shaft is being sunk on a line with the dip, which they expect to bottom tomorrow. Sutton and
mate bottomed a shaft at the depth of 29 feet and came on the top of a reef with boulders of quartz weighing as much as a hundredweight, lying directly on the washdirt. They tested some of the dirt, and it yielded a pennyweight to the tub. There are about 10 or 12 holes going down; there is plenty of water. [28]

10.11.1857: Copious showers of rain fell here during the whole of last Thursday night, and, in consequence, instead of the previous supply of water diminishing, we have now full dams, and a supply throughout the holes that will meet the demand for a many a day to come. ...

There is no new phase in the mining intelligence of this district. Puddlers and puddling still continue to go on satisfactory and increasing in numbers, and results are apparently favorable. ... While the pick and shovel men continue their operations with unabated vigour, and apparently successful results. [29]

13.11.1857: Several parties who returned at a late hour last evening from a visit to the late rush report very favorably of the prospects of the diggers. The population at the lowest estimate is not less than 600 and hundreds are wending their way thitherward. The goldfield is described as being of immediate extent, a vast plain between Myers Flat, the Loddon River, and the lower end of Bendigo Creek. The site of present operations is on Mouat’s run, outside of the scrub, and near the Dead Man’s Hut, about four miles and a half below and to the right of Flagstaff Hill. Lovel and Morrison, who for upwards of two years have been prospecting about the Whipstick, are said to have first struck gold in this locality ands the name which has been conferred upon the flat, “Elysian”, is significant of its returns. In such an immense extent of ground, it is not surprising that many holes have proved differers; but our information is that where gold has been struck, the amount was considerable. The depth of the holes which have been bottomed varies from 30 to 38 feet; the sinking is similar to that at Epsom and the White Hills. There is no scarcity of water at present, and at a distance of three and a half miles, abundance may be had at Myer’s Creek throughout the summer.

With one exception, all the stores in Scotchman’s Gully, have been removed or are in course of removal to the new diggings, and the Camp Hotel is left alone in its glory. ... [30]

14.11.1857: Mining operations, generally speaking, at the Whipstick have assumed a somewhat healthier aspect, during the past week than for many months previous, and it would appear as if things were beginning to look up amongst the tub and cradle men. Whether this is to be attributed to the recent supply of water (which, by the bye, is fast disappearing) or to the unusual good luck in nugget finding, it is hard to say; but one thing is certain, gold has been more plentiful, and money consequently more profuse, this week than for some time hitherto.

Several parties within the last ten days have moved out to some new ground in the vicinity of the Dead Man’s Hut, and in close proximity to Mr. Mount’s property, where prospecting operations on a limited scale have for some time past been practically carried on, and it would appear with partial success, for it is said on reliable authority that more than one hole is paying and paying well. [31]

17.11.1857: What with the encouraging accounts from Epsom ... and the encouraging prospects and wide field for mining enterprise presented in the Whipstick district, not only in alluvial but in quartz mining - the contemplated survey of the Whipstick reefs and their defined boundaries - the facilities offered to puddlers and the pudding interest in this locality ... and last, not least, the anticipated permanent water supply, to which the Chamber of Commerce have now let their shoulders to the wheel in earnest. [32]

20.11.1857: Rush Oh! The Whipstick is once more the cry and scores of swagged diggers and stores, and storekeepers ad infinitum may be seen at this moment thronging the road to Elysian Flat, the new Whipstick diggings. When I wrote my despatch of last week there were not more than a score of diggers on the ground, including the prospectors, and on visiting the ground yesterday (Thursday) I find a population of not less than 500 men, exclusive of women and children, tents and stores going up, claims marking off, newcomers arriving in quick succession, and all the usual bustle and confusion of a new rush. The information contained in one or two recent issues of the Advertiser is
substantially correct, with one exception, namely, in describing the route to the new diggings, instead of turning off the main road (from Moorehead’s Reef) to the right, as stated in one of the paragraphs alluded to, the turn off should be to the left. By turning off to the right you would go in the direction of Phillip’s Gully, whereas Elysian Flat lies precisely the opposite direction. There is no difficulty, however, in finding the ground, a well beaten dray track runs close to the digger’s tents. ...

The country (after taking the turn off to the left) is a flat open country, thinly timbered with box and gum saplings, scarcely any heavy timber is to be seen for miles around. The country in many respects resembles Epsom, only the timber is of larger growth at Epsom. Before approaching the diggings, you come on a chain of water holes, some dry, and some full of excellent water. The chain of water holes runs right into the diggings, or rather they run themselves out into a sort of blind gully lying in a south-westerly direction and of a semi-circular form. It is in this blind gully, or land scarp, the diggings are situate, and where the miners are now at work. The tents on the ground extend over a space of half a mile, and 3 or 4 stores are already on the ground...

The Elysian Flat gold is water-worn, which may be accounted for from the fact of there being no quartz reefs, or even detached quartz surface debris, in its immediate neighbourhood, although some beautiful igneous specimens have been got intermixed with a small percentage of ironstone and quartz. The gold is coarse and shotty, and in thick, heavy button-like and triangular pieces of quartz, and whole pennyweights and upwards.

I had intended my visit to the new rush for Friday or Saturday, in order that as many holes as possible in the interim might have been bottomed; but hearing that there were upwards of a thousand men on the ground, I deemed it advisable to have a look in the meantime.

The sinking runs from 30 to 42 feet. 42 feet is the deepest hole yet sunk, and the washdirt is a sort of white quartz debris, cement and gravel, not unlike many parts of Epsom, only that the quartz is more angular, not round or pebbly, and the washdirt is on a beautiful soft greasy pipeclay, and comparatively level bottom. The driving is all done in the bottom; and as much as 4 feet deep of washdirt has been knocked down in the prospecting claims, which averages 1dwt to ever four buckets of stuff ...

Smyth and Company had just bottomed a 42 “footer” a short time previous to my arrival, but not with the same successful results as in the prospecting and adjoining claims. They merely got the color; but no way daunted at this, they are determined on driving the hole and seeing what it is made of ...

If one or two sets of the Epsom Long Toms could be conveniently spared from that locality they would not only be a great convenience to the miners of Elysian Flat but, at the same time, remunerate the proprietors as well for the cost of drainage and hire. [33]

14.12.1857 We hear from several reliable sources, that gold in remunerative quantities is being procured at these diggings. ... one storekeeper in this township has informed us that for the last three weeks his average receipts of gold from Elysian Flat have been upwards of 100ozs per week. A party of Maoris, it is well known, got from 17 to 200zs from three loads of washdirt, Water is acknowledged to be scarce on the ground. Numbers are piling their stuff, which is indicative of some belief on their part of its being remunerative. [34]

15.12.1857 A correspondent who returned from Elysian Flat last evening states that more persons are leaving that locality than are arriving, a state of things owing solely, in his opinion, to the scarcity of water. ... Our correspondent expresses himself as entirely concurring with the substance of the intelligence from Elysian Flat which appeared in our columns yesterday, and states that the successful parties are not confined to Maoris, but that Cornishmen, Epsomites and others have been equally lucky. ... Last week some rich looking cement, equal to the best samples from Epsom, was discovered, and there can be but little doubt that the more extensively this large field is worked, the better satisfied will the diggers be with their returns. ... Yesterday afternoon we inspected a large parcel of gold brought in for sale from Elysian Flat. [35]
The population is receiving daily and nightly additions (many persons preferring to travel at night during the prevalence of this hot weather) both of diggers and stores, as well as restaurants. ... Piling up is still the order of the day, while of sinking and driving there is no lack. Seeing the “tack” in the washdirt, and occasional pennyweight, half and quarter ounce specks being picked out is no infrequent occurrence. ... Drinking water is selling at Elysian Flat at 8 shillings a cask. ... [36]

The copious showers of rain which fell during the whole of last night have infused new life and vigour into everything in the mining way in this district. Full dams for the puddlers, and a plentiful supply of water (for the time being) for the tub-and-cradle men is the result of this timely visitation. Carting and washing has already commenced, and as long as the water holds out, will be continued with a will. ... The news of the week at the Whipstick is otherwise barren of interest. ... The Chinese, it would appear, purpose mustering strong at Elysian Flat during the ensuing winter. [37]

Water is again the cry here - everything as dry as possible. ... Elysian Flat is now an established goldfield of almost boundless dimensions. [38]

Another nugget from the Whipstick. Mr. Bannerman purchased yesterday a nugget of the weight of 24ozs 17dwt. This was found somewhere in the Whipstick; the fortunate holder declining to state the precise locale of his good luck for the present. [39]

Slowly, but steadily the population of this new and promising goldfield is being augmented. ... The new rush there is every reason to believe is progressing most favourably. ... This rush, which is situated on the left hand side of the road, about half a mile before entering the old diggings, is rapidly increasing in point of number etc, and although not more than two days had elapsed from the period of my former visit to my last (yesterday) a marked change had taken place in its appearance, so much so as to be scarcely recognizable. New stores, refreshment, as well as a large additional number of diggers’ tents, in the short interim sprung up. ... I was informed by a person yesterday that a 3ozs nugget was taken out of a hole in the shallow sinking, and I was also informed by a Bendigonian acquaintance who had been sinking a shaft on the original rush (deep sinking about 30 feet) for some time past, that in order to test his wash-stuff he had the load carted to some water near the Camp Hotel, and the satisfactory result turned out to be 33ozs. I learnt from another party that a digger with whom he was acquainted informed him that out of a hole he had sunk on the Flat, old sinking nearly opposite the Advertiser office, in the main street, he had expected to realise £1000 a man.

The long looked-for rain has at length descended. ..... [40]

The rain of Wednesday last is the first of the Autumnal rains of the season. ..... Hundreds of diggers and scores of drays laden with swags and all the paraphernalia of pick-and-shovel men have, since Thursday, been wending their way Elysian-wards. .....[41]
From the Flagstaff Hill the smoke of the fires at Elysian Flat is distinctly visible, at a distance, as the crow flies, of about four miles. The present track is, however, considerably longer. It follows the road cut last year for about a mile, and then turns sharp off to the left. There are no features of interest about the intervening space, except that it may be noted that the country falls gradually but regularly towards the north and west. ... The track does not, however, in any part approach the once-dreaded, impervious, matted Whipstick thickets. About four miles from the Flagstaff Hill a track again strikes off to the left of the main road, and leads to the shallow diggings lately opened. Here is a busy and a thriving population of at least 500 souls. At first I thought that I had arrived at the deep sinkings, for almost every shaft has a windlass, and around the mouths of many of the shafts are mounds of headings in height and size almost worthy of Epsom. The sinking, however, is only about 5 feet deep, and the driving is under the wash stuff, briefly through a stratum of reddish sandy pipeclay. It may be reasonably doubted whether the true bottom has been reached in these workings; be that at it may, these shallow diggings are on the average paying well. The gold is very bright and clear, even and shotty, and the dirt washes high up, yielding from a pennyweight and a half to 2 pennyweights per tub; indeed if water were abundant, the ground would pay handsomely to wash from top to bottom. I saw many “old familiar faces” at these shallow diggings, and found all in good spirits and satisfied with the ground, but all more or less anxious about water; but about this more by and by. These diggings at present follow the course of what may be called a scarcely discernible gully, but really on this side of the Whipstick the surface characteristics are so indistinct and undefined that one is at a loss to conceive what kind of instinct it was which had led to the opening up of these shallow workings. ... Grog is plentiful, of course, though water is not. [42]  

02.04.1858: From the shallow diggings to the Elysian Flat is about a mile - the ground still gradually descending; and here is a self-formed township, which is fast assuming a substantial and permanent appearance. Here blacksmiths abound, and the pleasant music of the anvil rings out incessantly, and tells of busy times. Here are no end of butchers - a bakery, a chemist, and a “legally-authorised”, under the well-known firm of Drs Boyd and Dow, who have erected a spacious and well-built dispensary. Here are long lines of excellent stores, with many of the good old Bendigo names over the doors; and here are two hotels - the inevitable Shamrock, and the new sign, à la mode, the Sir Henry Barkly. Behind, and beside the main street, ...here and there rise the shafts of the deep sinkings, like Epsom of old. From this point the diggings extend for two miles at the least. At that distance heavy gold was found on Monday, and some hundreds of claims were consequently marked out further ahead on Tuesday. Although where a hole strikes, marking is certain to go on ahead, it does not appear that anything like a lead exists here, or has been traced at present. The gold seems to be generally distributed right and left, and in all directions for miles, and although every claim cannot, in the nature of things, be equally rich there can be no doubt that the great majority will pay handsomely. But little progress has yet been made in the washing of the large accumulations of washing-stuff; indeed the owners of some of the best claims have not at present commenced washing at all. A good many towns are, however, at work, and the first installment of the Elysian deep sinkings may be looked for in the
gold offices in the course of another week. I was shown some capital samples in the hands of miners, from 6 to 12 ounces; but I did not learn that any more large nuggets had come to light. The general expectation seemed to be, that the washing up would average at least 2 ounces to the load; and that the aggregate quantity would be very large, indeed. I was told by parties resident on the spot, that after the last rain many of the heaps of wash dirt were literally blazing with gold in the regular “jeweller’s shop” style.

As to the extent of the new field it is almost illimitable. ... I was informed by our well-known townsman, Mr James Iron, who has a party working on the shallow diggings, and who is ever in the van of mining enterprise, that he had ridden out the day of my visit 15 miles north of the present workings, and found the same surface characteristics, and the same auriferous indications everywhere existing. It would thus appear that the Whipstick Ranges are but the edge of a great basin lying to the north and west, and that as the diggings approach the Plains deeper sinkings and richer deposits will be discovered, with every reasonable prospect of a succession of shallow diggings being struck along the edge of the scrub all trending to a deep basin beyond. A new city, and a new and vast population will soon take the place of what has been so long the wilderness of the district. The present population at the deep sinking is about 3000 and large arrivals are daily pouring in. There is gold, and abundance of gold, sufficient to support twice the present population of the Bendigo, is no longer a matter of doubt, the one great want is water. [43]

19.04.1858 Already the miners in this locality are beginning to feel the want of water. ....

There have been some very good finds in the shallow sinking this week, one party having nuggetted out as much as 4ozs; while another lucky individual fell across a piece weighing 2½ozs. The storekeepers of the district tell me that they buy a great quantity of gold, so that there can be no doubt but that some are doing a rare good stroke. Meanwhile, refreshment tents, bakeries, butcheries and casinos are springing up on every hand. ... [44]

26.04.1858 A very important meeting, as will be seen by a report in another column, was held on Thursday last at Elysian Flat, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means for supplying the gold field with water. Two schemes were laid before the meeting, both of which it was considered advisable to entertain; and committees were appointed to inquire into their practicability. The first proposed by Mr Benson ... to raise £4000 in 80 shares of £5 each, which amount he considers sufficient for the excavation of two reservoirs, and the sinking of two shafts for wells, on various parts of the field. ... The second plan, which it appears has been suggested by Mr Duncan, was laid before the meeting by Dr Wall. It proposes to conduct a continuous supply from the Loddon River to the Elysian, by means of a race. [45]

26.04.1858 Supply of water for the Whipstick. A meeting on the above subject was held at the Shamrock on Saturday evening. The attendance was large. ... Mr Benson addressed the meeting on the subject, pointing out the urgent necessity of some measures being carried out at once, and offering some suggestions as to doing so by means of deep shafts and reservoirs. The suggestion was well received. [46]

27.04.1858 ... so far as the incoming population to Elysian Flat is concerned this week, a decided increase over that of last week is perceptible. ... The worst that can be said of Elysian Flat at the present time is, that water is scarce, for every prospect of a speedy supply.

On Thursday afternoon a heavy plump of (a shower of) rain fell at the Old Whipstick, which lasted nearly two hours, and filled up many of the holes and dams. ... Some parties have arrived at the Old Whipstick, who purpose putting down a puddling machine or two at the head of Scotchman’s Gully. It will be remembered last year a heavy lead, or rather patch, of gold was lost here nearly opposite where the main road debouches out into the gully. Some parties who cleared a pile by having dropped heavy on this lead steered for Old England whilst others equally fortunate commenced the work of speculation, and took on to the rushing game, and having visited all the goldfields in the colony, and some out of the colony, have returned again almost penniless to Old
Scotchman’s and Elysian Flat to recruit up. ... Nugget from Elysian. 

A nugget was found yesterday near Taylor’s Store, Elysian Flat. Its weight was 32ozs 15dwt. We have not been able to obtain any further particulars. [47] 

30.04.1858: A deputation from Elysian Flat, Bendigo, were on Tuesday honoured with an interview with Captain Pasley, in the absence of the President of the Board of Land and Works. ... The Age. [48] 

01.05.1858: Notwithstanding the late heavy fall of rain, the miners at Elysian Flat are, as we understand, very little better off, as regards a supply of water. ... [49] 

14.05.1858: Elysian Flat seems to be a sort of ‘plutonic region’ as it were, at least so far as retaining water is concerned. [50] 

18.05.1858: At the Old Whipstick and its various gullies, many are camping down to try their luck, and the Chinese will hold on here. ... Puddling is everywhere going ahead, and the lords of the tub have no right to grumble, so far as water is concerned, for there is abundance for all. ... Many of the back gullies, wholly deserted during the summer, are now getting back their population, and judging from present appearances, this winter promises to see pudding carried out in all its pristine vigour, and on an extended scale. [51] 

31.05.1858: We hear that several parties are doing pretty well at the shallow sinking, about a mile and a half this side of the Whipstick, and near the deep sinking. One party of three took out an 8ozs nugget, and it was rumoured that another party had got a nugget weighing 40ozs. Great complaints have been made for the want of water; but some very heavy showers of rain which fell there on Saturday last - much heavier than we had it here - will give them a supply for some little time. [52] 

01.06.1858: Notwithstanding the counter attraction of new rushes elsewhere the influx of population to these diggings still continues steady and unabated, with few or none leaving; and some who left with in the last few weeks for the Ironstone Hill Flat rush have returned here again and settled down for the winter. ... Abundance of water is available all over the district, but it is not so plentiful at Elysian Flat, as could be wished. 

There is little or nothing of importance to communicate in the mining intelligence of this district this week. At Elysian Flat all goes “merry as a marriage bell” with the single exception of water, which is again getting scarce; while at the Old Whipstick and surrounding gullies a considerable number of newcomers have set in during the week, and all the old hands and Chinese still hold on here. At the water supply meeting at Elysian Flat, on Thursday last, a considerable difference of opinion existed with regard to the respective merits of Mr Benson’s proposal of sinking deep shafts for water supply, and the “reservoir” plan ... although Mr Benson proposes a very likely locality to sink in for underwater, viz The “Dead Man’s Gully”, yet it is doubtful whether he would succeed in striking water in sufficient volume to supply the district; besides there is the expense of raising the water and conveying it to the diggings. ... [53] 

01.06.1858: Meeting of the Whipstick and Elysian Flat Water Company to consider implementing Mr Benson’s proposals. [54] 

14.06.1858: The great scarcity of water, which for a considerable time past has existed, is being more severely felt every day, so much so, indeed, as to cause a very considerable number of diggers to leave here for Bendigo and elsewhere, it may be to return again under other and more favourable circumstances. Notwithstanding, however, this very serious drawback to the satisfactory working of this goldfield, a large population numbering at a rough computation, perhaps, from 1500 to 2000, still remains, determined, it would seem, to give it a fair trial which it has certainly not received as yet. ... 

The large rush which took place a few weeks ago, alluded to in a former report, situated at the extreme end of the original shallow sinking, or Veteran Rush, as it is sometimes called, taking a south westerly direction through dense scrub, is still being worked with great vigor and apparent success. Several very handsome nuggets have been found in this place, in shallow ground, in depth about 2 feet. A five ouner, a short time since, was taken up on the point of a pick, about 18 inches below the surface, which was sold at Messrs Beeby and Telford’s store, and one weighing about 40ozs was reported to have been found...
in the claim next to it. I conceive no other conclusion can be fairly arrived at
than that the ground, throughout the length and breadth of this rush has been
found payable, from the length of time it has been working, and with little or no
diminution in the number of miners engaged in it. Water - water - is now the
reiterated cry on every site. Immense piles of washing stuff may be seen almost
every place the eye rests, where an expectant payable shaft has been sunk -
waiting to pass through the final ordeal. Many of the claims in this rush have
doubtless been found to be sufficiently payable to afford the cost of carting to
the creek, but on the other hand there are numbers who, being doubtful as to
the satisfactory result of the washing process, prefer to wait until bounteous
nature deigns to send the necessary supply.
Within the last few days another very considerable rush has taken place upon
ground on either side of the creek, which lies to the left of the road as the old
deep sinking is entered, and distant from the Shamrock Hotel about half a mile.
The sinking is about 40 feet and report speaks particularly favourably of the
finds there; and I have been credibly informed that some first rate holes have
been bottomed.
I was favoured yesterday, by Mr Dingwall, an extensive storekeeper on the
shallow rush, with the sight and handling of a singularly beautiful nugget, solid
and massive, and possessing that peculiar bright colour which is a
distinguishing feature in the gold found on this field. Its weight is about 6ozs,
and was found in a claim on the new rush above referred to. A rather singular
incident in connection with the discovery of this nugget, may not be altogether
uninteresting or unworthy of a passing notice. The owners of the hole which
contained this nugget had carted their last load of washdirt to the side of the
creek; intending to wash up on the following morning; it appears, however, that
a digger, who had happened to pass along the creek before the owners arrived,,
saw something shining on the heap of washdirt in question, his curiosity having
become excited he approached, and picked up what proved to be a 6ozs
nugget, which to the man's credit be it noted, he had the honesty to enquire to
whom the washdirt belonged, for the purpose of delivering it up to the rightful
owner. I was informed by the man himself that he was presented with £2 as a
reward. Both parties were, no doubt, satisfied with each others conduct in the
affair.
Another rush has taken place in the shallow sinking, on ground directly opposite
Mr. Matthew’s Shamrock Store, it is called “Gorman’s Rush”, from the fact that a
digger of that name having “dropped” on a goodly sized nugget in a claim there.
Several respectable sized nuggets, I am informed, have seen the light there,
and payable holes bottomed, and there can be little doubt if the ground was well
rushed, and properly tested it would turn out well.
... Messrs M’Nair and Company, acting upon Mr Benson’s suggestions, having
selected ground for that purpose situated about a quarter of a mile from, and
opposite to, the shallow rush, have, upon their own responsibility already sunk a
shaft above 90 feet in depth, and are constructing a large reservoir in close
proximity, thereto, the dimensions of which are to be 200 feet long, 18 feet wide
and 6 feet in depth, and it is hoped that their example will encourage others to a
like course of action, so that Elysian Flat may go ahead.
Several large dams, well timbered and otherwise secure, are now being
constructed for the reception of the next rain that falls. They are situated in
close proximity to the centre of the rush between the deep and shallow sinking,
near Mr Kelly's store, and appear to be a decided improvement on those dams -
if dams they could be called - which, because of the frail materials of which they
were formed, were carried away by the last flood. [55]
- 22.06.1858 - Since my last report the number of miners who have struck into
ground here forming part of the shallow sinkings, known by the name of
Gorman’s Rush, lying to the left of, and distant about a stone’s throw from the
road nearest to the creek, that leads into the deep sinkings, have considerably
increased, and now that the rain has fallen in sufficient abundance for washing,
as well as for other purposes for some time to come mining operations will
doubtless be prosecuted with proper vigour. ....
The great change which has taken place in this portion of these goldfields
(shallow rush) since Saturday last, consequent upon the fall of rain which came down at intervals in considerable quantities during part of that day and Sunday, is strikingly observable in the manifestations of life and activity which now prevail among the diggers, and which greet the eye in almost every place where mining operations are being carried on; ... I was this morning informed, on reliable authority, that two large nuggets, one weighing about 33ozs, and the other about 75ozs were found in the shallow sinkings; the former in a claim situated nearly opposite the Miner’s Store, and the other about 50 yards higher up the rush in the direction of the scrub. On visiting Messrs Clarke and Benson’s store in the main street, a few evenings since, I was favoured with the sight of a very fine sample of gold, which I was informed was obtained out of a claim in the deep sinkings, about a quarter of a mile from an at the rear of the Main Street, it possessed the same character of the gold generally found in this field, coarse and heavy, it amounted in quantity to about 15ozs, and if it was only a week’s work, which, however, I am not prepared to say, the owners I think could have no possible reason to be dissatisfied with their work during that time.

The new rush referred to in my last, in which a good many claims were sunk on both sides of the creek (about 40 feet in depth) as the deep sinkings is approached, has not, I regret to say, turned out as well as was anticipated, or could be desired. Great expectations were entertained of the auriferous quality of this ground from the reported payable nature of several of the claims sunk, but I have been informed that the finds here which the more sanguine-minded of the diggers hoped would ultimately have led to the discovery of a lead, proved to be nothing more or less than a few very payable patches, which soon ran out, and the consequence has been that many who sunk “shicers” have left, to try their fortune in other parts of the field, there still remains, however, a considerable number of diggers at work here, who, there can be no doubt, have obtained payable claims.

The large rush in the scrub at the end of the shallow sinkings, is still going ahead, and the rain which fell lately will enable the diggers here to wash a considerable portion, if not all, of the many and large piles of wash-stuff; ... I paid a visit on Saturday last to the ground upon which those enterprising gentlemen Messrs M’Nair and Company have been carrying on extensive operations for some time past. The shaft which is going down has already reached to a depth of 120 feet, but no water has yet been struck, and the large reservoir which is in course of construction within a short distance from it is progressing favourably, and, it is expected, will be completed and ready for the reception of water in a fortnight or three weeks time. ... [56]

28.06.1858: We learn that M’Nair and Company have sunk their shaft to a depth of 135 feet. The shaft has now reached a body of slate, having passed through mudstone and there is already a small supply of water, which, it is expected, will rapidly increase for the next 20 feet. [57]

02.07.1858: The original shallow sinkings, alias the ‘Veteran Rush’ has, without doubt, proved to be the most auriferous portion of these goldfields which has as yet been discovered since the rush to Elysian Flat first took place, now many months since, and notwithstanding the opinion expressed by many persons here that it has seen its palmiest days, and is well nigh worked out, it still continues to preserve that distinguished position above every other part of this flat. ... Two respectable sized nuggets, one weighing 10 and the other about 13ozs, were lately taken out of one of the claims next to that now being worked by Mr Humphries, in the shallow rush, who, it will be remembered, was fortunate enough a short time since to drop on a handsome nugget weighing 13ozs 14dwt in an old hole about 6 feet deep which had been abandoned as worthless. There was a rumour afloat here last Saturday that a monster nugget, weighing somewhere about 8 pounds weight of solid gold, was taken out of a hole a few days since, in the new rush in the scrub at the upper end of the shallow sinkings, the truth of which statement however I am not in a position to corroborate, not having been able to discover the fortunate finder (if any such there be) of the glittering monster. Another party with whom I conversed informed me that since they commenced working their claim on Gorman’s Rush
(shallow sinking), up to the present time, which has extended over a period of more than three months, they had obtained no less a quantity than 6 pounds weight of the precious metal. I was informed by one of the partners belonging to the firm of Messrs Beeby and Telford, storekeepers, that during the past week they had purchased as much as 200ozs of gold. Not so bad, either, taking into consideration the reputed poverty of this goldfield.

The shaft belonging to Messrs M’Nair and Company, now going down, had on Saturday last reached a depth of 140 feet; but no water, I was informed, had made its appearance, although the particular strata or bed of slate through which they were passing was becoming daily more moist.

Mr James Iron, that well known practical and enterprising gentleman, has, I understand, completed the erection of a second puddling machine, on ground selected by him for that purpose, at a convenient distance from the shallow sinkings, and is now in a position to puddle at the moderate rate of 2dwt per load, any washing stuff that may be entrusted to him by the diggers for that purpose. [58]

09.07.1858

Mining operations are again beginning to flag and look dull, owing to the growing scarcity of water, which at the present time, in some parts of the flat, perhaps, more than others, is becoming very sensibly felt; the last fall of rain which took place having proved sufficient only to enable the diggers to clean off a portion of their washdirt which for a considerable time past has been lying in accumulated heaps, piled up alongside the creek, as well as in near proximity to their shafts, and now another fall of the essential element is anxiously looked for to provide for all necessary purposes.

Messrs Beeby and Telford, it appears, during the past week, purchased about 255ozs of gold, which is somewhat less quantity than that bought by them in the preceding week.

Another nugget, weighing nearly 6ozs was picked up off the surface by a digger, forming one of the prospecting party at no great distance from the ground on which the last rush took place, in the scrub at the end of the original shallow sinkings, which caused some little excitement and a considerable rush to the spot...

The contract entered into with Messrs M’Nair and Co company is now completed, the shaft having been sunk to the stipulated distance of 150 feet. I was informed that the water, which has proved extremely brackish, did not make its appearance until the shaft had been sunk about 145 feet, although for some time previously, the increasing dampness of the slate and sandstone thorough which they were passing, gave evident tokens of a near approach to water. It is probable that the sinking will be continued, under a new contract, by the same parties, who, I think, there is every reason to believe, from the workmanlike manner in which it has been sunk, and slabbed, have given entire satisfaction to their employers. [59]

17.07.1858

The louring and unsettled aspect of the weather, accompanied with light and intermittent showers, with which this neighbourhood has been visited since Saturday last, and which still continue has doubtless had the effect of buoying up the hopes of many with the belief that a fall of rain, now long and anxiously waited for, which would be sufficient to secure an ample supply of water for the necessary requirements of this goldfield for some time to come, was about at length to descend, but these hopeful anticipations, it is to be regretted, yet remain unfulfilled...

On Monday morning last, at an early hour, from 150 to 200 diggers marked out claims, and struck ground extending over an area of about half a mile in length, and five or six claims in width, being a continuation of that part of the middle rush, which after having commenced its course from the original shallow sinkings, and extending in a circuitous route for about three quarters of a mile across the flat in an easterly direction, and leaving the creek considerably to the left, and only branches off to the right, heading towards and forming the junction of that rush with the original deep sinkings. The sinking here is tolerably hard, with sandstone and slate bottoms, and varies in depth from 16 to 30 feet. The diggers appear to be pitching into the work as if they meant it, and I imagine from the character of the prospects revealed (in one instance, it is reported, as
much as one pennyweight to the bucket) they are tolerably sanguine that payable patches will eventually be dropped upon, and it may be piles realized. ...

It is not more than a few weeks ago that a nugget weighing nearly 4 pounds was taken out of a hole not much more than a stone's throw from the present rush, and another, it may be remembered, weighing 72ozs, was found in a hole at no great distance from it, by a party of Cornishmen from the White Hills. Another beautiful and massive nugget, which I saw and handled, weighing a little over 7ozs, was, on Thursday last, taken from under a pillar in an old hole on the shallow rush, nearly opposite the Miner's Store, which was offered for sale and purchased at the store of Messrs Beeby and Telford. I learned from a digger in the same rush, upon whose statement I can rely, who is working a claim higher up the flat, in the direction of the scrub, and who at various times has showed me several beautiful nuggets of various sizes, which he extracted therefrom, that he and his mate obtained gold out of their present claim chiefly composed of nuggets, amounting in value to between £300 and £400.

The rush in the scrub at the end of the shallow sinkings does not look so lively as it did a few days ago, a good many of the diggers, I believe, after having worked out their claims, and piled up and enclosed their washdirt, in the absence of water, left this locality, for the present, for other ground, many of them, in all probability, forming part of the last new rush at the junction of the middle rush and the deep sinkings above referred to.

Within the last few days another rush has taken place, on ground situate to the left of and just outside the original shallow sinkings, a short distance from the store of Messrs Beeby and Telford. About 30 claims have been marked off, and some of them have been bottomed; but I have been unable to ascertain any cheerful intelligence in the way of payable finds up to the present time.

On my visit, yesterday morning, to the ground occupied by Messrs M'Nair and Company, I ascertained, upon inquiries, that a fresh contract had been entered into with the same parties by that firm for the sinking of their shaft to a further depth of 35 feet; 8 feet of which had up to that time, been sunk under the new contract. The work is progressing but tardily, and it would appear is likely to prove tedious, owing to the hard nature of the strata (slate and mudstone) through which they have to pass, and which has compelled them to have recourse to blasting operations, in order to facilitate the work. Water still continues to come in but slowly, not a large quantity perhaps than a quarter of a pint per minute. The large dam close by is still unfinished, but in all probability it will be ready for water by the time the new contract is completed, when it is expected a constant supply will be obtained. [60]

22.07.1858 - At Elysian Flat matters are decidedly in the ascend ant. "Deaf Harry" (of Whipstick notoriety) and party, in all three persons, succeeded in bottoming right on a patch some time ago, that washed up to the tune of £200 sterling, and as that has been all nearly knocked down, by dint of John Barleycorn, the alluvial bank is now being literally drawn upon, and promises to stand a run, if not a rush. The claim wherein this jolly fine bank is situated is in the deep sinking, not a hundred miles off the original prospector's claims.

Without taking baker and butchers, bread and beef statistics as a standard, the total population of the Elysian Flat district alone cannot be estimated under 2000 souls. ...

The rains of Wednesday and Thursday last still keep up the supply of water at the Old Whipstick, but at Elysian Flat it is scarce enough. ... [61]

29.07.1858 - By favour of Mr Iron, who returned from these diggings at a late hour last night, we understand that things are going favourably in this locality. A good supply of water has been secured in the different dams. One of the dams broke away above Mr Irons dam, and occasioned some inconvenience, but was eventually secured. [62]

04.08.1858 - Since the rain the diggers at Elysian Flat have been giving their attention chiefly to conserving water and "washing up", and some of the piles, especially from the new rush, have far exceeded the expectations of their fortunate owners. I have seen from 5dwt to as many ounces washed to the load from various parts of the shallow sinking. And although I have not had ocular demonstration of the fact, yet I have been informed from various reliable
sources that some of the richest patches yet discovered on this goldfield have been dropped on in this rush. One claim is said to have produced over 200ozs of gold from less than six loads of wash dirt. While some of the adjoining claims have averaged an ounce to the tub or 8ozs to the load, throughout all the washdirt that has yet been knocked down, and singular to relate the adjoining claims in a different direction show scarcely a colour. At different places in this rush more towards the shallow ground, the bottom taken off a hole here last week washed a single 3ozs nugget, and not a speck besides. The theory of leads does not seem to apply to this goldfield, even in the deep sinkings. ...

11.08.1858: The partial rains of the past week still keep up an ample supply of water for the time being in this district, and everything in the mining way moves apace proportionately. The impetus given to washing operations at Elysian Flat is very great indeed, and mostly everybody here may be seen at the tom and the tub, and piled-up washdirt is disappearing rapidly. The late rush still holds good and continues to attract considerable numbers, both of new arrivals and Elysian diggers, and a marked improvement is observable this week in the increase of the former. No finds of special interest have come to hand since my last report, though the ceaseless din of toms and cradles makes such an event not at all improbable, and promises to increase the weekly yield of the field beyond its usual average...

It is not at all unlikely at no very distant day this goldfield will be united with the Huntly and Epsom diggings, which it is evidently part and parcel of. ...

11.08.1858: Elysian Flat. We have received a report of a rush at the Whipstick. Our accounts are of a very favourable character, it being stated that gold is procurable by trying a dishful of dirt at any part of a locality which has hitherto been terra incognito to any but the fortunate few who had been "doing it on the quiet". These new diggings are about six miles to the north-north-east of Flagstaff Hill, a large population has already gathered about the locale of the rush. Water is plentiful about the old workings, and all the dams are well filled. Our Whipstick correspondent appears to refer to the locality in his remarks about the prospectors. [64]

16.08.1858: We are informed that Messrs M'Nair's shaft sunk to obtain a supply of water is now down to a depth of 186 feet and since the late rain a depth of 30 feet of water has been procured. In order to test whether this water has come up from the bottom, or from the surface, the proprietors have determined to bore another 50 feet. The water is of a brackish nature. [65]

The rush, to which we referred last week, to the shallow sinkings, Elysian Flat, is still progressing favourably. There are at present some three or four hundred diggers engaged, most of whom are getting gold in payable quantities. One ounce of coarse rough gold was taken off the bottom of the prospecting hole, but we have not heard of others getting anything more than a pennyweight or so to the tub. The sinking is hard, and ranges from 8 to 12 feet. If we may judge from present appearances, we should imagine that, ere long, there will be a rush to this ground as there was to the old Scotchman's Gully in the days of yore. [66]

18.08.1858: There is nothing of importance to communicate from the Old Whipstick this week. Puddlers and tub-and-cradle men have abundance of water, and things go on much as usual. Independent of the new rush in question various other localities between the Old Whipstick and Elysian Flat, where prospecting miners are now at work, and successfully too, could be pointed out, and which will, doubtless, in their turn, come to be rushed in like manner. [67]

26.08.1858: The new rush between this and Elysian Flat still continues to go ahead, and diggers from far and near may be seen running to and fro ready for a "go in" at this newly discovered locality, where there cannot be fewer than 400 men now at work, and all apparently getting gold more or less remuneratively; one or two branch stores from Elysian Flat have been observed in transit and course of erection with the last few days, and merry ring of the blacksmith's anvil floats on the ambient air, and the rush, although of only a few days growth, is rapidly advancing in development (so far as the opening of the ground is concerned), and assuming an old established appearance. It is said that gold is
being got in remunerative proportions, and "rare strokes" are said to be doing in more than one or two golden holes in this rush, yet as no ocular proof has been obtained in confirmation of these current rumours, it would, of course, be imprudent to quote them as bona fide results. I can state, however, from eye-witness and reliable information that 12, 15 and in one instance 24dwt to the tub, have been washed out of several claims here, and some of the piled up washdirt is at present running from one to 3 or 4ozs to the load; while, on the other hand, there is the usual quota of duffers and shicers, and some of them vexaciously hard ones too! The want of water is a sad drawback here, none being available nearer than Elysian Flat and its suburbs. The ground here offers natural facilities for conserving water on a large scale that will, no doubt, be embraced and made available in course of some time...

10.09.1858: Puddling mills, both here and at the Old Whipstick, still continue busy while the water lasts. ..."The light of other days" hath truly fled from Scotchman's Gully at the Old Whipstick, and with the exception of the puddlers and reeferers, Elysian Flat and neighbouring rushes seem to have absorbed all the pick-and-shovel element from this once famous gully, which is now fairly gutted out, and only fit for the spoilation process of the horse and steam puddler. [69]

16.09.1858: The puddlers and reeferers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry's" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [70]

09.10.1858: Large numbers of diggers and drays loaded with digging and tent paraphernalia have been leaving Elysian Flat during the whole of the past week for Epsom, and a bit of a new rush has been going on for the last ten days at Fiddler's Green and Red Jacket, and in consequence things are looking unusually flat here, especially in the shallow sinking, which is all but depopulated. ... A goodly number of diggers, chiefly old Whipstickians, who know the ground, are settling down at Fiddler's Green, and adjoining gullies, Red and Blue Jacket, and Beelzebub, where "tucker" can at all times be procured, and water is available nearly all the season round. Further particulars in my next of what is doing here. [71]

09.10.1858: At Adelaide Hill there is little or nothing doing beyond "tucker", and water scarcely to be had. The same may be said of Ironstone Hill, where probably not more than a score of holes are payable, and the great majority, doing very well indeed. A great many are leaving here, and preparing to leave, for the new rush, Lower Huntly, and other places. [71]

09.10.1858: At the Old Whipstick matters are dreary enough. Scotchman's Gully is in the sole possession of a few Chinamen and horse puddlers, and water is becoming very scarce, both here and at Elysian Flat. ...[71]

13.10.1858: At One-Eye and White Horse gullies a tolerable sprinkling of tub and cradle men are to be found, and the puddlers here are still active, and for the time being a sufficiency of water. Some new ground in continuation of White Horse towards Eaglehawk Flat presents a fair field for pick-and-shovel enterprise, and the lower end of One-Eye, where it debouches into White Horse, is primitive and untried ground. Prospecting holes all over this ground to Eaglehawk Flat have found the ground at least payable. Some diggers in White Horse are averaging a pennyweight to the tub. [72]

13.10.1858: On visiting Fiddler's Green, and the Red and Blue Jacket districts, Beelzebub etc, I find a scattered population, and many new arrivals within the last two weeks, and among others a party of Maoris, who have been working here for a considerable time. Indeed the New Zealanders were among the very first to open up these gullies, and some of them will always be found both in Red and Blue Jacket, especially the latter, where more than one Maori has raised a
pile. The ground here partakes very much of the Whipstick character, the gold being found patchy, and coarse and nuggety, while the sinking is shallow and soft, with pipeclay and sandstone bottoms. Most of those at work here, however hard things may go, can manage to knock out tucker. [...]

The puddlers in this district, many of them of several years' standing, do not complain, except on the score of water, which at present is hardly equal to the demand. [...] xxx29.10.1858: Everything is as dry as possible at the Old Whipstick, and the temperature is increased by the close proximity of bush fires, which literally surround us. [...] 23.12.1858: These diggings at present offer a very encouraging spectacle, in consequence of the very opportune supply of by the late rains. The population is about 1500, according to the veteran "Benson" who is an authority in all matters Elysian, and appears to be on the increase. [... A number of Chinese, apparently about 200, located themselves on the field yesterday at the lower end of the deep sinking. [...]

28.03.1859: At Elysian Flat and the Whipstick the population has for a long time been decreasing, and is at present very small. This is chiefly owing to the general want of water, and the difficulty of tracing the leads. At the former place the quartz workings are being carried on with very tolerable success. [...] 30.05.1859: This place (Barkly Reef), once the scene of general activity, and residence of many thousands, through the want of water during the summer, and the alluring attraction of Daisy Hill, is now reduced to a few hundreds. [... The two leads of quartz reefs are taken up for a great distance; many claims are registered, and others rapidly going down. The prospecting shaft is producing some splendid stone, in fact after a shower of rain the gold sparkles therein as numerous as the stars in the firmament. 21 buckets of stuff upon being crushed produced 17ozs of gold, thus proving that quartz reefs are to be found on flats as well as on ranges. The stone from this shaft is very peculiar, and more resembles solid blocks of beautiful marble than quartz. A machine and engine of 12 horsepower, are being erected here. [...]

02.07.1859: The late rains on these diggings have flooded some few of the old claims situated on the best ground, as well as some of the quartz ref shafts which registers are just expired, which are now entirely useless, being filled with water. A new shaft belonging to Attwood and Company is completely filled with water. The prospectors on the same reef - the Sir Henry Barkly - are still drawing good stone to the tune of 5 or 6 ounces per ton. Moore’s party, the prospectors on the Masonic Reef, have just seen gold this week, and already Mr M’Phail, proprietor of the crushing machine, has a shaft going down. The crushing machine will be in working order at the end of the week. It is rumoured that the crushing price is to be £1 one shilling. [...]

19.12.1859: With reference to the case of Liddell v Motherstone, in which Mr Warden Alley ordered the latter to pay the sum of £57 for having used the water belonging to the former, we have received a communication from Mr Liddel, giving the opposite side of the case. [...]

03.1860: I regret much to have to state that the alluvial workings at the Elysian Flat hold out very poor prospects at present. Most of the inhabitants have left the place, and it is almost deserted. Perhaps now that the autumnal rains have commenced, better success may attend those still working there. Water has been very scarce in that district, as the country is flat. The great part of the quartz claims are also left unworked. [...] 31.05.1860: The vast goldfield known under the above name in this district has, since the early part of last summer, when it was nearly totally deserted, in consequence of the almost, indeed it may be said total want of water, and the lead having been lost at the deep sinking, been prospected more or less by isolated parties within a compass of 10 or 12 miles square, with more than the usual success attendant upon the labour of a few hands; for, with the exception of those 8 or 10 parties working at the Sir Henry Barkly Reef on Elysian Flat, the prospecting parties, for either quartz or alluvial, have numbered generally but one or two pairs of hands. [...]

08.1860: In consequence of the greater portion of the alluvial ground now
being rendered free, many tub and cradle miners have returned to their former pursuit, and I have observed several places now occupied that had been for a long time deserted; this may, however, be attributed to the abundance of water. The puddling is also rather on the increase than otherwise, especially in some of the small gullies opened within the last year in the vicinity of the Whipstick Road, where several small nuggets and payable ground have been found. [79.215-216]

12.12.1860: The party of men who went out to this gully from Epsom a few days ago have returned. They state that they found Mr Morrice and a number of Germans at work. About 100 holes have been sunk, in many of which payable gold has been obtained, but it is very patchy, and there was a scarcity of water for washing dirt. Every member of the party is satisfied that "if men were residing on the ground, and a few dams were made to retain water, a very good living could be made by the use of the tub and cradle alone". [81]

12.1860: I have the honour to submit to the Board of Science the foregoing statement as required by the circular of the 1st December. As I am not certain whether it is the area of the ground that is being worked at the present time, or the area of all the ground that has been worked (together with the former) that is required by the circular above mentioned, I have, as far as practicable, forwarded the superficial contents of the whole worked part of the division. It will be observed that I have added to the ascertained number of square miles of surveyed land an approximate estimate of the area of unsurveyed land, which I should say amount to about one mile more. This unsurveyed ground comprises mostly the ground now in possession of the miner, all the gullies lying between Eaglehawk Gully and Sydney Flat, the extensive workings about the township of Neilborough of the Elysian Flat, and the various gullies of the Whipstick Scrub: some of the latter are becoming very important and ought to be laid down on the district map. ... The workings in and about the Whipstick Scrub are extending rapidly, and I am told would be remunerative if water could be retained near them: but owing to the density of the scrub, and the want of means for collecting, the miner may be said to have no water at all. However, as lately many small nuggets have been found, these gullies may be said to be progressing favourably, notwithstanding the difficulties under which the miners labour. The augmentation of the number of puddling mills during the month of November, is due to the good opinion entertained of this locality by the miners. [82.362]

07.1861: The new rush beyond the township of Neilborough has not yet been extended, but a prospecting claim has been taken up, but nothing worth reporting has been the result. The prospectors, however, are still working it, and have still great hopes of success. A small rush also has taken place in the Old Whipstick Scrub, about ten miles from Sandhurst, it is however, merely surfacing and is not of any importance; two puddling mills are put up in the vicinity. ... Two other reefs have lately been opened in the Whipstick Scrub, but they are scarcely payable. It is unfortunate for the Whipstick portion of the division that water is so very scarce, and from what I know of the locality I am apprehensive that little can be done to improve it; the nature of the ground is undulating so that no extent of ground that I have seen has a decided watershed in the area of which much water might be collected; nevertheless as the Whipstick is very extensive, such a place may as yet have escaped my notice, though I have visited a large portion of it. [79.268-269]

16.11.1861: There is scarcely a gully from Eaglehawk to the Elysian Flat, where there is water, but has its puddling mills at work, all of them paying well. [83]

12.1861: The surfacing system of mining, so universal in the Whipstick, has now entirely stopped, as no water is to be had. [82.547-548]

05.1862: The late rains have already done much good, and set all the idle puddling mills to work again. It is probable, too, that the surfacing at the Whipstick will be resumed, several embankments having been constructed across the shallow gullies. Several prospecting claims have been lately taken up in the same locality, but no payable gold has been struck. [79.4]

19.01.1863: The late timorous rain has had the effect of cheering the drooping spirits of the miners of this locality who have for some time been suffering severely from want of water, and gradually affairs have a livelier look. [84]
The new rush at Myers' Flat bids fair to revive in some measure the prospects of Sandhurst. The nature of the gold bearing stratum is very like that of the Epsom and Huntly lead, and like it full of water-worn quartz boulders, showing a certain indication of gold. The washing stuff, or drift, varies in thickness from 2 to 3 feet, the bottom usually fine slaty pipe-clay, or sandstone; in some of the claims two or three feet of hard cement have been found above the drift, also containing gold, thus making the washing stuff upwards of five feet in thickness. Depth of sinking from 30 to 40 feet. It is impossible yet to determine the direction of the lead, or its probable breadth, as sufficient work has not yet been done. At present there is plenty of water in the adjoining creek. The yield from the washing stuff out of the best claims is reported as about one ounce to the load. [79.5-6]

In the vicinity of the Whipstick, and the scrub itself, very good surfacing is found on the sides of the ranges, but the supply of water is insufficient for working it properly. In close proximity to the alluvial portion, a very fine reef has been discovered, which, from the specimens produced, will probably yield about 5 ounces to the ton. [85.5-6]

Although but a few days since the discovery was made public, there is a tented population on the ground amounting to about 500. This is supplemented by an equal number the most of whom may be termed loafers, and are engaged in the lounging occupation of shepherding claims....

Down the flat from the prospectors' claim, the ground is marked off a few hundred yards in width, straight across the creek and along its right bank for the distance of a mile, and above the prospectors' claim the ground is pegged for a quarter of a mile. A large number of holes are going down, but the number actually bottomed on Saturday night was not above 30. The richness of the lead may be guessed from that fact that ten of these have struck gold in really paying quantity. So far as the prospects from bucketfuls and tindishfuls show, for as yet, that is all that has been tried, the yield from them is one and two pennyweights each. The depth of washdirt ranges from 3 to 7 feet, and is similar in appearance to the washdirt at Epsom, full of small and large quartz boulders. The bottom generally is a fine soft slaty pipeclay, or soft sandstone. The last claim in which gold has been struck gives about 2dw t to the dish; the washdirt 7 feet thick, and rough pieces of gold all through it. The bottom is not reached, but it will probably be in another foot or two, as the sinking around is only about 40 feet. One claim, about 250 yards below the prospectors, got a fair prospect at 40 feet. In some of the claims there are 2 or 3 feet of cement just above the washdirt. Gold has been got on the top of the cement, and also in it; in the first case as much as 2dw t to the bucket was obtained. There is abundance of water for washing in the creek close to the diggings, and already one party have put up a long tom to wash surfacing. They have not washed much, but what they have done is most encouraging, the yield being 1½ozs to the load. The earth was taken from the hill on which the rich reef has been discovered, but for miles around to the north and east there are hills - so far as outward indications go - as likely to furnish surfacing. Indeed, this is a peculiarity of the Whipstick ranges, and is a strong reason why something should be done to construct water reservoirs for the use of the diggers. Wherever surfacing has been found in the Whipstick; it has led to the finding of extremely rich reefs. ...

An opinion has been expressed that the lead will trend towards the private property of Mr. Donald Campbell, but we have been informed by some persons to whom he spoke on the subject that he will offer no objection to the diggers following the lead into his ground, should it go there. ....

Some incidents of a special character serve as a guide to estimate the value of the new diggings. Among a few at this rush, the fact of the owners of a rich claim carting their washdirt to their tent, lying down and keeping guard all night, with their treasure on one side, and a rousing fire on the other that would make New Zealand miners dance for joy to feel, is pretty good evidence of the value of the stuff. Any one taking a handful of dirt from the wash heap and giving it a blow, would not fail to see specks of gold. One smiling individual, who evidently was in luck, cried over to a friend “Look here, mate” at the same time emptying into his hand a matchbox of rough gold. “Look here, mate” said he, “that’s the
way to do it”. This was the result of a day’s labour. Within the next week or
fortnight there will be thousands on the ground. ... About 600 persons are at
present on the ground. ... [86]

10.1863: What is said to be a very decidedly auriferous tract of country has
been discovered lying to the north of Sandhurst, at about 18 or 19 miles distant,
or about two miles beyond the township of Neilborough, or Elysian Flat. The
original discoverer reports it to be the most promising rush that has taken place
for some time. The Sebastian Flat, which created such excitement about three
months since, is now almost deserted, if not so entirely, in consequence of its
vicinity to this new discovery, known as the Raywood Gully rush. Many of the
miners have gone from our gullies, their usual places of labour, to try their
fortune at this newly-found goldfield, should it be found as good as it is said to
be, as soon as the dry season sets in, the want of water will be the greatest
obstacle which the miners will have to contend with. [87.8]

03.1864: In consequence of the almost total absence of water for washing,
the auriferous wash dirt has been for some time past, and is still largely stacked
awaiting the coming of rain. The expense of carting the wash dirt to the only
water now to be obtained, the Yarraberb Station, precludes any but the holders
of rich claims from doing so, and therefore prospecting in the absence of water
contiguous to the large extent of auriferous country here is almost fruitless.
I, however, have no doubt that when the winter rains set in, many leads of gold
will be found in this very auriferous portion of the division. Indeed, the
continuation of the Raywood Lead, hitherto by some considered run out, is now
found at a considerable distance (over a mile from the beginning of the lead) at
72 feet sinking, very rich. The prospectors of a new find on this lead have, this
morning announced to me the fact of nearly two ounces to the load.
While Elysian Flat is again receiving population, caused by new finds to the east
of Raywood, Sebastian opening again for gold to the south, Comoroka, about
ten miles to the north-east, and the Raywood lead rich to the west towards the
plains, I cannot refrain from submitting to you my opinion, which is borne out by
many intelligent miners, that this portion of the division will, this winter, support a
large population.
In remarking upon the coarse character of the gold from this field, which varies
considerably in appearance, the auriferous strata being of a most diversified
nature, I may state, that the leading feature of the gold here is nuggetty, and
found in shallow sinking. Nuggets have been constantly found varying from
2ozs to 110ozs, and although the deep leads promise favorably, I am of opinion
that a plentiful supply of water will open up a large amount of surface diggings,
in fact, nuggets have been found in Sailors’ Gully 45ozs in weight, only six
inches from the surface, over sinking of eight feet.
On the Inglewood Hill and lead the gold is found in a hard cemented white sand,
requiring blasting to remove, the gold being very bright and pure without alloy or
admixture of earth or clays. The wash is of heavy white quartz, in most
instances embedded in cement.
Sailor’s Gully comprises a run of auriferous alluvium in a westerly course,
apparently originated in the same source which supplied the Raywood leads.
The Inglewood Lead trends nearly east, and the source of the supply alluded to
is supposed to be an auriferous lode in the low dividing range, running nearly
north and south from the upper point of Raywood Gully, about the Christmas
Reef. The characteristics of this lead are very similar to Inglewood Hill lead, the
wash however is not so heavy and defined, and many of the nuggets found in its
course, including some of the largest obtained on Raywood have been found
embedded four and five feet deep in cement.
The Raywood Gully or lead presents entirely different characteristics to the
foregoing, although separated at the source by some few hundred yards. Its
direction is nearly west, and almost parallel to Sailors’ Gully. The gold during
the whole course of this lead is found in intimate connexion with ironstone, and
is of a very dark color. The original prospecting claim is situate in this gully, in
six feet sinking.
In the lower part of the lead, strata of cement with ironstone embedded prevail
on and near the bottom, some portions of which have proved very rich. [88.42-
In submitting my report of the Raywood Division of the Sandhurst Gold Field, I have the honor to state that until within the last few days, when rain came, there was no water for washing the auriferous earth, and the miners had to stack their washdirt; now however the dams erected by the miners are nearly full, and the puddling mills constantly employed washing up. Various rushes are taking place, now that water is to be had, for surface prospecting, and in all probability many alluvial leads will be found.

A quartz crushing engine of 12 horsepower with 12 stampers, commenced operations, on Thursday last, to the west of Raywood Township, and from the great impetus to quartz mining the Elyssian Flat and Raywood Steam Quartz Crushing Mills will be constantly employed. More quartz crushing mills are required. The quartz reefs at Raywood are proving to be auriferous.

The alluvial workings at Elyssian Flat are rapidly extending, and are likely to prove of considerable magnitude. The sinking being quite shallow, and water tolerably plentiful, numerous miners are on the ground, and their number is daily increasing.

The continued scarcity of water in this locality has tended materially to retard the progress of the district, the annual rainfall this year being considerably below the average. Puddling machines from this cause have been almost idle during the past two months, and comparatively there exist no means of testing the surface alluvium of the district at present, which alluvium I believe largely exists. A water supply would tend to the opening of new leads, the want of which may be considered a great drawback to this gold field.

A large portion of the Whipstick Scrub has been burnt, and quartz reefs may be seen cropping out all over, but no prospecting or work can be done for the want of water; none for domestic purposes even.

A 31ozs nugget of gold was obtained the other day, as also 39ozs of alluvial gold, the produce of one mill, from the original Raywood prospecting claim. Auriferous discoveries on the site of the present township of Raywood in November 1863 caused a considerable rush, eventuating in the establishment of a borough including the township of Neilborough (Elyssian Flat). The continuous drought of the year 1864, and up to June, the date of this report of 1865, paralysed alike the exertions of the puddlers, quartz and alluvial miners, and doubtlessly retarded new discoveries. Assistance in the matter of water supply has been solicited from the Government and responded to, a preliminary engineering reconnaissance made, and a sum of £10,000 placed upon the estimates for the purpose. This prompt action by the Government has given general satisfaction.

The severe ordeal through which Raywood has passed from the want of water has not destroyed the general confidence entertained in its auriferous resources, and a large company is being formed in the division to take up quartz and alluvial claims, which will tend, I have no doubt, to the opening up of valuable claims.

The alluvial workings at this place appear to be wholly deserted. Quartz reefing, however is still going on. The Frederick the Great Company are working in their open cutting, and trying stone from the east side, about thirty feet from the surface. In this gold has been seen; it is expected to pay. It is very profitable that the spurs further east will be prospected, and should they yield sufficient gold for working, there will be an immense quantity of stone to take out. The spurs in other portions of the cutting have not been yielding so well of late, and in consequence they have been left alone. At the south end of the excavation underfoot several spurs show payable gold from the cutting since the company commenced, about 5000 tons of quartz have been crushed, yielding 2100ozs of gold and on the whole the enterprising shareholders have received satisfactory return from their expenditure, capital and labour. Now, however their operations are in a measure of a prospecting character, and the gold obtained is less than hitherto. The company's dam is full and contains 5 month's water. It is very unlikely now that even in the driest summer the company will be without water to crush as they can draw water by means of pipes from the creek.
12.1865: The Barkly Reef, also at Elysian Flat, is turning out very well, four claims on which are obtaining gold. Three of them are paying very well indeed. The owners of these claims sent their stone to the Eureka engine, Sebastian, but the water suddenly failed, leaving a great portion of it uncrushed. What was crushed yielded 11dwt to the ton - very good returns when 3 men can get up 30 tons per week. Another claim on this reef struck the stone last week, but the owners must wait for the great desideratum - water - before they can prove it.

28.05.1866: After a stoppage of nearly five months, in consequence of the want of water, this company commenced operations on Wednesday last. From the supply given by the creek adjoining the ground they will be enabled to continue crushing for the next two or three months.

07.06.1866: Two of the claims on this line (Barkly Reef) have been crushing their stone since the rain came, and the returns have been between 7 and 8dwts to the ton. A great deal of dissatisfaction prevails amongst the shareholders at the returns. This locality is greatly in want of another engine, and could keep two constantly employed, for, in addition to three claims on the Barkly Reef, there are the Austrian, the Hope and Manly's reefs all raising great quantities of stone. Amongst them they could keep two engines constantly employed, but at present they may as well be without an engine, as the one there has only about 3 days' water at a time, and at present is standing still, and hundreds of tons of stuff lying about waiting to be crushed. There are several other reefs close by that would be worked if there were easy facilities for crushing - such are the Masonic and Stringons reefs - and almost all the alluvial dirt from the deep lead is crushed, as it contains a great deal of auriferous cement.

12.06.1866: Our Raywood correspondent writes that amongst a very good display of gold in the window of the Bank of Victoria on Saturday last, was a fine cake of 35ozs 8dwt, the produce of 11 tons of stone from Messrs Harding and Brown's claim on the Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat. This quartz was raised from an 80 foot level, and on an entirely new lode, being about 40 feet to the east of the old workings. The stone was crushed at the Shamrock engine, in the Whipstick, as, I am sorry to say, the engine on the flat is still idle, waiting for water.

19.06.1866: Harding and Brown had another crushing last week from their claim on the Barkly Reef, which averaged 2ozs 8dwt per ton. The other claims on this reef are busy crushing, as I am happy to say this last rain has given the engine on the flat abundance of water.

16.10.1867: I am happy to say that the Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company obtained some promising prospects last week from their ground on the Barkly Reef. Besides washing out some fine gold in the pass they have got some very nice specimens, and the shareholders are very sanguine that the mine they are working now will pay very well. It appears that Foley and Company, of No.1 claim north on this reef, are about taking legal proceedings against the owner of the crushing machine at the flat for stopping the natural watercourse, in order to secure a plentiful supply for his dam, in doing which he caused the water to overflow the flat and do considerable damage to their claim.
party, whose claim is contiguous to Shadbolt's paddock, from a washing off this week obtained a yield of half an ounce per load. I am also informed that other claims have given a yield as high as 8dwt per load. The deserted claims between Weightman Brothers shaft and Shadbolt's paddock fence have been taken possession of. ... Trounce and Company's mills have been actively employed during the week. Two of our puddling machines have been at a standstill for the want of water, in consequence of the owners not having made proper provisions for the preservation of the precious element when it was to be had in abundance. ... The greater portion of the claims below Price's store are now worked out, and the locality presents a most deserted appearance. ... [97]

12.1867: At Myerstown some of the machines are at a standstill for want of water, but Trounce and Company have a good supply, and are kept busy puddling for the public. The population has decreased very much. [98.17-18]

11.05.1868: Foley and Company crushed 64 tons of stone from their claim on this reef, during the week, and obtained 60ozs 7dwt of gold. Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company had a crushing of 14 tons of quartz from the same reef which yielded 11ozs 6dwt. The want of water is beginning to be severely felt on the flat. Mr Roberts machine has been idle a considerable time, waiting for the rain to come. ... [99]

11.05.1868: Mr Stephens has not yet been able to commence crushing for the same reason (lack of water). There are large quantities of quartz on Raywood, waiting to be crushed; and the parties that had the above stone crushed this week, had to cart it to the Shamrock engine, on the Whipstick, at a much greater expense than it would have cost had there been water nearer the reef. ... [99]

28.06.1868: The rainy season is the only time that the Whipstick can be prospected, and at the present moment there are parties out in that direction trying their luck. ... In old diggings there are still a number of diggers fossicking about, and every now and then they come upon a bit of gold that satisfies them. Last week a nice little piece of 10ozs, besides several smaller specks were washed out. At the bottom of Snowball Gully, a number of miners are getting gold in the false bottom, which previous diggers had left.[100]

06.1868: The following companies' crushing machines stopped work six weeks ago, and are still idle from the above cause (want of water):- New Era, Elysian Flat, Stephens' and Nichols' and Nil Desperandum. A party of miners are now engaged in erecting an 8-horsepower crushing plant in Raywood Gully for public purposes. [89.23]

31.08.1868: We learn that on Saturday Mr Robert Burrowes was informed by the Government Surveyor (Mr Moline) who was sent to the rush to ascertain the best means of obtaining water in quantities to supply the wants of the digging population there, that a sufficient supply could be had from the old Myer's Flat Government dam, by making an open cutting to an eligible spot, within half a mile of the present diggings. There is but one obstruction, the Myer's Creek Paddock, to a direct course for the aqueduct, and this it is supposed will be easily got over. A dam to conserve the water at the new diggings will be required, but this want is likely to be overcome by means suggested by Mr Burrowes. Some private parties suggest that the diggers should be asked to cut the open drain, as it is for their use and benefit, in place of waiting the usual routine of letting etc etc of Government contracts for the work. We are informed that 100 men would make the required cutting in one day. [101]

08.1868: By the end of August 1868, there was "a little township of slab, corrugated iron and calico buildings", with a "main street" [containing] a number of stores and several hotels ... Although payable gold had been proved on this rush there was once again that ever re-occurring problem of Whipstick mining, a lack of water. At first, wash-dirt had to be carted 1½ miles at 4 shillings a load to the nearest dam where the owner charged for the use of a tom for washing dirt. A few of the more enterprising diggers constructed their own dam and puddling machine. Many could not afford this. Most miners supported a move to cut a race from the reservoir which was constructed at Myers Creek during the rush to that area the previous year. This reservoir was some three quarters of a mile
south-west of the present rush. [Not constructed] By the close of 1868 most
miners had left the district - the rush had faded out. Earlier, the diggings had
spread westwards from Whipstick gully where, in Snowball Gully the sinking
became deeper, and the lead was traced to the edge of fenced land. [1.15-16]
8.1868: The new gully opened within the last few weeks is on the boundary
of the Whistick, and is a tributary of Sydney Flat. The gold is found on the
surface, and to a depth of 4 feet. So far as it has been traced it is mere
surfacing, and the proper way to work the ground would by washing the dirt in a
puddling machine, seeing that most of the precious metal is got in nuggets; but
as there is a scarcity of water, the stuff has to be carted to the nearest dam, and
as it costs 4 shillings a load for carting and the use of the tom, a great quantity
of washdirt that would be washed if water were handy is thrown aside. Some of
the claims are very rich, and most of the diggers who are working steadily are
getting more or less gold. The Bendigo Advertiser of 1st instant says:- The
Bank of Victoria yesterday purchased a parcel of nuggets found at the Whipstick
rush, the smallest of which weighed about an ounce, and the largest over
28ozs. The whole were the proceeds of 12 loads of stuff. [102]
5.09.1868: A nugget 27ozs in weight is reported to have been found a couple
days ago at the Whipstick rush, in the upper end of Snowball Gully; and the
day before yesterday one was picked up lower down the lead, weighing 2ozs
12dw 19 grains. Just outside Shoesmith’s Paddock, a claim recently driven has
yielded 2ozs of gold to the load. In the paddock there has been some difficulty
in tracing the run, on account of a strip of false bottom which has disturbed the
usual trace of gold: a few claims, however have yielded a payable prospect. In
Whipstick Gully mining operations have pretty nearly been brought to a
standstill; for want of water. ... If energetic steps are taken a supply can be
brought from the Myer’s Flat Reservoir to Trounce’s Dam, Sydney Flat, which
will probably last until rain comes, as there is 15 feet of water in the reservoir. ... [103]
10.09.1868: The objects contemplated by the meeting of miners at the new
Whipstick rush on Tuesday will be, if attained, of far greater importance to this
district than they appeared at first sight. The meeting had been originally
convened for the purpose of taking steps to get a temporary supply of water
conveyed from an adjacent dam at Myer’s Flat, but eventually
another object was proposed, that of obtaining the assistance of the
Government in the formation of dams throughout the Whipstick scrub, so as to
facilitate prospecting. ... [104]
24.09.1868: The following correspondence has been handed to us for
publication:
Department of Victorian Water Supply, Melbourne, ... Monday, 22 September
1868.
Sir, I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16th. instant,
respecting a dam to receive the water from Myer’s Creek reservoir at the
Whipstick, and in reply I have to inform you that the district engineer, Mr Moline,
has reported upon a site for a reservoir. A copy of his report is furnished
herewith for your information,...
Department of Victorian Water Supply, Sandhurst, 18 September 1868.
Sir, In reply to your memo, of 16th. September 1868, I have the honour to inform
you that the only site for the reception of the water from the Myer’s Creek dam,
near the Whipstick rush, is at a small gully at the end of the race as laid out by me.
Some cross sections were taken over this site and are in the book
containing the section. There is a small dam just made by one of the puddlers
in the same gully, a few chains above the line of the proposed race, and a
similar one could be constructed to receive the water from the Myer’s Creek
dam. I may add the country is very flat in the neighbourhood referred to, so that
it will be necessary to depend upon excavation to obtain a reservoir large
enough for the purpose. [105]
25.09.1868: A meeting of miners at the Whipstick was held yesterday afternoon
to consider the steps necessary to be taken to secure a water supply for that
district. ... In consequence of the refusal of the Government to supply any funds
for the purpose, it is the opinion of this meeting ... to accept the proposal made
by the party who is willing to cut a race from the dam at Myer’s Creek. ...

09.1868: The principal item of interest is the new alluvial diggings at Bolle’s Flat, Whipstick, near Sydney Flat, which has attracted a great number of diggers from all parts of the division. So far as I can judge by results the diggings in this locality are as patchy as those worked in the neighbourhood some ten or twelve years since. While nuggets of all sizes, varying from ½oz to 30ozs are being every day purchased at the various banks, a considerable quantity of coarse shotty gold has also been unearthed, and some excellent samples of fine gold; and I feel warranted in stating that the rush will prove fairly remunerative. These diggings have always been looked at with favor by many experienced miners, but almost insuperable difficulties were presented by the absence of water, while the want of roads was also most seriously felt.[98.19-20]

07.10.1868: The Whipstick Water Supply Committee proposed to cut a channel from Myer’s Creek to the Whipstick rush. [109]

10.10.1868: Whipstick Gully: Rush progressing. Many nuggets have been found, one weighing 27ozs (No.1129). A claim recently driven yielded 2ozs to the load. In Whipstick Gully the want of water has nearly brought operations to a standstill, if there were water enough, the gold yield would be doubled. [110]

10.1868: Whipstick, Bendigo - rush progressing. Many nuggets have been found, one weighing 27ozs. A claim recently driven yielded 2ozs to the load. In Whipstick Gully the want of water has nearly brought operations to a standstill; if there were water enough, gold yields would be doubled. [111.93]

12.1868: At the Whipstick nuggets of considerable size are continually turning up, and it is expected that many will return to the diggings there, as well as at Sydney Flat and Marong, as soon as the rainy season sets in. [98.18-19]

28.06.1869: The rainy season is the only time that the Whipstick can be prospected, and at the present moment, there are parties out in that direction trying their luck. One of these parties sank a shaft in a fine flat about a quarter of a mile north of the flat gully opened at the last Whipstick rush, and at a depth of 18 feet struck the washdirt. In every dishful of stuff washed they found gold to the extent, in some instances, of 3 grains. The prospect was considered promising, and as it got wind as these discoveries will, there was quite a small rush on Saturday, and about 60 claims were pegged off. In most cases, however, instead of setting vigorously to work to test the gully, the miners lounged about, waiting for the other to find the run for him.....

In old diggings there are still a number of diggers fossicking about, and every now and then they come upon a bit of gold that satisfies them. Last week a nice little piece of 10ozs, besides several smaller specks were washed out. At the bottom of Snowball Gully, a number of miners are getting gold in the false bottom, which previous diggers had left. At the new rush there is about 6 feet of false bottom. [112]

08.09.1877: The township of Elysian Flat, or Neilborough - by which name it is also known - is situated about 17 miles from Sandhurst on the road to Raywood. A good deal of excitement was created by the new discovery noticed in our last issue, which may lead to many persons going out there, in hopes of getting on the gold. We would warn the public against it, as the facts have been mis-stated by the prospectors. From a personal inspection of the ground yesterday, the following facts have been gleaned. The flat itself is about 3 miles long and half a mile wide, and has been worked out many years ago; having yielded large quantities of gold. The prospectors’ shaft is in the south-west corner of the flat, a little on the Sandhurst side of the township, which is about half a mile off, and within 200 yards of private property on the north. There is about half a square mile of comparatively untouched ground to the south of the prospectors’ claim, but even this has several old holes on it. At the head of the flat is the old Barkly Reef Company’s ground, and the prospectors’ shaft is about half a mile to the north. The prospectors (Guy and Duncan) have registered their claim. The sinking is 21 feet, through easy ground, and the wash occurs in shoots between walls of quartz of different character to most alluvial leads. They drove their shaft north under private property, and also east a good distance, finally putting in a drive south-west as a forlorn hope, when, after passing through about 3 feet
of solid quartz they came on the wash which is about 10 feet wide and 6 inches thick. As long this they drove 16 feet, the washdirt taken out going about 10 dwt to the load. The washdirt is more like a jumble of quartz veins than anything else, very little of it being waterworn, and the same may be said of the gold got, which is very scrappy but coarse, and having the appearance of being broken out from a quartz reef. Some of the gold shown was mixed with quartz, in little specimens like those got from quartz reefs. The bottom on which the washdirt lies varies very much, sometimes being sandstone, at others slate and occasionally pipeclay, through all of which masses of quartz spurs make up to the washdirt. In the reef passed through in driving several colours were seen, and it is just possible that payable stone may be found. There are two other parties at work sinking shafts north of the prospectors, although the run of gold trends south, so far. These parties think that they will be able to pick up the run without having to pass through the quartz reef, as the prospectors had to do. To show that people should be cautious before going in to it, it may be mentioned that there are about 20 men fossicking along the flat, who think so little of it that they don’t think it worth while to peg out a claim. Water is plentiful in all the holes and small dams, but the smallness of the lead and the distance should deter those who intend going from doing so. ... [113]

31.03.1879 A correspondent, writing from Sebastian, says: The want of a copious fall of rain is being severely felt throughout the whole of this district. ... There is a large number of men scattered through the Whipstick, gaining a subsistence from working the shallow gullies which abound in that district. Gold is procurable in small quantities in most of them, but although the shining metal can be seen, nothing can be done, as no water can be found to wash it, and in many parts, not even for household purposes. ... [114]

17.05.1880 There was no water for prospecting at Whipstick, where he believed there was a large amount of gold; and a considerable area of ground there remained to be prospected, which could be done if a race was constructed to that place ... [115]

24.06.1880 A large and influential deputation waited on the Minister of Mines in the Sandhurst Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, in reference to (water for the Whipstick). ... [116]

03.1881 On the Old Tom Reef, Whipstick, several parties are doing well, and Mr Bolle has come on an exceedingly rich patch in his claim, but all the reef is good. Unfortunately he is obliged to cease working his engine on account of want of water, which will seriously interfere with mining in that district until a supply can be obtained from some source. [98.30]

07.06.1881 A considerable amount of prospecting, we hear, is being carried out in the neighbourhood of the Old Tom Reef on the Whipstick. A large quantity of stone has lately been crushed at Mr Bolle’s battery, and a number of miners have yet at grass sufficient quartz to keep the battery going for some time, and now that water is becoming abundant we may expect to hear of some fair returns. The stone crushed was payable, and that at grass looks well. [117]

13.11.1885 So far back as June 1883, an agitation was on foot to secure a permanent water supply for the country lying between Eaglehawk, including Myer’s Flat, Whipstick, Sebastian and Raywood. After unsuccessfully trying to impress on the Government the importance and necessity of the undertaking the matter was allowed to remain in abeyance, until about the same month in the following years, when Mr Hay Kirkwood, the present mayor of Eaglehawk, who throughout the whole affair has been the leading spirit in the movement, again raised the agitation and public meetings were held at the Eaglehawk Town Hall, Whipstick and Sebastian, during the month of July. Two schemes were proposed – one that pipe should be laid along the railway line, and the other that a race should be constructed, starting from Lightning Hill, near Eaglehawk, trending through the Whipstick, and contouring the hills in the direction of Sebastian and Raywood. The first proposal did not find favour on account of the enormous expense which would have to be incurred; while the second, which would provide an adequate supply was favoured as it would not cost nearly so much. ...

In July last tenders for the work were invited, and about a fortnight afterwards
the work was actually commenced. It was let to different contractors in sections, but some of the contractors have thrown up or finished their contracts and most of the works are now being carried out by day labour. Over 70 men are at present engaged on day work on the section from Eaglehawk to Whipstick, and Mr Snow, of the Water Works Department, was busily engaged yesterday in paying the men. In addition to these, a number of the men are engaged by the contractors. The water will be conveyed from the Sparrowhawk race near Albert’s crushing machine, to Lightning Hill, by means of a syphon, the pipes 12 inches in thickness, for which are now lying ready in Victoria Street, Eaglehawk. From Lightning Hill a race has been cut for some distance, where it falls into the No.1, or Blue Jacket, reservoir, which is now in course of construction. About 50 men are engaged here, and the locality presents a very lively appearance just now. From this reservoir the water will be conveyed by means of the race north to Sebastian, where another reservoir will be constructed, and thence on to Raywood, where there will be another reservoir. The distance from Eaglehawk to Raywood is about 16 miles, but owing to the circuitous course which has had to be taken the water race will be considerably longer. There will be several flumes required, but none of them of very great length, the longest being across a valley 2 or 3 miles from Eaglehawk. It is anticipated that the water will be tunnelling as far as the Whipstick at any rate by the end of February. The utility of this work is beyond question, as already a number of claims are taken up and a party have taken up a lease at the Whipstick, on which they intend to erect a large crushing machine as soon as the water is laid on. The work is being carried on under the supervision of Mr Gale, on behalf of the Water Supply Department. [118]

08.10.1897 Mr R. O’Neill has received the following letter from the Secretary of Mines and Water Supply:- With reference to previous correspondence in regard to the battery for the Whipstick district, I have the honour, by direction, to inform you that the money for the battery is now available, and the machine will be sent up as soon as it can be got ready. [119]

1899 Austrian Reef. A considerable amount of work has been done on this reef both by open cutting and shaft sinking, the main shaft being about 60 feet deep and in a good condition for working. Very little information can be gained respecting this reef, but it is stated to have been very rich in the surface cutting. An underlay shaft was sunk on what appears to be a branch of the reef, and averaged ½ozs to 3dwt per load to a depth of 40 feet. This reef is now abandoned, though it is said that a large reef is to be seen at the bottom of the main shaft, which would average 3dwt per ton. Dark-blue slate and yellowish sandstone is seen on the mullock heaps. Graptolites are to be found in the slates, also what appear to be other fossil remains.

Black Rock Reef. This reef is situated in Black Rock Flat, and has had considerable work done upon it by the sinking of shafts and cuttings. I could not gain any information respecting it, but no doubt gold was found in payable quantities, seeing that so much work has been done. There is also the remains of a small crushing battery to be seen. ... A small area of alluvial workings is seen in the gully to the west of the Black Rock Reef. Graptolites in dark blue slate are to be seen here.

Italian Reef. This reef is situated higher on the same slope as the Tasman Reef, and several shafts have been sunk on it, also an extensive open cutting. No reliable information can be obtained respecting it, only that the original holders got very payable returns from the reef near the surface.

Tasman Reef. This reef was originally worked by open cutting, and taken out for a width of about 3 feet. The surface stone was very rich in places, and averaged as much as 12ozs per load. An underlay shaft was sunk to a depth of 108 feet on the west side of the reef mentioned, in cutting, the reef continuing down to this depth, and at times averaged 2ozs to the load. At 108 feet, what appears to have like a fault came in from the west and formed a junction with the reef, but the stone getting poor at this point no further work was done. The fault itself carried some stone, and this was profitably worked. Another shaft was sunk to a depth of 1200 feet, and a cross cut east intersected the reef previously worked in the cutting, and though the reef is from one foot 6 inches to
2 feet wide, it is not payable under present conditions. There seem to be an excellent prospect in this mine, and it appears strange that the work was not continued to ascertain what remained below the junction of the reef and fault mentioned above.

Stephen's claim. Some 200 yards north east of the Tasman Reef and still further down the slope of the hill, Stephen and party have been working on a very strong body of stone. Two shafts about 30 feet deep each and an open cut were put down on the reef, from which a crushing was taken, and averaged over 3dwt, but a subsequent crushing only averaged 1½dwt. This reef, I think, is the continuation north of the Trevillick Reef.

Trevillick Reef. This reef is situated about 25 chains south east of Tasman Reef, and was opened about 1876 by a Mr Nancarrow. It was worked along its course by open cutting for a distance of 260 feet, and averaged about 8dwt per load. A shaft was sunk slightly to the east of the reef, which was cut at 50 feet, but averaging only 3dwts, it could not be profitably worked. A shaft is being at present sunk on the southern continuation of the reef, and a crushing is being taken out, the stone showing a fair prospect. The Tasman, Trevillick, Austrian and Italian reefs are within a radius of 20 chains, and the crowns and slopes of the hills on which they are situated are intersected by many reef outcrops which invariably carry gold. The surface soil also carries gold, and with water convenient the whole of the surface in this locality might be sluiced with profit.

[120]

17.02.1900. The continued dry season is seriously affecting the numerous small prospecting parties operating on the surface formations at the Whipstick, as for the past few weeks they have been unable to obtain sufficient water to crush their dirt, and the battery in the locality is consequently idle. [121]
### RAYWOOD RESERVOIR

**Description**
Large dry dam.

**History**
Period of activity: 1865+

**Thematic Context**
Mining

**Comparative Examples**
Within the study area there are at least seventeen dams constructed to provide water for mining purposes. These are: Peter the Great Dam (right hand branch)(1856), Wallace Reef (1856), Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858), Old Tom Reef (1860), No.7 Reservoir (1861), Frederick the Great (1865), Raywood Reservoir (1865), Frühling Reef (1871), Liddell’s (probably 1876), at least one at Fiddler’s Green (by 1879), Elliott’s Reef (by 1887), Christoff Reef (1895), Wilson’s Hill (by 1896), Lightning Hill (by 1903), on the ridge above the Lancashire Reef workings (by1908) and New Moon Consolidated (by 1910). Several of these dams are still serviceable and at least three are still in use. These three are Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858) and No.7 Reservoir (by 1861).

**Statement of Significance**
The site is associated with the Raywood gold rush (criterion A).

**Level of Significance**
Local

**Recommendation**
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

**Heritage Boundaries**
The site is bounded on the east by Speke Street and on the other three sides by property boundaries.

**References**
1. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.  
Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Notes

10.1863: What is said to be a very decidedly auriferous tract of country has been discovered lying to the north of Sandhurst, at about 18 or 19 miles distant, or about two miles beyond the township of Neillborough, or Elysian Flat. The original discoverer reports it to be the most promising rush that has taken place for some time. The Sebastian Flat, which created such excitement about three months since, is now almost deserted, if not so entirely, in consequence of its vicinity to this new discovery, known as the Raywood Gully rush. Many of the miners have gone from our gullies, their usual places of labour, to try their fortune at this newly-found goldfield, should it be found as good as it is said to be, as soon as the dry season sets in, the want of water will be the greatest
obstacle which the miners will have to contend with. [1.8]

10.1863: By mid-October it was observed that many stores, butchers' shops, blacksmiths and other lousiness places on Sebastian had closed down and shifted elsewhere. The gold yield was much reduced. There was a reluctance by the miners to sink deeper shafts, for as the lead as it approached Myers Creek it deepened considerably, while returns were generally poor. The end of the Sebastian rush came in October when a new rush to the Raywood diggings, some four miles north of Sebastian took place. [2.91-107]

10.1863: Raywood - On 22 October 1863, Mr Raywood, a Sebastian digger, was bushed for a night on Thunder Plains, about two and a half miles north-west of Elysian Flat. On the following day he found gold, sank a shaft and got three ounces of gold without washing. He went back to Sebastian for his mates, but had great difficulty finding the place again...By 28 October Sebastian was deserted, and by the beginning of November there were 1500 on the Raywood field. The site of the discovery was thick whipstick scrub, and one of the first there was Mr McWhirter, the discoverer of Poverty Gully. The original discovery was near the top of a hill and the rush went west down the gully on the Raywood Lead. Early in November a run of gold east from the top of the Raywood Lead on the opposite side of the hill was named the Inglewood Lead, a flat opened further south was known as Armfield's. Early in December 1863 a tributary gully was discovered running west into the Raywood Lead and named American or Sailors Gully. Two other small leads, Buxton's and another towards Elysian Flat, were opened at the rush. [3.249-250]

11.1863: The correspondent of the Inglewood Advertiser says:- There has been an alteration in mining affairs here since my last. A new prospecting quartz claim, situate about half a mile from this, was taken up yesterday, and several claims marked out; gold has been obtained in the stone, but it would be premature to give any opinion of its value until more thoroughly tested; this applies also to the Welbourne Reef, work upon which progresses slowly. I have reliable information of a 2 pound nugget having been obtained in the shallow part of Raywood Gully. Numbers of our population were yesterday scouring the bush for a reported new lead; there appears truth in this report of gold having been obtained, but the precise locality is unknown. Several miners have returned to Dunolly from the rush, and give anything by flattering accounts of it. They one and all state that its prospects have been exaggerated, and advise persons not to be led away by highly-coloured reports. This information has caused a number of miners to remain who had prepared to pay Raywood a visit. [4.239]

24ozs nugget (No.1213) found at a shallow depth in Raywood Gully. [5.62, 6]

1863: Alluvial gold at Raywood. On Thursday, October 22 1863, Woodward was prospecting some five miles north of Sebastian on the edge of the Thunder Plains, at a depth of 4½ feet he picked out several bits of gold. Word of the new find travelled swiftly, exercising great interest at Sebastian and among miners in the many Whipstick gullies... The new rush which was only three miles north-west of Elysian Flat, was named Raywood after Joseph Woodward's home town. The spot where he first found gold became known as Raywood Gully was to prove extremely rich. By October 30, many tents had been erected and the population was estimated at 1,000. On 4 November a great increase in population was reported, numbering between 1,500 and 2,000, while "tents, stores, boarding houses, shanties, blacksmith's and butcher's shops have been erected with marvellous rapidity... Numerous buildings of all descriptions are in the course of the erection..." Raywood Gully was unable to accommodate the great number of miners, and many moved out to adjoining gullies and flats. From where the gold was first discovered in Raywood Gully it was traced for a mile-and-a-quarter where the sinking was much deeper. In a number of claims, particularly the deeper ones, hard cement was encountered. This contained gold but had to be crushed... This cement was carted to the crushing batteries at Elysian Flat where, although the miners fed the stone into the stampers, the charge for crushing was 14 shillings per load. [2]

Raywood. The first known reference to reef mining at Raywood appeared in The Bendigo Advertiser on 7 December 1863, concerning a
crushing of five tons which yielded 4ozs 10dwts of gold from a claim aptly named the Pioneer Reef. Another reef close by and parallel to the Pioneer Reef was the Coulter Reef. Messrs Armfield and Coulter were apparently the prospectors on these reefs, for a function held at the opening of the first crushing battery at Raywood, these men were toasted as “the first prospectors of reefs” on the field. An old open cut still exists at Raywood, on the northern slopes of Christmas Hill, which marks the site of the Pioneer Reef. Indications there suggest that mining on this reef was only to shallow depths. One claim on the Pioneer Reef sold to the Raywood Bank of New South Wales in August 1864, a cake weighing 43ozs from a crushing of 16 tons.

The Perseverance Reef, a quarter of a mile north of the town is known to have yielded hundreds of ounces. The company was formed in 1868, operating on a large body of stone 19 feet wide. Much of it was unpayable ...The site of this former mine is now part of the Raywood Golf Links.

The Buxton Company was registered in July 1868. This reef, crossing Buxton Gully to the north of the township, was rich in patches, the shaft eventually reaching a depth of 260 feet.

Another early (mine) worked on Raywood was that of the Croesus Company, whose claim adjoined that of the Nil Desperandum, on its northern side. In January 1869, the Croesus claim had four shafts at various depths ranging from 70 to 120 feet.

An early report concerning the Nil Desperandum, December 1864, records a crushing of 73 tons which yielded 63ozs 3dwt. ... The shaft was later sunk to 500 feet. An interesting innovation in underground blasting technique was introduced at the mine early in 1869. This was the use of gun cotton. During 1887 the Nil Desperandum was again paying dividends, but values later slumped, and the mine closed down in 1889. During its 25 years existence, £30,000 was paid in dividends.

Another company, the New Nil Desperandum was formed in 1906, and worked from the original shaft of the old company. Extensive development work was carried out and the shaft deepened from 500 to 800 feet. Mr James Hoskins was manager from 1906 to 1908. Mr W Bren then took charge for some years during which time almost 15,000ozs of gold was obtained. Mr R Eddy managed the mine later and up to the time when operations ceased in 1916 ...One of the last miners to work in this mine stated that at the 800 feet level the quartz was 150 feet wide and 20 feet thick. He also said that “so great was the excavations made by the tributers that eventually they were unable to get their machines to the face”.

The first quartz miners were greatly inconvenienced by lack of crushing facilities. Some reefers had their stone carted to Elysian Flat, some three miles distant, with the cost for cartage seriously depleting profits. In January 1864, Coulter and Party who owned a battery at Huntly, had bullock-dray load of stone carted there for a trial crushing. There was an urgent need for a crusher at Raywood and in 1864, an Inglewood man, Mr Page, erected the first battery on this field. The site chosen was approximately a half mile north from the centre of town. A series of shallow holes, and an old dam bank and an area of scattered sand on the present Raywood Golf Course is probably the site where the first crusher was operated. The end of April 1864 saw the completion of the dam, 267 feet long and races were to be ploughed extending for five miles to conduct as much rainfall as possible into the reservoir. The battery consisted of 12 head of revolving stamps, driven by a 10 horsepower steam engine. The boiler was 20 feet long. Sometimes the battery was idle through shortage of water ... A shaft was sunk, and a depth of 108 feet a supply of water was obtained. The proprietor planned to deepen the shaft to 120 feet and tunnel on each side of the shaft in the hope of obtaining further supply. In March 1865, the battery was dismantled and re-erected at the Company's claim on the Dead Horse Reef near Harvey Town, Eaglehawk.

With the removal of Page’s battery, Raywood was again without crushing facilities. In less than two years, there came to this district one of the most unusual crushing machines ever on the Bendigo gold field ...Hart’s Patent Cylindrical Quartz Crushing Machine ... two iron cylinders, one revolving within
the other. The inner cylinder was perforated with holes, the stone being admitted by means of a chute. As the inner cylinder revolved the stone dropped through the holes, and was ground to a powder. Mercury was introduced with the quartz . . . The machine was apparently made in Melbourne. Installation of the plant, which was driven by steam, was completed in October. Also erected were four riffle tables, another patent Hart's. The machine was officially opened and christened on 23 October 1866 . . . The machine was not a great success, but for some time it was engaged in crushing hundreds of loads of cement. The machine . . . ceased work during February 1867. [2.121-128]

1863-1880: Considering its small area, Raywood was perhaps the most prolific source of nuggets on the Bendigo goldfield. The first, of 24ozs, located in November 1863. In all, 25 nuggets of from 24 to 113ozs were found between 1863 to 1880. [2.173]

01.1864: 60ozs nugget (No.643) found at an undisclosed depth. [5.35, 7]

01.1864: By January, much of the cement-like washdirt from Raywood was carted to Elysian Flat and puddled. As mining extended westward down Raywood Gully the sinking gradually increased. This rich, ancient run of gold bearing gravel became known as the Raywood Lead, and its course, as it deepened, swung sharply northwards. For the most part it proved payable . . . When the sinking on Raywood Lead reached fifty feet, its tortuous course was difficult to follow . . . During April 1864, one party, Hart and Company, struck the gutter on the Raywood Lead at a depth of seventy feet, which was estimated to yield 3ozs to the load. The lead was eventually followed further north where the auriferous gravels spread out in the form of drifts. The sinking finally reached a depth of 100 feet, but as average yields were only 2dwt's per load, mining here proved unprofitable. Early in December 1863, holes were being sunk in Yankee and Inglewood Gullies . . . sinking in the latter ranged from 12 to a 100 feet, and later was known as the Inglewood Lead. . . Several Claims on this lead in 1864 yielded over 20 pounds (240ozs) weight of gold each . . . Newspaper reports indicate that the Inglewood Lead was the richest alluvial area on the Raywood goldfield. Today, along the course of the former Inglewood Lead, once studded with diggers' holes with their surrounding heaps of mullock, no trace remains of former busy times. The heaps have been levelled and the area long used for agricultural purposes. [2]

03.1864: In consequence of the almost total absence of water for washing, the auriferous wash dirt has been for some time past, and is still largely stacked awaiting the coming of rain. The expense of carting the wash dirt to the only water now to be obtained, the Yarraberb Station, precludes any but the holders of rich claims from doing so, and therefore prospecting in the absence of water contiguous to the large extent of auriferous country here is almost fruitless. I, however, have no doubt that when the winter rains set in, many leads of gold will be found in this very auriferous portion of the division. Indeed, the continuation of the Raywood Lead, hitherto by some considered run out, is now found at a considerable distance (over a mile from the beginning of the lead) at 72 feet sinking, very rich. The prospectors of a new find on this lead have, this morning announced to me the fact of nearly two ounces to the load. While Elysian Flat is again receiving population, caused by new finds to the east of Raywood, Sebastian opening again for gold to the south, Comoroka, about ten miles to the north-east, and the Raywood lead rich to the west towards the plains, I cannot refrain from submitting to you my opinion, which is borne out by many intelligent miners, that this portion of the division will, this winter, support a large population.

In remarking upon the coarse character of the gold from this field, which varies considerably in appearance, the auriferous strata being of a most diversified nature, I may state, that the leading feature of the gold here is nuggety, and found in shallow sinking. Nuggets have been constantly found varying from 2ozs to 110ozs, and although the deep leads promise favorably, I am of opinion that a plentiful supply of water will open up a large amount of surface diggings, in fact, nuggets have been found in Sailors' Gully 45ozs in weight, only six inches from the surface, over sinking of eight feet. On the Inglewood Hill and lead the gold is found in a hard cemented white sand,
requiring blasting to remove, the gold being very bright and pure without alloy or admixture of earth or clays. The wash is of heavy white quartz, in most instances embedded in cement.

Sailor's Gully comprises a run of auriferous alluvium in a westerly course, apparently originated in the same source which supplied the Raywood leads. The Inglewood Lead trends nearly east, and the source of the supply alluded to is supposed to be an auriferous lode in the low dividing range, running nearly north and south from the upper point of Raywood Gully, about the Christmas Reef. The characteristics of this lead are very similar to Inglewood Hill lead, the wash however is not so heavy and defined, and many of the nuggets found in its course, including some of the largest obtained on Raywood have been found embedded four and five feet deep in cement.

The Raywood Gully or lead presents entirely different characteristics to the foregoing, although separated at the source by some few hundred yards. Its direction is nearly west, and almost parallel to Sailors’ Gully. The gold during the whole course of this lead is found in intimate connexion with ironstone, and is of a very dark color. The original prospecting claim is situate in this gully, in six feet sinking.

In the lower part of the lead, strata of cement with ironstone embedded prevail on and near the bottom, some portions of which have proved very rich. [8.42-43] 06.1864: Raywood: 200 reef miners and 1270 alluvial miners at work.

Barkly and Company, Raywood: 350zs obtained from 40 tons of stone.

Coulter and Company, Raywood: 140zs from 2 tons of stone.

Welbourne, Raywood: 500zs obtained from 70 tons of stone. [9.48-49]

In submitting my report of the Raywood Division of the Sandhurst Gold Field, I have the honor to state that until within the last few days, when rain came, there was no water for washing the auriferous earth, and the miners had to stack their washdirt; now however the dams erected by the miners are nearly full, and the puddling mills constantly employed washing up.

Various rushes are taking place, now that water is to be had, for surface prospecting, and in all probability many alluvial leads will be found.

A quartz crushing engine of 12 horsepower with 12 stampers, commenced operations, on Thursday last, to the west of Raywood Township, and from the great impetus to quartz mining the Elysian Flat and Raywood Steam Quartz Crushing Mills will be constantly employed. More quartz crushing mills are required. The quartz reefs at Raywood are proving to be auriferous. [9.48-49] 20.07.1864: Raywood - A very fine specimen of quartz gold is now on view at the Oriental Bank here. The specimens are very rich, the gold being very coarse, in fact, small nuggets. They were obtained from No.1 claim, Pioneer Reef, which promises to prove one of the richest yet discovered. [10]

23.07.1864: Mining matters here continue about the same as at the date of last report. Perhaps they may be said to have improved slightly. Several parties are said to be at work at the distance of about a mile and a half from this, where alluvial prospects have been obtained, and which it is hoped may prove a permanent addition to our alluvial working. The reefs continue to exhibit signs of improvement generally, and at Coulter's Reef some excellent stone has been found. This branch of mining is beginning to attract the attention of those possessing capital, a very well known and successful shareholder in quartz claims at Inglewood being at Raywood for the purpose of investing in some of our lines of reef. Large parcels of gold, the produce of the late washings, are daily coming into the banks, as anticipated on a sufficient water supply being obtained. Lately the ceremony of opening the new crushing machine, erected by Mr Page, took place ... the name henceforth to be "The Raywood" ... The machine was now in full work. ... [11] 28.07.1864: Little alteration can be reported in mining matters in the immediate vicinity of the township, no new alluvial workings have been discovered. Miners here are engaged in working out their claims, or prospecting for quartz reefs; the latter pursuit is becoming very general, and several prospecting claims have been taken up. [12]

An encouraging feature ... is the ascertained fact of the stone being auriferous at the respective depths of 64 and 80 feet, the greatest depth yet reached here. This has proved the case on the Coulter's and Pioneer Reefs; the latter is situate to the eastward of the Coulter and Christmas line. [9.46-47]


No new discoveries in alluvial have taken place around Raywood, and the population has consequently diminished. [9.48-49]

03.1865: Raywood: 900 miners at work. Coulter's Reef, Raywood: 187ozs obtained from 27 tons of stone at 90 feet. [9.46-47]

06.1865: Raywood: 750 miners at work. Coulter's No.2, Coulter's Reef, Raywood: 250ozs obtained from 25 tons of stone at 94 feet. Christmas Reef, Raywood: 14ozs obtained from 29 tons of stone at 106 feet. [9.50-52]

A 31ozs nugget of gold was obtained the other day, as also 39ozs of alluvial gold, the produce of one mill, from the original Raywood prospecting claim. ... Auriferous discoveries on the site of the present township of Raywood in November 1863 caused a considerable rush, eventuating in the establishment of a borough including the township of Neilborough (Elysian Flat). The continuous drought of the year 1864, and up to June, the date of this report of 1865, paralysed alike the exertions of the puddlers, quartz and alluvial miners, and doubtlessly retarded new discoveries. Assistance in the matter of water supply has been solicited from the Government and responded to, a preliminary engineering reconnaissance made, and a sum of £10,000 placed upon the estimates for the purpose. This prompt action by the Government has given general satisfaction.

The severe ordeal through which Raywood has passed from the want of water has not destroyed the general confidence entertained in its auriferous resources, and a large company is being formed in the division to take up quartz and alluvial claims, which will tend, I have no doubt, to the opening up of valuable claims. [9.50-52]

09.1865: Raywood: 250 miners at work. [9.54-55]

Three prospecting alluvial claims have also been registered: ... one of 65 yards square, three-quarters of a mile north of Raywood. [9.54-55]

12.1865: Raywood: 200 miners at work. Christmas Reef, Raywood: 2ozs 10dwt obtained from 10 tons of stone at 106 feet. [9.53-54]

03.1866: Raywood: 200 miners at work. [9.51-52]

05.1866: Although in some instances lately the crushings from the reefs at Raywood have yielded as much as 10ozs to the ton, persons requiring stone crushed have to cart it all the way to Huntly, ... [13]

05.1866: The recent rains have been of great benefit to the miners at Raywood, who have been enabled to recommence work in claims which had been abandoned for months. Within the last week several nuggets have been found in the alluvial workings - one 4ozs in weight. On the Christmas Reef some very good stone is being raised, from the claim of Messrs Heeble and Company, but in consequence of the great distance the company would have to cart it for crushing, they are paddocking it for the present. [314]

05.1866: A miner working in the gully immediately adjoining the Wellbourne Reef got a specimen yesterday of about 6ozs weight, containing about 5ozs gold. He also got another small nugget of 6dwt and some coarse gold from the first tub. The discovery has induced another party to take up the deserted May Reef, on the opposite side of Sailor's Gully. There was a rush to mark off the ground; but Mr Cole, the storekeeper, was the fortunate man. [315]

06.1866: The reefs of this place are at length beginning to attract attention,
and it is rumoured that an engine will shortly be erected. ... There are 3 reefs from which good stone has been obtained; the first in importance is the Christmas, or Coulter's Reef, from which stone has been raised from a depth of 110 feet, yielding as much as 10ozs to the ton. This claim having reached the water level, is at present exempt. There are two other claims on this line that are getting stone, one of them from a depth of 130 feet; the last crushing from this claim yielded 14dwt per ton, and the reef is 14 feet thick. In the other claim they are raising very good stone from different levels; the deepest level is 100 feet and the reef is 230 feet thick, the whole of which it is anticipated will pay handsomely. Two other claims to the south of these are sinking for this reef, and there are other claims on this reef from which any amount of payable stone could be raised if an engine were upon the ground. The next is the Wellbourne Reef which has lately been taken up by Mr. Francis, of Gunn's Hotel. The past stone raised averaged rather more than an ounce to the ton, and since Mr. Francis has taken possession of it they have found some very fine specimens (?), and the shareholders are very sanguine of handsome returns. The third reef alluded to is the May Reef, last week applied for by Mr Cole, storekeeper, of this township. The stone from this reef that was crushed yielded 12dwt to the ton. All these reefs have, with the exception of two claims on Coulter's, been exempted or altogether abandoned because there has been no means of crushing the stone; but now that the rain has come, and they have been taken up, it is certain that there is an opening for a capitalist to make good use of his money by erecting an engine. [16]

06.1866 Raywood: 200 miners at work. [9.48-50]
06.1866 The Christmas line of reef is yielding payable stone, as also the Welbaum, Pioneer, and Coulter's, but the distance to cart the stone deprives the miner from crushing more than sufficient for current expenses. [9.48-50]
04.07.1866 The place has certainly improved lately, as one day last week a quartz claim was taken up south of the Nil Desperandum Company's ground, and some very good stone has been got, at a depth of about 18 feet. Three claims have also been taken up on the Christmas, or Coulter's Reef, south of Makin's claim. So many claims being taken up have caused a small stir in the town. ... [17]
19.07.1866 The claim that was taken up last week on the Wellbourne Reef, south of the Nil Desperandum lease, is turning out very well indeed. 6 tons of stone yielded 18ozs 15dwt 5 grains. In consequence of this splendid yield the shareholders of the company are in good spirits, and with very good reason. 50 tons of stone from Heckle and Company's claim on the Christmas Reef yielded 36ozs 3dwt, 28 tons of this stone were raised from the 140 foot level, and taken from a new lode of stone 10 feet thick; these 28 tons yielded 22ozs. ... [18]
17.07.1866 There is considerable stir at the present time in the reefing interest at Raywood on account of the probability of a crushing machine being erected. ... Mr Hart, inventor of the patent cylindrical crushing and amalgamating machine, made a proposition to a meeting of miners to erect one of his machines on certain terms. These were accepted, and Mr Hart proceeded to Melbourne to bring the machine up. Those who have taken the matter up have decided upon erecting the machine behind the White Horse Hotel. ... Heckle and Company, on the Christmas Reef, who are busily engaged putting in the main level north and south of the shaft, at a depth of 140 feet, and this being done, men will commence rising on the stone, and as room is made more men will be put on, when a large quantity of quartz will be got out, as the reef is about 12 feet thick, and contains gold throughout. The last crushing of 50 tons yielded 36ozs of gold. The result of this crushing has induced several parties to commence work on the line south. Three claims in the hands of Sandhurst speculators have been amalgamated and work has been begun. The Pioneer Reef is parallel to the Christmas Reef, and on this line Hunter and Company are raising and crushing quartz from their ground, two claims north from Heckle and Company. About 50 tons of stone have been raised, which is expected to yield an ounce of gold to the ton. Coulter's Reef. On this line there were fair prospects some 18 months ago, but a company applied for a lease of 16 acres of ground and they, it appears, have
never taken up the lease nor worked the ground, and the consequence is, that parties willing to work the ground are unable to take possession. [19]

d. 18.07.1866: The most important meeting that ever took place for the interests of this district was held at Gunn's Hotel, last night, by the miners of the town and Elysian Flat. ... The meeting was for the purpose of hearing Mr James Hart, of the New Era Iron Works, state upon what terms he was willing to erect one of his patent crushing machines at Raywood. [20]

d. 12.1866: Raywood: 250 miners at work. [9.45-46]

d. 12.1866: Christmas Reef, Raywood: 1210zs 10dwt obtained from 105 tons of stone at between 60 and 100 feet. [21]

d. 03.1867: Raywood: 250 miners at work. [9.37-38]

09.09.1867: A late crushing of 116 tons from the No 3 claim, Christmas Reef, Raywood, yielded 640zs 15dwt 6 grains. [22]

d. 09.1867: George Heckle and Company, Raywood: 1550zs obtained from 155 tons of stone at between 60 and 100 feet.

A. Litton and Company, Christmas Reef, Raywood: 490zs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 172 tons of stone. [9.21-22]

d. 09.1867: George Heckle and party are obtaining good returns from their mine on the Christmas Reef. They have a large quantity of good looking stone on the surface, which the unfavourable state of the weather prevented them from sending to Elysian Flat to be crushed. [9.21-22]


George Heckle and Company, Christmas Reef: 80zs 12dwt obtained from 43 tons of stone. [9.20]

25.01.1868: A crushing plant of 8 stamps is in course of erection at Raywood by F. D. Stephens and Company, who purpose confining themselves to crushing for the public. ... [23]

12.02.1868: Croesus Gold Mining Company, Raywood. The mining manager reports, to date 8th. February - Since my last report I have been extending the drives east and west, the eastern drive is now in to a distance of 75 feet, the western 38 feet, and in both levels at no previous time have the indications been so favourable for striking stone. ... [25]

24.02.1868: At the Bank of Victoria, on Saturday, some very rich specimens of quartz gold were shown, which were taken from Schaefer and Company's claim, within a short distance of the Nil Desperandum ground. [24]

03.1868: Schaffer and Company, Welbourne Reef: 340zs obtained from 40 tons of stone at 120 feet. [9.20]

Several new companies have been formed, the most important one being the Schaffer Quartz Gold Mining Company, who have taken up two claims on the May Reef, in connection with their original claim on the Welbourne line, which hitherto has yielded excellent returns.

Messrs Stephens and Nicholls have nearly completed the erection of their quartz crushing machine (for public purposes) in a gully east of Raywood. When this plant is finished it will be hailed with great satisfaction by the inhabitants generally. [9.20]

11.05.1868: ... Mr Stephens has not yet been able to commence crushing for the same reason (lack of water). There are large quantities of quartz on Raywood, waiting to be crushed; and the parties that had the above stone crushed this week, had to cart it to the Shamrock engine, on the Whipstick, at a much greater expense than it would have cost had there been water nearer the reef. ... [26]

06.1868: The following companies' crushing machines stopped work six weeks ago, and are still idle from the above cause (want of water):- New Era, Elysian Flat, Stephens' and Nichols' and Nil Desperandum. A party of miners are now engaged in erecting an 8-horsepower crushing plant in Raywood Gully for public purposes. [9.23]

31.07.1868: Croesus Gold Mining Company (Registered), Raywood - The mining manager reports under the date of 25 July: The north shaft is now down
70 feet, a drive to the west is in 87 feet for the purpose of cutting the same stone as that of the Perseverance Company. In extending the drive from the western shaft some likely looking stone has been cut. A few tons will be crushed for a trial. [27]

08.1868: Croesus Gold Mining Company, Raywood - (25 July): north shaft down 70 feet. Drive to west is in 8 feet, for purpose of cutting same stone as perseverance Company. In extending drive from western shaft some likely looking stone cut. A few tons will be crushed for a trial. [28.30]

11.09.1868: Buxton Gold Mining Company - the manager reports, under date of 9th instant:- a contract has been let to sink a shaft 150 feet, at 8 shillings 9 pence per foot. The contractors have sunk and slabbed to a depth of 376 feet. [29]

09.1868: Messrs Law and Ollson have nearly completed the erection of eight head of stampers in Raywood Gully, for public crushings. [9.23]

29.10.1868: The rush that I reported a week ago is still going ahead ... towards Inglewood Hill lead. [30]

12.1868: Schaffer, Welbourne Reef: 9ozs 9dwt obtained from 46 tons of stone.

Litton and Company, Christmas Reef: 4ozs 6dwt obtained from 42 tons of stone. [9.21]

06.1869: Raywood: 230 miners at work. [21]

During the past quarter mining matters in the immediate vicinity of Raywood have not improved. The tributers who undertook to re-work the Christmas Reef were compelled to abandon their project, owing to want of funds and the unremunerative yields they obtained from several trial crushings. [9.31]

08.1869: Croesus Company, Raywood, have struck some fine stone at 120 feet north from No.1 shaft. [28.28]

09.1869: Raywood: 150 miners at work.

Croesus, Raywood: 44ozs 16dwt obtained from 14 tons of stone at 10 feet. [21]

11.1869: Perseverance Company, Raywood, have again got to work; a new manager has been appointed, and a call of one penny per share made to carry on operations; several spurs have already been cut, and gold of a promising character seen in stone. [28.70]

12.1869: Raywood: 130 miners at work. [21]

12.1869: Croesus, Raywood: 1oz 10dwt obtained from 10 tons of stone at 12 feet. [21]

12.1869: Tubal Cain, Raywood: 36ozs 14dwt obtained from 195 tons of stone at 100 feet.

Pioneer, Raywood: 164ozs obtained from 328 tons of stone at 140 feet. [21]
SANDFLY REEF MINE AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

Location Parcel No. P127170, State Forest, junction of Sandfly and Scotsmans tracks, Whipstick

Map Reference Epsom 1:25,000 - BV562.421

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description The Sandfly Reef workings consist of a number of partially filled open-cuts and remnants of mullock paddocks extending across Scotsmans Track northwards to the summit of a small hill. The east side of this hill has been hydraulically sluiced to bedrock.

History Period of activity: 1857-1890
Line of reef: Sandfly
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: 180 feet
Deepest shaft: 180 feet (at water level)

Thematic Context Mining

Comparative Examples The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Wallace (1856-1906), Black Rock (1857-1879), Barkly (1857-1951), Elliott (1858-1889), Unfortunate Bolie’s (1862-1865), Shamrock (1862-1881), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

Statement of Significance The site is representative of relatively undisturbed late 19th century quartz workings (criterion D).

Level of Significance Local

Recommendation The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Sandfly Gully Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries The Sandfly Gully Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Scotsmans Track, on the east by Sandfly Road up to a point 100 metres from its crossing of Sandfly Gully, on the south by a line generally 75 metres south of Sandfly Gully across Loeser Road as far north as the junction of Loeser Road and Bright Road and then along Bright Road to the corner of fenced property, on the north by this property fence west to Sandfly Gully, on the east by a line 75 metres east of Loeser Road to its junction with Black Rock Road then along Black Rock Road for a distance of 200 metres to a point north of a large shallow dam, on the west and north by a line 50 metres west of Black Rock Road, Loeser Road and Sandfly Gully as far as a track west of the reef workings, and on the west by
this track as far as Scotsmans Track Road.

References
6. "Bendigo mining intelligence. Whipstick." From our own Correspondent, 9 November 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 12 November 1858.
8. "Mining. The rumoured diggings at the Whipstick Ranges." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 26 September 1862, p2, col.4.
10. S. W. V., "The rush at Sandfly Flat (Whipstick Ranges)." Letter to the Editor, The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 3 October 1862, 27 September 1862.
15. 03.02.1897, [Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records - Files (letter from W H Cundy, Underground Survey Office, Bendigo)].
16. "Bendigo mining intelligence. The Whipstick." From our own Correspondent, 15 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 16 September 1858.
17. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
23. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
26. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
28. Department of Mining and Industrial Development, records.
29. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes
Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the
sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district.

Assessed by  David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology  15.01.1857: The Bendigo correspondent of the Argus has the following interesting account of a visit to the diggings in the Whipstick scrub:- Having heard of several nuggets, none of them of a considerable size, that have lately been found in the Whipstick, a distance of about 15 miles from here, I determined to ascertain from personal observation what was going on in this gold-bearing land of mystery, and so a few mornings since I tramped out to the Ironstone Hill, four miles from here, where I had engaged to meet a nautical blue shirt, who promised to act as a guide, a promise which he kept much better than another, that I should secure "lots of wild turkey and pigeons, as many as you can carry". The Ironstone Hill lies about half a mile to the westward of Epsom and had formerly only one lead, which runs about north-west. The sinking is very hard, through cement, which although pretty rich, takes so long to get through, that its value is much counter-balanced by this disadvantage. A few weeks previous to my visiting it, the place was almost deserted in consequence of the temptations held out by Epsom, but within the last few days another lead running in a north-easterly direction which has been opened after the other, and portions of which had yielded splendid returns, but had also been almost entirely deserted, was rushed in consequence of the holes most in advance having 'struck it heavy'. In a short time the news was passed to Epsom, and those who had been shepherding their holes at the Ironstone Hill whilst working at the former place came over, and in a very few hours the lead was extended half a mile and holes going down on all sides. It is supposed that the lead will join the Epsom lead. The ground between them is in the form of a wedge, the thin end pointing northwards. The sinking is from 50 to 70 feet. My pioneer being ready we descended the hill and plunged into the bush; here onward we went over a flat and up a range, down into the gully below, and up the opposite range, and so on mile after mile. Everywhere was quartz. Quartz in the gullies broken into fragments, and unpleasantly introducing itself to your attention by the effects upon your feet. Quartz on the ranges, making them snowy white, and constantly cropping out in large masses. ... When some distance on our road we overtook a miner washing a dish of stuff. According to his statement he had had a good prospect; but had sunk several holes and scarcely got "the color". ...

Still proceeding onward and passing through a country displaying the finest auriferous indications we reached a solitary log hut. Here a quantity of surfacing had been heaped up and a puddling machine and dam constructed, in readiness for the winter rains. The party, a small one, was composed of Germans, had been in this state of isolation for some time. At first starting they had neither horse or dray; now they possessed both; it would appear, therefore, that they, like others, have been successful in discovering nuggets, for during their stay they have had little if any water wherewith to wash their stuff. Onward still, till at length we reach the object of my journey, the scene of the late rush, which we approached through a lane cut through the Whipstick by some speculative storekeeper, who thought to find his profit in turning the tide of life past his store. From the lane we debouched on Drunken Scotchman's Gully, which is about a mile and a half in length, and from six to eight claims wide. Adjacent to it is Blacksmith, Sunfly and Brandy gullies. In the last named, during the past week, several very respectable nuggets have been found; one weighing 40 ounces and another 70 ounces. The gold is extremely patchy and a miner may work for a long time and obtain scarcely anything, and then suddenly come upon a rich deposit all nuggetty. Prior to the Dunolly rush (of July 1856), a large population was working in these gullies, but with it came their desertion, and few, if any, have returned. Water is very scarce, as is usual on all new ground, indeed, this is one of the principal reasons which have prevented the tract of country between Ironstone Hill and these gullies from being worked. [1]
There has been a large influx of strangers and visitors in this locality in the neighbourhood of Drunken Scotchman's, Brandy and Sand Fly gullies, since I last addressed you from the Whipstick, many of whom have camped and settled down with the determination of giving these diggings a fair trial, and the majority of those who have made a flying visit have expressed their intention of returning again as soon as the rain sets in. The sinking is shallow - from five to nine feet - the gold patchy and nuggetty, the driving easy, the bottoms are composed of pipe clay, sandstone and slate. The Bendigo correspondent to the Argus has given a very graphic and correct account, in a visit recently made to this district, of the auriferous appearance of the country, and this gentleman's description of the splendid prospect of bush scenery from Moorehead's Reef is faithful, and not overdrawn. Several nuggets, varying from one to six ounces, have been to my personal knowledge taken up since my last communication, and there has been a report of some heavy nuggets having been found in some newly opened ground; but as I have not seen any of these nuggets or the parties who found them, I cannot authenticate the correctness of the report, but give it as I received it.

Mr. Panton, the Resident Warden, paid a visit to these diggings a few days ago, and from his enquiries from several of the diggers, it would seem that a more direct and main line of road, or approach to the Whipstick is in contemplation by "the powers that be". A greater boon than this could not be afforded the inhabitants of the Whipstick and the public at large. The present roads are indirect, circuitous, detached and disconnected, in fact, a regular bush chart, or topographical map, to enable strangers to reach the Whipstick, is almost indispensably necessary, the route usually traversed being through Eaglehawk and Sailor's Gully, on to Sydney Flat, from which place there is a road of about nine miles nearly unfit to travel in wet weather, and making a total distance of about 16 miles from Bendigo. A more distant route again than this is round by Myer's Flat, past the Creek Hotel and Mann's Paddock, the shingle hut, on to the Four Mile Hut from whence a circuitous route of a few miles through the bush will enable the traveller to catch the Sydney Flat Road, which leads up into the Whipstick, a rather difficult and precarious road certainly to strangers and parties unacquainted with bush travelling. By far the shortest and most available road is to strike off the main road about half a mile on the Bendigo side of Eaglehawk township and between it and the Lord Nelson Hotel, and after pulling up White Horse Gully, which you cross over, and keeping Eaglehawk and White Horse at your back, and passing through the two adjoining gullies, diverging a little to the left, you come out on a track that will lead out at Fiddler's Green, then by following the main road, you pass through Black Horse, and by taking the turn off to the right when coming out at Black Horse Flat, this road followed for about five miles, will lead direct into the Whipstick diggings. From Bendigo this road is not computed at more than 10 or 11 miles.

Mining operations, generally speaking, at the Whipstick have assumed a somewhat healthier aspect, during the past week than for many months previous, and it would appear as if things were beginning to look up amongst the tub and cradle men. Whether this is to be attributed to the recent supply of water (which, by the bye, is fast disappearing) or to the unusual good luck in nugget finding, it is hard to say; but one thing is certain, gold has been more plentiful, and money consequently more profuse, this week than for some time hitherto. A goodly number of miners are now at work in Scotchman's Gully, Sand-Fly and Old Tom gullies. In this latter gully the puddlers are doing wonders; the physical aspect of the gully is in part so altered that if "Old Tom" himself was to visit it at present he would be somewhat doubtful as to its identity. Puddlers and puddling still continue to go ahead in Brandy Gully and its vicinity, and several new machines are now going down, dams forming etc with a vigour and spirit that are of themselves half success.

A note in 1857 tells us that one of the chief openers of the Whipstick was a Mr Moorehead, who discovered Sandfly Reef. A reminder of Pahlow still exists in Sandfly Gully. Enclosing an area of perhaps a quarter of an acre, the remnants of an old stone was the foundation of old chimney = Pahlow's former home.
12.11.1858: A few diggers are ... earning tucker in Sandfly Gully. ...

16.11.1861: Gilman’s claim, on the reef discovered at Sandfly, continues to pay about 1ozs per loads. [7]

26.09.1862: The rumoured diggings at the Whipstick Ranges. This “rush” has for the present ceased and determined, and was yesterday virtually abandoned, though from the general appearance of the surface, the washdirt, and the fact that gold was procured from the prospect obtained from the prospectors’ claim, though unfortunately in two small quantities to induce a thorough testing of the ground. We have every confidence in the locality, and firmly believe that had 50 holes been bottomed, instead of merely two, and those close together, the result would have been much more encouraging. The locale is a tract of country (a well-timbered flat) between the margin of the Whipstick, and the end of the Huntly Lead, and distant from Amos’s mills, according to one informant, about three-quarters of a mile, but this must have been horsetack measurement, as our reporter, on foot, made it nearly 3 miles. The ground, as described, has been marked out with jealous care up to the prospectors’ claim, and so on for about a quarter of a mile on either side, some holes being started, some taken down a foot or two, and some three or four bottomed in a bona fide manner. The prospectors, Pahlow Brothers, bottomed their holes, one at 25 feet, which had merely the “indication” of gold, and the other at 20 feet, the result of a ton of the washdirt was from half to three-quarters of a pennyweight, the gold being generally of a fine luminous character. One piece had more solidity than the rest, weighing possibly 5 or 6 grains. The bottom is a good clear pipeclay; the washdirt is good wash, with quartz boulders, similar to the White Hills stuff, and in some there is conglomerate like the Huntly lead. In going down, various, and almost impenetrable strata have been met with; ironstone cement which god will not touch, or a sort of vitrified concrete equally hard.

As soon as the result of the prospectors’ washing became known, the miners, the majority of whom were shepherding, left. There are, however, some few facts worthy of comment. There is before us a fine tract of country, with prolific reefs on the upper side, and a well-known lead or leads of gold trending in its direction, with surface indications which say “dig here”. To any who may feel inclined to adopt our recommendations, we offer the best track, viz: to Amos and Company’s mill, following the Elysian Flat track for about two miles, and then branching of to the westward (left hand). [8]

30.09.1862: We learn that some other holes were bottomed on Friday and Saturday and better results obtained and that the rush still continues, a number of men from the Whipstick district still sticking to it. [9]

03.09.1862: Rush at Sandfly Flat. This rush has, it is patent, for the present turned out ridiculous mus. ... [10]

25.09.1862: During yesterday several gentlemen from Sandhurst visited the newly-opened ground between Huntly and the Elysian Flat or Whipstick Road. They all concur in opinion as to the likely character of the ground. Two holes only are bottomed - one at about 25 and the other at 30 feet. The washdirt, a species of conglomerate (which, we understand requires powder to break up) has been taken to Sandfly Gully to wash. The result was not known when our informants left the ground last evening. Gold has been seen in the stuff, and is variously estimated at from 5 to 7dwt to the load. The washdirt and conglomerate vary in thickness from one to 2 feet. A large number of claims are marked out, and should the result of the washing be favorable, no doubt many will go down with their claims, and the affair will assume the usual appearance of a rush. A large number of miners were looking over the ground yesterday. The sinking is generally easy and quite dry - at least the two holes already opened. The ground is easily reached. No stores are on the ground at present - not even a shanty up yet; but these things will follow of course; and if the rush has anything in it, a little Canvastown will soon spring up. [11]

08.05.1885: Eaglehawk Prospecting Association: Our Melbourne correspondent writes: In answer to departmental enquiries, the Minister of Mines has received a report from the Government mining surveyor in reference to the Eaglehawk Prospecting Association. This association has set two parties to work, one at Elliott’s Reef, and one at Jacob’s Reef, and proposed visiting them on the 29th,
as also the other places proposed to be prospected. ... Up to that time there were no persons engaged to work at Sandfly Reef. [12]

19.01.1887 The next application dealt with (by the Sandhurst Prospecting Board) was that of Hugh Evans, Sandfly Reef. This ground has been pegged out four weeks. A new shaft had been started and sunk 7 feet. They intended to sink to water level. The deepest shaft was 130 feet. There had been good returns averaging 1½ozs. He asked for £300; sinking would cost 16 or 17 shillings per foot. The reef was 3 miles from Elliott’s. [13]

27.10.1890 The Whipstick continues to present evidence of its richness. Mr Kirkwood, on Saturday, showed a very rich specimen obtained from the Sandfly Reef, 3 feet from the surface. It weighed 4½ozs and contained about 2½ozs gold. [14]

03.02.1897 Sandfly Reef - The mine under notice is situated about 8½ miles due north from City of Bendigo, on Sandfly Reef . . . The party at present working the mine commenced operations by cleaning out and repairing an old shaft from 70 feet to a depth of 150 feet. In addition to this the following work has been done during the last two years - Crosscutting 81 feet; some 20 to 30 feet north of the south boundary a shaft has been sunk to a depth of 60 feet, and a crosscut driven west 33 feet. The two main working shafts are in good order, each 6 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 6 inches, worked by a horse and whip. There are two men and a boy constantly at work with an occasional extra hand. The reef varies in size from 1 foot to 11 feet in width, and several tons have been taken out with encouraging but not payable results. The adjoining claim to the south is held by Messrs. Loeser Bros. who have been working for some years with profitable results to a depth of 180 feet. The Sandfly Reef is one of the well known rich reefs worked many years ago, as one, I think, worthy of being further prospected. The party connected with the mine is composed of miners, engine drivers, wood carters . . .[15]

Sluicing on Bendigo

16.09.1858 The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry’s" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [16]

06.1874 At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well.[17]

06.1875 A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [17]

12.1877 The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [17]

03.1878 Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [17]

03.1878 Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [17.27]

09.1878 Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for
this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...
The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.

To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000 gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals
**Total: 22,267,000 gals** [17]

15.12.1879  The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [18, 19]

22.08.1885  In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer’s Flat, and ... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [20]

1890  3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1891  4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1892  5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1893  5576ozs 13dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1894  8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1895  5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [21]

1896  14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk...
and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

1897 15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

01.10.1898 Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer’s Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [26]

1897 15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 12,680ozs 15dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

1899 12,444ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

1900 12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1901 9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1902 12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1903 9860ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1904 12,745ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1905 12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

1906 9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

1907 18,696ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

1908 6293ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618ozs 17dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

1909: 2926ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

1910: 1992ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 86ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

Green Brothers Dredge: 121ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1911: 2519ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070ozs 15dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 853ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford's Dredge: 622ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1912: 2812ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford's Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1913: 3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford's Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1914: 2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1915: 3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434ozs 1dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
1916: 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1917: 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1918: 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [22]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1920: 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1921: 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1922: 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1924: 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1925: 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 168ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1926: 367ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1927: 287ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1928: 573ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [23]
1929 585ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1930 688ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

24.08.1931 Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [27]

1931 3867ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

H. E. Knapman: 174ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1932 5051ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

H. E. Knapman: 125ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1933 4429ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

H. E. Knapman: 119ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1934 5395ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

Day and Mason: 41ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1935 4609ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

1936 7196ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district. [24]


Knapman and party: 85ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24] Meldrum and party: 42ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]


1936 (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and W ingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their
work this year and are transferring to another location.

The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo gold field for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Company/Party</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>DWT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knopman and Winggrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1937: 2151 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

Aurum Dredging Development: 32 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

Henderson and Hopgood: 13 ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

D. J. Rigbye: 48 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1938: 2346 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

H. R. Hansen: 22 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 67 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1939: 2671 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

H. R. Hansen: 39 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 46 ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25 ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1940: 4862 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

A. Maynard: 67 ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 61 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1941: 682 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

G. Barton and party: 4.9 ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

J. N. Day: 62 ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

P. S. Floyd: 16 ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

R. Lethlean: 60 ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
P. Lougoon: 110ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 240ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 850ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1942: 510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1943: 527ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1944: 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1945: Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [25]

1946: 423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
Styles Brothers: 43ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1947: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 9ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully. [25]
Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [25]

1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [25]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial
miners in the district. [24]
P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [24]
Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [24]

1950

205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [29]
Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]
C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully. [29]
P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [29]
Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [29]
G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [29]

1951

133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district. [29]
P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [29]
Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [29]

1952

109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial miners in the district. [29]
Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [29]

1953

There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [29]
Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [29]

1954

81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [29]
A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]

1955

116ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial miners in the district. [29]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [29]
W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]
W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]

1956

There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [29]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 105ozs obtained from 1980 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [29]
W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]

1957

There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [29]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [29]
W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [29]
W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]

1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [29]
W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]

1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]

1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]

1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [29]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

**SHALLOW Diggings Alluvial Workings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Names</th>
<th>Veteran's Rush, Shallow Sinkings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Freehold Land, corner of Scotts and Dixon roads, Elysian Flat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Raywood1:25,000 - BV536.476</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Victorian Heritage Register</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Estate Register</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Scheme</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

South-west of the corner of Scotts and Dixon roads there is a short run of shallow alluvial workings no more than 30 metres wide and about 150 metres in length. The mullock heaps are no more than 0.5 metres in height.

**History**

Period of activity: 1858  
Depth of sinking: 5-40 feet

**Thematic Context**

Mining

**Comparative Examples**

This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Flat (1852), Fiddler's Green (1852), One-Eye Gully (1852) and Peter the Great (right hand branch) (1856).

**Statement of Significance**

The site contains one of the last remnants of shallow alluvial workings known as the Shallow Diggings, which were an important phase in the early mining around Elysian Flat (criterion A). These workings, situated in an extremely shallow valley, illustrates the difficulty which the early miners had in following the line of the lead (criterion C).

**Level of Significance**

Local

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The approximately square site, about 120 metres by 120 metres, is bounded by Dixon Road on the east and Scotts Road on the north.

**References**

1. "Mining Intelligence. Further discoveries in the Whipstick." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 3 March 1858.
2. "Mining Intelligence. Elysian Flat." From a Correspondent, The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 26 March 1858.
3. "Mining intelligence. A visit to the Elysian Flat." By a Special Correspondent, The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 1 April 1858.
6. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, The
Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 14 June 1858.
15. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 2 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 August 1858.
19. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, 8 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 10 September 1858.
21. “Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, 28 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 30 September 1858.

Notes
The shallow alluvial workings are very weathered and are almost certainly a remnant of the original workings of 1858.

Assessed by
Peter Milner in July 1998.

Chronology
03.03.1858: We understand that an extended claim was granted yesterday to three miners: named Joseph Lance, James Oates and Hugh Oates, for the discovery of new gold workings in the Whipstick district. The position of this field, according to the prospectors, is about three quarters of a mile to the south west of the first refreshment tent on the road to Elysian Flat after passing Willoughby’s restaurant, on the new cutting and must therefore be situated about two miles to the southward of the Elysian. The sinking is shallow (about 14 feet) and the gold hitherto obtained is heavy and water-worn. One nugget in the sample produced by the prospectors must have weighed 6dwts. [1]
26.03.1858: Slowly, but steadily the population of this new and promising goldfield is being augmented. ... The new rush there is every reason to believe is progressing most favourably. ... This rush, which is situated on the left hand side
of the road, about half a mile before entering the old diggings, is rapidly increasing in point of number etc, and although not more than two days had elapsed from the period of my former visit to my last (yesterday) a marked change had taken place in its appearance, so much so as to be scarcely recognizable. New stores, refreshment, as well as a large additional number of diggers' tents, in the short interim sprung up. ... I was informed by a person yesterday that a 3ozs nugget was taken out of a hole in the shallow sinking, ... The long looked-for rain has at length descended. .... [2]

01.04.1858. I started yesterday morning in light marching order on a pedestrian excursion to our new El Dorado in the Whipstick. I took the old fashioned, and, in my opinion, all things considered, the best road - through ironbark, Long Gully, Eaglehawk and by the head of Sailor's Gully. ... by the time I had picked my way across the Long Gully gridiron, I was, despite the beauty of the morning, in a state of such feverish indignation (over the state of the Marong road) that it was not until I had found Beelzebub that I had begun to recover my equanimity. Further on in one of those patches of digging unnamed (like the county) which lie perdu in all directions in the country between Sailor's Gully and the Whipstick, I was agreeably surprised by the vision of a fair saint of a female hatter, armed with pick and shovel, and digging, as Sam Weller would say, like “winking”. ...

From the Sandhurst post office through the now all but deserted Scotchman’s Gully, to dear Mrs. Deening’s Camp Hotel, in three hours, is no bad walking on a tolerably warm day, and on arriving at that excellent house, a man may be fairly considered to have earned his beer. I though so, at all events, and I took mine ease at mine inn for a quarter of an hour, not unprofitably spent in that cool, spacious, comfortable English looking parlor, decorated with many a quaint engraving of the time of George the Fourth, with short-waisted beauties and gentlemen with high coat collars, and much neckcloth, and great specimens of pastorals in worsted work, perplexing the mind with woolly doubts as to which is the sheep and which the shepherdess. This pleasant parlour has books also, a history of Derbyshire, in quarto, and a dignified folio in the window, which should be a baker’s chronicle, but isn’t. One cannot help admiring the enterprise, the prescience, and the faith of the good lady (generally known as the Queen of the Whipstick); who so long ago as 12 months ago, brought her household gods into this new country...

From the Flagstaff Hill the smoke of the fires at Elysian Flat is distinctly visible, at a distance, as the crow flies, of about four miles. The present track is, however, considerably longer. It follows the road cut last year for about a mile, and then turns sharp off to the left. There are no features of interest about the intervening space, except that it may be noted that the country falls gradually but regularly towards the north and west. ... The track does not, however, in any part approach the once-dreaded, impervious, matter Whipstick thickets. About four miles from the Flagstaff Hill a track again strikes off to the left of the main road, and leads to the shallow workings lately opened. Here is a busy and a thriving population of at least 500 souls. At first I thought that I had arrived at the deep sinkings, for almost every shaft has a windlass, and around the mouths of many of the shafts are mounds of headings in height and size almost worthy of Epsom. The sinking, however, is only about 5 feet deep, and the driving is under the wash stuff, briefly through a stratum of reddish sandy pipeclay. It may be reasonably doubted whether the true bottom has been reached in these workings; be that at it may, these shallow workings are on the average paying well. The gold is very bright and clear, even and shotty, and the dirt washes high up, yielding from a pennyweight and a half to 2 pennyweights per tub; indeed if water were abundant, the ground would pay handsomely to wash from top to bottom. I saw many “old familiar faces” at these shallow workings, and found all in good spirits and satisfied with the ground, but all more or less anxious about water; but about this more by and by. These workings at present follow the course of what may be called a scarcely discernible gully, but really on this side of the Whipstick the surface characteristics are so indistinct and undefined that one is at a loss to conceive what kind of instinct it was which had led to the opening up of these shallow workings. ... Grog is plentiful, of course,
though water is not. [3]

31.05.1858: We hear that several parties are doing pretty well at the shallow sinking, about a mile and a half this side of the Whipstick, and near the deep sinking. One party of three took out an 8ozs nugget, and it was rumoured that another party had got a nugget weighing 40ozs. Great complaints have been made for the want of water; but some very heavy showers of rain which fell there on Saturday last - much heavier than we had it here - will give them a supply for some little time. [4]

09.06.1858: We understand that the shallow diggings at Elysian Flat are extending higher up the gully, and that a fair amount of success is attained. Water is very scarce. Messrs. M’Nair and Company are forming a dam 200 feet long, 18 feet wide and 6 feet deep, and they have sunk a shaft to a depth of nearly 100 feet on the plan suggested by Mr Benson. Some washing is still going on, and we are informed that Mr Iron has washed with his machine, for several parties, stuff averaging two ounces to the load. [5]

14.06.1858: The great scarcity of water, which for a considerable time past has existed, is being more severely felt every day, so much so, indeed, as to cause a very considerable number of diggers to leave here for Bendigo and elsewhere, it may be to return again under other and more favourable circumstances. Notwithstanding, however, this very serious drawback to the satisfactory working of this goldfield, a large population numbering at a rough computation, perhaps, from 1500 to 2000, still remains, determined, it would seem, to give it a fair trial which it has certainly not received as yet. ... The large rush which took place a few weeks ago, alluded to in a former report, situated at the extreme end of the original shallow sinking, or Veteran Rush, as it is sometimes called, taking a south westerly direction through dense scrub, is still being worked with great vigor and apparent success. Several very handsome nuggets have been found in this place, in shallow ground, in depth about 2 feet. A five ouncer, a short time since, was taken up on the point of a pick, about 18 inches below the surface, which was sold at Messrs Beeby and Telford’s store, and one weighing about 40ozs was reported to have been found in the claim next to it. I conceive no other conclusion can be fairly arrived at than that the ground, throughout the length and breadth of this rush has been found payable, from the length of time it has been working, and with little or no diminution in the number of miners engaged in it. Water - water - is now the reiterated cry on every site. Immense piles of washing stuff may be seen almost every place the eye rests, where an expectant payable shaft has been sunk - waiting to pass through the final ordeal. Many of the claims in this rush have doubtless been found to be sufficiently payable to afford the cost of carting to the creek, but on the other hand there are numbers who, being doubtful as to the satisfactory result of the washing process, prefer to wait until bounteous nature deigns to send the necessary supply.

Within the last few days another very considerable rush has taken place upon ground on either side of the creek, which lies to the left of the road as the old deep sinking is entered, and distant from the Shamrock Hotel about half a mile. The sinking is about 40 feet and report speaks particularly favourably of the finds there; and I have been credibly informed that some first rate holes have been bottomed.

I was favoured yesterday, by Mr Dingwall, an extensive storekeeper on the shallow rush, with the sight and handling of a singularly beautiful nugget, solid and massive, and possessing that peculiar bright colour which is a distinguishing feature in the gold found on this field. Its weight is about 6ozs, and was found in a claim on the new rush above referred to. A rather singular incident in connection with the discovery of this nugget, may not be altogether uninteresting or unworthy of a passing notice. The owners of the hole which contained this nugget had carted their last load of washdirt to the side of the creek; intending to wash up on the following morning; it appears, however, that a digger, who had happened to pass along the creek before the owners arrived, saw something shining on the heap of washdirt in question, his curiosity having become excited he approached, and picked up what proved to be a 6ozs nugget, which to the man’s credit be it noted, he had the honesty to enquire to
whom the washdirt belonged, for the purpose of delivering it up to the rightful owner. I was informed by the man himself that he was presented with £2 as a reward. Both parties were, no doubt, satisfied with each others conduct in the affair.

Another rush has taken place in the shallow sinking, on ground directly opposite Mr. Matthew's Shamrock Store, it is called “Gorman’s Rush”, from the fact that a digger of that name having “dropped” on a goodly sized nugget in a claim there. Several respectable sized nuggets, I am informed, have seen the light there, and payable holes bottomed, and there can be little doubt if the ground was well rushed, and properly tested it would turn out well.

... Messrs M’Nair and Company, acting upon Mr Benson’s suggestions, having selected ground for that purpose situated about a quarter of a mile from, and opposite to, the shallow rush, have, upon their own responsibility already sunk a shaft above 90 feet in depth, and are constructing a large reservoir in close proximity, thereto, the dimensions of which are to be 200 feet long, 18 feet wide and 6 feet in depth, and it is hoped that their example will encourage others to a like course of action, so that Elysian Flat may go ahead.

Several large dams, well timbered and otherwise secure, are now being constructed for the reception of the next rain that falls. They are situated in close proximity to the centre of the rush between the deep and shallow sinking, near Mr Kelly's store, and appear to be a decided improvement on those dams - if dams they could be called - which, because of the frail materials of which they were formed, were carried away by the last flood. [6]

... 22.06.1858: Since my last report the number of miners who have struck into ground here forming part of the shallow sinkings, known by the name of Gorman's Rush, lying to the left of, and distant about a stone's throw from the road nearest to the creek, that leads into the deep sinkings, have considerably increased, and now that the rain has fallen in sufficient abundance for washing, as well as for other purposes for some time to come mining operations will doubtless be prosecuted with proper vigour. ...

The great change which has taken place in this portion of these goldfields (shallow rush) since Saturday last, consequent upon the fall of rain which came down at intervals in considerable quantities during part of that day and Sunday, is strikingly observable in the manifestations of life and activity which now prevail among the diggers, and which greet the eye in almost every place where mining operations are being carried on; ...

I was this morning informed, on reliable authority, that two large nuggets, one weighing about 33ozs, and the other about 75ozs were found in the shallow sinkings; the former in a claim situated nearly opposite the Miner's Store, and the other about 50 yards higher up the rush in the direction of the scrub. On visiting Messrs Clarke and Benson's store in the main street, a few evenings since, I was favoured with the sight of a very fine sample of gold, which I was informed was obtained out of a claim in the deep sinkings, about a quarter of a mile from an at the rear of the Main Street, it possessed the same character of the gold generally found in this field, coarse and heavy, it amounted in quantity to about 15ozs, and if it was only a week’s work, which, however, I am not prepared to say, the owners I think could have no possible reason to be dissatisfied with their work during that time.

The new rush referred to in my last, in which a good many claims were sunk on both sides of the creek (about 40 feet in depth) as the deep sinkings is approached, has not, I regret to say, turned out as well as was anticipated, or could be desired. Great expectations were entertained of the auriferous quality of this ground from the reported payable nature of several of the claims sunk, but I have been informed that the finds here which the more sanguine-minded of the diggers hoped would ultimately have led to the discovery of a lead, proved to be nothing more or less than a few very payable patches, which have soon ran out, and the consequence has been that many who sunk “shicers” have left, to try their fortune in other parts of the field, there still remains, however, a considerable number of diggers at work here, who, there can be no doubt, have obtained payable claims.

The large rush in the scrub at the end of the shallow sinkings, is still going
ahead, and the rain which fell lately will enable the diggers here to wash a considerable portion, if not all, of the many and large piles of wash-stuff. ... I paid a visit on Saturday last to the ground upon which those enterprising gentlemen Messrs M’Nair and Company have been carrying on extensive operations for some time past. The shaft which is going down has already reached to a depth of 120 feet, but no water has yet been struck, and the large reservoir which is in course of construction within a short distance from it is progressing favourably, and, it is expected, will be completed and ready for the reception of water in a fortnight or three weeks time. ... [7]

28.06.1858: We learn that M’Nair and Company have sunk their shaft to a depth of 135 feet. The shaft has now reached a body of slate, having passed through mudstone and there is already a small supply of water, which, it is expected, will rapidly increase for the next 20 feet. [8]

01.07.1858: Mr Bannerman has shown us a nugget brought in from the Whipstick, which was found on Tuesday last in about 30 feet sinking. The weight is 33ozs 14½dwt of an irregular shape, and encrusted with small gravel. A splendid parcel, about 300ozs, of rough Whipstick gold, purchased by Messrs Beeby and Telford, has been brought in and disposed of to Mr Bannerman. [9]

02.07.1858: The original shallow sinkings, alias the ‘Veteran Rush’ has, without doubt, proved to be the most auriferous portion of these goldfields which has as yet been discovered since the rush to Elysian Flat first took place, now many months since, and notwithstanding the opinion expressed by many persons here that it has seen its palmiest days, and is well nigh worked out, it still continues to preserve that distinguished position above every other part of this flat.

Two respectable sized nuggets, one weighing 10 and the other about 13ozs, were lately taken out of one of the claims next to that now being worked by Mr Humphries, in the shallow rush, who, it will be remembered, was fortunate enough a short time since to drop on a handsome nugget weighing13ozs 14dwt in an old hole about 6 feet deep which had been abandoned as worthless. There was a rumour afloat here last Saturday that a monster nugget, weighing somewhere about 8 pounds weight of solid gold, was taken out of a hole a few days since, in the new rush in the scrub at the upper end of the shallow sinkings, the truth of which statement however I am not in a position to corroborate, not having been able to discover the fortunate finder (if any such there be) of the glittering monster. Another party with whom I conversed informed me that since they commenced working their claim on Gorman’s Rush (shallow sinking), up to the present time, which has extended over a period of more than three months, they had obtained no less a quantity than 6 pounds weight of the precious metal. I was informed by one of the partners belonging to the firm of Messrs Beeby and Telford, storekeepers, that during the past week they had purchased as much as 200ozs of gold. Not so bad, either, taking into consideration the reputed poverty of this goldfield.

The shaft belonging to Messrs M’Nair and Company, now going down, had on Saturday last reached a depth of 140 feet; but no water, I was informed, had made its appearance, although the particular strata or bed of slate through which they were passing was becoming daily more moist. Mr James Iron, that well known practical and enterprising gentleman, has, I understand, completed the erection of a second puddling machine, on ground selected by him for that purpose, at a convenient distance from the shallow sinkings, and is now in a position to puddle at the moderate rate of 2dwt per load, any washing stuff that may be entrusted to him by the diggers for that purpose. [10]

09.07.1858: Mining operations are again beginning to flag and look dull, owing to the growing scarcity of water, which at the present time, in some parts of the flat, perhaps, more than others, is becoming very sensibly felt; the last fall of rain which took place having proved sufficient only to enable the diggers to clean off a portion of their washdirt which for a considerable time past has been lying in accumulated heaps, piled up alongside the creek, as well as in near proximity to their shafts, and now another fall of the essential element is anxiously looked for to provide for all necessary purposes.
Messrs Beeby and Telford, it appears, during the past week, purchased about 255ozs of gold, which is somewhat less quantity than that bought by them in the preceding week.

Another nugget, weighing nearly 6ozs was picked up off the surface by a digger, forming one of the prospecting party at no great distance from the ground on which the last rush took place, in the scrub at the end of the original shallow sinkings, which caused some little excitement and a considerable rush to the spot.

There are a considerable number of diggers who have been working steadily for some time past in the “middle rush”, the sinking in which is about 30 feet in depth, and gradually approaching the original deep sinking, situate to the right of the Sir Henry Barkly Hotel, and upon inquiry, I find that many of them are unwillingly compelled to give a “beggarly account” of duffers sunk there. Many others, however, appear satisfied so far with their finds and prospects. The line on which the gold has been struck consists of a kind of narrow, patchy and broken lead, and to those of the diggers who happened to be fortunate enough to drop upon it, payable holes have generally been found as the result of their labours.

The contract entered into with Messrs M’Nair and Company is now completed, the shaft having been sunk to the stipulated distance of 150 feet. I was informed that the water, which has proved extremely brackish, did not make its appearance until the shaft had been sunk about 145 feet, although for some time previously, the increasing dampness of the slate and sandstone thorough which they were passing, gave evident tokens of a near approach to water. It is probable that the sinking will be continued, under a new contract, by the same parties, who, I think, there is every reason to believe, from the workmanlike manner in which it has been sunk, and slabbed, have given entire satisfaction to their employers.

The louring and unsettled aspect of the weather, accompanied with light and intermittent showers, with which this neighbourhood has been visited since Saturday last, and which still continue has doubtless had the effect of buoying up the hopes of many with the belief that a fall of rain, now long and anxiously waited for, which would be sufficient to secure an ample supply of water for the necessary requirements of this goldfield for some time to come, was about at length to descend, but these hopeful anticipations, it is to be regretted, yet remain unfulfilled.

On Monday morning last, at an early hour, from 150 to 200 diggers marked out claims, and struck ground extending over an area of about half a mile in length, and five or six claims in width, being a continuation of that part of the middle rush, which after having commenced its course from the original shallow sinkings, and extending in a circuitous route for about three quarters of a mile across the flat in an easterly direction, and leaving the creek considerably to the left, and only branches off to the right, heading towards and forming the junction of that rush with the original deep sinkings. The sinking here is tolerably hard, with sandstone and slate bottoms, and varies in depth from 16 to 30 feet. The diggers appear to be pitching into the work as if they meant it, and I imagine from the character of the prospects revealed (in one instance, it is reported, as much as one pennyweight to the bucket) they are tolerably sanguine that payable patches will eventually be dropped upon, and it may be piles realized. It is not more than a few weeks ago that a nugget weighing nearly 4 pounds was taken out of a hole not much more than a stone’s throw from the present rush, and another, it may be remembered, weighing 72ozs, was found in a hole at no great distance from it, by a party of Cornishmen from the White Hills. Another beautiful and massive nugget, which I saw and handled, weighing a little over 7ozs, was, on Thursday last, taken from under a pillar in an old hole on the shallow rush, nearly opposite the Miner’s Store, which was offered for sale and purchased at the store of Messrs Beeby and Telford. I learned from a digger in the same rush, upon whose statement I can rely, who is working a claim higher up the flat, in the direction of the scrub, and who at various times has showed me several beautiful nuggets of various sizes, which he extracted therefrom, that he and his mate obtained gold out of their present claim chiefly composed...
of nuggets, amounting in value to between £300 and £400. The rush in the scrub at the end of the shallow sinkings does not look so lively as it did a few days ago, a good many of the diggers, I believe, after having worked out their claims, and piled up and enclosed their washdirt, in the absence of water, left this locality, for the present, for other ground, many of them, in all probability, forming part of the last new rush at the junction of the middle rush and the deep sinkings above referred to.

Within the last few days another rush has taken place, on ground situate to the left of and just outside the original shallow sinkings, a short distance from the store of Messrs Beeby and Telford. About 30 claims have been marked off, and some of them have been bottomed; but I have been unable to ascertain any cheerful intelligence in the way of payable finds up to the present time.

On my visit, yesterday morning, to the ground occupied by Messrs M’Nair and Company, I ascertained, upon inquiries, that a fresh contract had been entered into with the same parties by that firm for the sinking of their shaft to a further depth of 35 feet; 8 feet of which had up to that time, been sunk under the new contract. The work is progressing but tardily, and it would appear is likely to prove tedious, owing to the hard nature of the strata (slate and mudstone) through which they have to pass, and which has compelled them to have recourse to blasting operations, in order to facilitate the work. Water still continues to come in but slowly, not a large quantity perhaps than a quarter of a pint per minute. The large dam close by is still unfinished, but in all probability it will be ready for water by the time the new contract is completed, when it is expected a constant supply will be obtained. [12]

22.07.1858: More nuggets from the Whipstick! Whether it be in Bendigo bankers and gold brokers’ reports, show windows, or coffers, and storekeepers’ or bonifaces’ purses and drawers, go where will, nuggets from the Whipstick are turning up and meeting you at every point!...

At Elysian Flat matters are decidedly in the ascend ant. “Deaf Harry” (of Whipstick notoriety) and party, in all three persons, succeeded in bottoming right on a patch some time ago, that washed up to the tune of £200 sterling, and as that has been all nearly knocked down, by dint of John Barleycorn, the alluvial bank is now being literally drawn upon, and promises to stand a run, if not a rush. The claim wherein this jolly fine bank is situated is in the deep sinking, not a hundred miles off the original prospector’s claims. Several good holes have been bottomed at a bit of a rush that took place in the early part of the week, between Pahlow’s public house and M’Nair’s water shaft, and a 6½ozs nugget was got on Saturday last in a claim in the shallow sinking. ...

Without taking baker and butchers, bread and beef statistics as a standard, the total population of the Elysian Flat district alone cannot be estimated under 2000 souls. ...

The rains of Wednesday and Thursday last still keep up the supply of water at the Old Whipstick, but at Elysian Flat it is scarce enough. ...

Elysian Flat - Another large nugget, weighing 31¼ozs was found on Thursday last in a hole about 7 feet deep, in the shallow rush, about five claims distant from that out of which one of a similar size was taken by a digger named Humphries a few weeks ago. It was found by an elderly man, commonly called or known here as “California Bill”. A party of diggers who had been working a claim in the Middle Rush, at no great distance from Mr Kelly’s store, whose washdirt had been averaging about three quarters of an ounce to the load, having reason to suspect the honesty of one of their party, were in consequence determined to get rid of him, and unwilling to expose his delinquencies, gave him the chance of selling out if he could find a purchaser, he did so, and sold his share for £5, since which time they have struck gold to the tune of about 27ozs to the load. This claim having turned out the best that has yet been sunk on the rush, and which in all probability will lead to a large rush in the immediate neighbourhood. Another party in the next claim is reported to have washed 39ozs to one load of dirt. [13]

28.07.1858: The rain fell here the whole of yesterday, thick and heavy. ... Last week’s return of gold from the new rush, Elysian Flat, has caused a considerable influx of population to that locality, and fabulous finds are reported
Though not verified to have been taken up out of a newly bottomed hole on Thursday last. Certain it is, however, that 30ozs to the load have been washed out of another claim on the same rush. [14]

04.08.1858... Since the rain the diggers at Elysian Flat have been giving their attention chiefly to conserving water and "washing up", and some of the piles, especially from the new rush, have far exceeded the expectations of their fortunate owners. I have seen from 5dwt to as many ounces washed to the load from various parts of the shallow sinking. And although I have not had ocular demonstration of the fact, yet I have been informed from various reliable sources that some of the richest patches yet discovered on this goldfield have been dropped on in this rush. One claim is said to have produced over 200ozs of gold from less than six loads of wash dirt. While some of the adjoining claims have averaged an ounce to the tub or 8ozs to the load, throughout all the washdirt that has yet been knocked down, and singular to relate the adjoining claims in a different direction show scarcely a colour. At different places in this rush more towards the shallow ground, the bottom taken off a hole here last week washed a single 3ozs nugget, and not a speck besides. The theory of leads does not seem to apply to this goldfield, even in the deep sinkings. ...[15]

11.08.1858... The partial rains of the past week still keep up an ample supply of water for the time being in this district, and everything in the mining way moves apace proportionately. The impetus given to washing operations at Elysian Flat is very great indeed, and mostly everybody here may be seen at the tom and the tub, and piled-up washdirt is disappearing rapidly. The late rush still holds good and continues to attract considerable numbers, both of new arrivals and Elysian diggers, and a marked improvement is observable this week in the increase of the former. No finds of special interest have come to hand since my last report, though the ceaseless din of toms and cradles makes such an event not at all improbable, and promises to increase the weekly yield of the field beyond its usual average. ...

It is not at all unlikely at no very distant day this goldfield will be united with the Huntly and Epsom diggings, which it is evidently part and parcel of. ... [16]

16.08.1858... We are informed that Messrs M'Nair's shaft sunk to obtain a supply of water is now down to a depth of 186 feet and since the late rain a depth of 30 feet of water has been procured. In order to test whether this water has come up from the bottom, or from the surface, the proprietors have determined to bore another 50 feet. The water is of a brackish nature. [17]

10.09.1858... Messrs Pahlow and Sons are reported to have again struck gold very heavily in the scrub adjacent to the head of the shallow sinking. This gentleman and his family, it will be remembered, dropped on a pile at Brandy Gully, Old Whipstick, some 12 or 15 months ago, and after building the Sir Henry Barkly Hotel, at Elysian Flat, and doing business in the boniface line up to within the last few months, disposed of the hotel, at a sacrifice, it is said, and commenced digging again, which has resulted in a second pile, exceeding in richness it is believed, the celebrated Brandy Gully finds of last year. ... The peculiar patchy lead characteristics of these diggings, and which is supposed to have been followed throughout the whole extent of the deep and shallow sinking, is still being traced at either extremity of the diggings, and thus extending the area of opened up ground to a considerable extent weekly. Puddling mills, both here and at the Old Whipstick, still continue busy while the water lasts. ... [18]

16.09.1858... The recent rushes between Old Whipstick and Elysian Flat still continue to be worked with payable results, but the great body of rushers have
returned to Elysian Flat, where new ground is opening upon a scale unprecedented in the history of this goldfield. This is especially observable in the shallow sinkings, which is rapidly striding Old Whipstick Road; and the locality where the 75 ouncer was raised to terra firma on Thursday last, is, as a matter of course, rushed. But people are not quite sure whether or not this is the exact spot where the interesting stranger was disinterred. It is an old digging trick, and one not unknown on this field, for lucky diggers to throw the multitude off the scent of the golden game as much as possible, in order that they may follow up their success undisturbed. …

The deep sinking still continues to maintain its ground, and some of the pilot holes or outsiders at the extreme end of the deep sinking alluded to in my last, are being worked with a will and a way. The 35ozs of gold, among which was a 20ozs nugget, reported to have been taken out of a hole at the back of the ore, some two or three weeks ago, is said to have come out of a hole much lower down, and at that time a pilot hole or outsider. Gold, however, and heavy gold, too, has been taken up out of more than one claim in the vicinity of the Union Store, which claims still continue to be worked with vigour. …[20]

30.09.1858: In the shallow sinking a large extent of bottom has been uncovered during the past week, and, judging from appearances, with remunerative results, though there is no extraordinary find to report. The sinking in this direction has extended to beyond Iron’s first machine, and almost to the junction with the original main Whipstick Road. Puddling mill operations are beginning to occupy a very prominent position on this goldfield, and to represent a considerable amount of invested capital. [21]

04.12.1858: Things here are at present about as usual. The late rains have afforded a sufficient supply to allow some parties to wash up their stuff. Messrs. M’Nair’s boring apparatus has broken, which will retard the program of work for some time. [22]

22.12.1858: … At the present time there may be, in round numbers, about 400 men digging at Elysian Flat, including those at the Shallow Rush; although from the number of tents which meet the view on looking around the Flat one would be led to suppose that the population was much more numerous, but the majority of the tents and a great number of the stores are untenanted. Within the last four months the decrease in population has been very great, more than three quarters of those there in August last have betaken themselves to other diggings. … The Shallow Rush is almost deserted, and the very few who remain there are barely getting remunerative wages. Of those who are at work on the Flat about one half probably may be getting fair wages, while the others are earning just enough to maintain themselves. Here and there a party may come on a lucky patch, as has been the case since the commencement of these diggings. [23]

29.08.1863: Bolle, the discoverer of a celebrated Whipstick reef, named the Bolle Reef, having worked this reef till it no longer paid, went on a prospecting tour, and within the last few days has found another reef, 5 miles from the first, towards Elysian Flat, and has had one ton of the surface quartz crushed which yielded 18dwt. The next trial will be 20 tons. Judging from the gold he has at surface and the look of the stone, he anticipates that the reef will turn out as splendidly as did his other one. … [24]

08.09.1877: On his way to the Flat our reporter observed the general appearance of the country he passed through, and says that the cleared paddocks on the road to the township present a very pleasant appearance, as they are at present in good grass, but those with grain look rather poorly. [25]

19.04.1882: Yesterday a miner named Robert Miller, residing at Elysian Flat, sold a nugget weighing 180zs at the Commercial Bank, Sandhurst. The nugget, which was of pure gold, realized £70, and was discovered by Mueller in some old surface workings near Stranger’s Reef, Elysian Flat. He had only been working in the locality for a couple of days, and the find was all the more acceptable on account of his being a poor man. [26]

29.08.1931: Two years after the rush to Elysian Flat, a shallow diggings was found between it and Flagstaff Hill, sinking was only 3 feet in depth and speedily some 10,000 diggers were upon it. Like all shallow diggings it was soon
exhausted. In the scrub to the east and north there are numerous gullies where
gold has been found in considerable quantities. Among these are the
Whipstick, Beehive, Phillip’s and Skylark. All these gullies, however, are being
exploited by the fossickers at the present. ... [27]
**City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites**

**SHAMROCK REEF MINE AND CYANIDE WORKS**

**Other Names**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parcel No. P127174, State Park, junction of Loeser Road and Bright Road, Shamrock Reef, Whipstick; Epsom 1:25,000 - 579.432</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Map Reference**

- Victorian Heritage Register: No
- National Estate Register: No
- Planning Scheme: No

**Description**

Cyanide works

150 metres south of Hartland's eucalyptus distillery is a dump of treated battery sand. At the south side of the base of the dump there are three depressions where once there had been 17 foot diameter cyanide vats.

Reef workings

Immediately east of the cyanide works and extending across Sandfly Gully there is a large eroded heap of battery sand. Further east, on the slope towards Bright Road there is an area of shallow reef workings which have been flattened.

House site

Between the distillery and the cyanide works, on the west side of Loeser Road, is a stone fireplace associated with several lines of quartz rocks (possibly garden borders). Near the house site is a dump of 20th century domestic rubbish.

**History**

Period of activity: 1862-1881, including a battery; tailings cyanided in the 1930s.

Line of reef: Shamrock

Maximum recorded annual production: 606ozs obtained from 1801 tons in 1881

Total production: unknown

Deepest working level: 160 feet

Deepest shaft: 160 feet (at water level)

**Thematic Context**

Mining

**Comparative Examples**

The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Wallace (1856-1906), Black Rock (1857-1879), Sandfly (1857-1890), Barkly (1857-1951), Elliott (1858-1889), Unfortunate Bolle’s (1862-1865), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

There are five other cyanide works sites within the study area. These are: Gold Dumps (Moon Reef), Devonshire Sand, Frederick the Great, Old Tom Reef, and Wilson's Hill. All are from the 1930's period of mining on Bendigo and therefore relate to the second phase of cyaniding in Victoria. There are no sites in the study area which belong to the first phase of cyaniding, prior to 1914.

**Statement of Significance**

The site is now associated with the small-scale re-treatment of tailings by the cyanide process and represents the last phase of mining on the Shamrock Reef which first began in 1865 (criterion A). The site is representative of the smaller cyaniding sites in the study area (criterion D) and has the potential for education and interpretation about this phase of mining in the area as part of the Loeser Picnic Area (criterion C).
Level of Significance  Local

Recommendation  The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area within the Sandfly Gully Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries  The Sandfly Gully Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Scotsmans Track, on the east by Sandfly Road up to a point 100 metres from its crossing of Sandfly Gully, on the south by a line generally 75 metres south of Sandfly Gully across Loeser Road as far north as the junction of Loeser Road and Bright Road and then along Bright Road to the corner of fenced property, on the north by this property fence west to Sandfly Gully, on the east by a line 75 metres east of Loeser Road to its junction with Black Rock Road then along Black Rock Road for a distance of 200 metres to a point north of a large shallow dam, on the west and north by a line 50 metres west of Black Rock Road, Loeser Road and Sandfly Gully as far as a track west of the reef workings, and on the west by this track as far as Scotsmans Track.

5. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.
7. Department of Mining and Industrial Development Reports - Files.
8. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
11. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.
17. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
19. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry. Victoria, Department of Mines.

Notes

Assessed by  David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology  07.1856: Wallace Reef was worked by a party, Scott and Company, in July 1856. They persevered for some time, and by October 1857, Wallace Reef was
a busy place with a dozen claims in operation. One party had already struck payable gold at a depth of 20 feet. . . . A visitor to the Whipstick saw a battery of from four to six stamps driven by a small high pressure engine, and worked by a party of Germans. . . . Towards the close of 1863, Wallace Reef was deserted . . . The battery was later shifted further into the Whipstick to the Shamrock Reef, where it remained in operations for many years. [1.7]

27.09.1862: Shamrock Reef, Iguana Gully. A new reef which has received the above name has been lately found by Messrs Waylen and mates, at the head of Sandfly Flat. N one of the stone has been crushed, but a considerable number of specimens have been taken out. The reef was discovered while taking off surface for puddling. The prospecting claim has not yet been set off. The prospectors are sinking a fresh shaft in order to catch the main stone, which underlies to the westward at about 1 to 1. The first claim to the southward has been taken up and commenced by Buckley and Company. They are already down about 12 feet, but have not yet the stone, as it is somewhat to the southward. Next south, Messrs Clisby and Dorrington have a claim; to the north some claims are also marked off. [2]

21.07.1863: We were yesterday informed that Bachyth and party, who have been for some time back prospecting on the Shamrock Reef, Sandfly Hill, near the Whipstick, had struck a rich body of stone at a depth of about 90 feet. The reef is from 3 to 4 feet in thickness, and appears to be increasing in width. The fact of this paying stone having been struck at such a depth is a proof of the incorrectness of the theory which some miners . . . have held, that the reefs in the Whipstick are only payable near the surface. [3]

29.07.1865: About 3 miles from Huntly, on the road to Elysian Flat, is a reef known as the Shamrock Reef. A portable engine if about 8 horsepower, driving a battery of 6 heads, started to work last week on the claim of Messrs Hooknoy and Company, who have sunk a shaft to the depth of 160 feet. The quartz is reported to yield from 4 to 6 dwts to the ton. [4]

09.1865: In submitting my report for the quarter, I have to state that two new engines have been erected during the last three months; one at Sebastian, on the Eureka Reef, . . . The other engine is in the Whipstick, by one of the Huntly roads; eight horsepower, with six stamp heads. The reef is named the Shamrock. [5.54-55]

12.06.1866: Our Raywood correspondent writes that amongst a very good display of gold in the window of the Bank of Victoria on Saturday last, was a fine cake of 35ozs 8dwt, the produce of 11 tons of stone from Messrs Harding and Brown’s claim on the Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat. This quartz was raised from an 80 foot level, and on an entirely new lode, being about 40 feet to the east of the old workings. The stone was crushed at the Shamrock engine, in the Whipstick, as, I am sorry to say, the engine on the flat is still idle, waiting for water. [6]

06.1866: Shamrock Reef Company, Whipstick: 8ozs 10dwt obtained from 17 tons of stone and 3ozs 8dwt obtained from 22 tons of stone. [5.48-50]

06.1866: The Shamrock Reef. - The proprietors have a small engine at work; the reef is 200 yards away, and the shaft is down about 60 feet. They have obtained a great quantity of stone, averaging half an ounce to the ton. [5.48-50]

12.1867: Shamrock Company, Shamrock Reef: 19ozs 10dwt obtained from 70 tons of stone at 130 feet. [5.20]

1866/7: The Shamrock Reef - The proprietors have a small engine at work; the reef is 200 yards away, and the shaft is down about 60 feet. They have obtained a great quantity of stone, averaging half an ounce to the ton. [7]

03.1879: Shamrock Reef Company, Whipstick: 59ozs 11dwt obtained from 88 tons of stone. [8]

03.1880: Shamrock Reef Company, Whipstick: 72ozs 7dwt obtained from 134 tons of stone. [8]

09.1880: Shamrock Reef Company, Whipstick: 46ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 79 tons of stone. [8]


06.1881: Shamrock Reef Company, Whipstick: 169ozs obtained from 422 tons of stone. [8]
Shamrock Reef Company, Whipstick: 301ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 935 tons of stone. [8]
Shamrock Reef Company, Whipstick: 146ozs 4dwt obtained from 446 tons of stone. [8]
Passing the Shamrock machine the roughest part of a very rough journey was encountered (by the Sandhurst Prospecting Board). [9]

Gold production in the thirties was appreciably supplemented by local alluvial mining and cyaniding. A great many hydraulic sluices were working in the Bendigo district by the mid-thirties and some 1,500 men found employment in alluvial mining. The mountains of tailings or battery sand that rose about the valley and filled houses in summer with a gritty dust, were a cyanider's dream, and in the 1930s some thirty plants, employing 300 men, were operating about Bendigo. The largest company, the Adelaide-based Devonshire Sands, paid out £3,700 in dividends in 1935. [10.222]

Cyanide - Approximately 23 plants are operating at Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Huntly, between 200 and 300 men employed. [11]

Approximately 30 cyanide plants, employing in all about 300 men, have been operating at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Huntly, Fosterville, and Sebastian. [11]

Tailings treatment, principally by cyaniding, in Victoria

1893: 5291ozs 2dwt 2 grains of gold obtained from 43,521 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [12.12]
1894: 2097ozs 14dwt 6 grains of gold obtained from 53,849 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [12.14]
1895: 5380ozs 8dwt 14 grains of gold obtained from 62,319 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [13.10]

1896: Cyaniding in Bendigo. At Mr. J. Deeble's United Pyrites Works, the plant is being extended so as to provide for the use of cyanide and kindred solutions. In order to get over the difficulty experienced in South Africa of making the slimes, which form a large portion of the refuse from the crushing machines, amenable to treatment by the solutions, Mr. Deeble has invented a mechanical appliance which is claimed to achieve this object, and it has been patented all over the world, and it is probable that the system may be taken up by British capitalists. The works and the vicinity are now lighted during the night by two large electric arc lights.

The cyanide process will probably cater more prominently in the future history of Bendigo mining should initiatory experiments prove profitable. Mr. A. Hamann is now erecting buildings, etc, for a cyanide plant at the Great Britain mine to work the old tailings.

In Africa experiments are being made in submitting to cyaniding the quartz directly after being broken by a rock crushe r and without being crushed or rolled. The quartz, however, is very friable and crumbles easily. The recent leading article in the Indigo Advertiser on the subject of cyaniding has been the subject of considerable discussion. In connection with this matter an exchange very practically says: "It will not do to suppose that the possession of a few hundred-weight of cyanide, and a heap of tailings, is necessarily the groundwork of a fortune. In the first place there may not be sufficient gold in the tailings to pay for extraction. In the next place the gold may be there in satisfactory quantities, but it may be allied with other metals which also are greedy for cyanide, and thus cause too great a consumption of the wonder-working solvent to be profitable." [14]

01.02.1897: The Mining Exhibition [Melbourne]- A cyanide plant, exhibited by Mr Deeble, of Bendigo, is attracting great attention. [158]
1897: Annual Report: Re cyaniding ... During the year a large number of samples of tailings have been sent into to be experimented on as to their suitability for treatment by the cyaniding process, and in nearly every case it has been demonstrated that the gold can be extracted by means of that solvent, though frequently the gold contents are too low to make it profitable. A large number of plants are now in existence in the principal mining areas. At Stawell 200 tons and more a day are put through, but with one or two notable
exceptions the plants are all working on old tailing heaps. It would be a great advantage to this colony if more of the working batteries had cyanide plants attached to their existing appliances, as by that means the gold could be extracted profitably, and which is now going to waste; but often if the tailings be run into a heap the cost of getting them in motion again is too great to leave a margin of profit. The South Star mine at Ballarat, and the South German at Maldon, are both cyaniding their tailings . . . One of the difficulties of the treatment of tailings by cyanides is caused by the slimes which are always produced during crushing and are usually the richest in gold; if they be not removed they settle so densely in the vats that the percolation of the liquor is stopped: this is usually overcome by running the tailings through Butter’s distributors, by which means the great bulk of the slimes are removed . . . Two different systems have been devised by local inventors, one by Mr J. J. Deebel, of Bendigo, which consists of a circular vat with agitating blades capable of being raised or lowered, and keeping the whole thoroughly stirred; the vat is provided with a single side gate which can be gradually lowered to allow the clear liquor carrying the gold in solution to overflow after stoppage of the arms and the settlement of the slimes. This method is adopted in the South German Mine . . .[where] the vats are 18 feet diameter and 4 feet deep, and require 3 horsepower. They hold about 20 tons each, and to get a complete extraction the slimes need 30 hours’ agitation, the whole operation of agitation, settling and decanting takes 48 hours, the consumption of cyanide being about 1½ lbs. per ton of slimes. Several parcels of pyrites have been treated without calcining by this method with over 95 per cent of extraction of gold content. [13]

1896 8822ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 115,702.5 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes, but with cyaniding now on the increase. [13.11]

09.07.1897 From the Herald we learn that the Minister of Mines has received from Mr Stone, the departmental assayer, a report on 2 tons of tailings sent to him from Axedale for cyanide experiment. Mr Stone says the lot was treated in four half ton parcels, and the results showed that the best results were secured in each successive parcel, the causes of the loss of gold and consumption being gradually found out and overcome, until in the final parcel an extraction of 74.6 per cent of the gold was obtained for a consumption of 0.53 pounds of cyanide per ton; or a cost of one shilling 4 pence for chemicals, including caustic soda. The value of the gold recovered being 7 shillings 9 pence per ton, the profit was then 6 shillings 5 pence per ton to cover cost and handling and depreciation of plant. . . Some interesting hints are added by Mr Stone, as well as a table, and the whole report is to be printed for the information of the mining community. [16]

1897 15,717ozs 4dwt of gold obtained from 161,723 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [13.10]
1898 17,845ozs 1dwt of gold obtained from 351,067 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [13.11]
1899 17,412ozs 13dwt of gold obtained from 359,848 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.11]
1900 28,741ozs 16dwt of gold obtained from 283,532 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.10]
1901 41,990ozs 10dwt of gold obtained from 482,278 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.11]
1902 43,302ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 504,212 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.14]
1903 35,839ozs of gold obtained from 444,897 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.16]
1904 48,035ozs 16dwt of gold obtained from 644,925 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.18]
1905 45,221ozs 4dwt of gold obtained from 626,745 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.20]
1906 44,495ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 665,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [13.18]
1907 65,961ozs of gold obtained from 983,034 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [12.17]
1908: 77,245ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,768 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1909: 75,429ozs of gold obtained from 1,257,338 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1910: 68,583ozs of gold obtained from 1,177,232 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1911: 59,986ozs of gold obtained from 1,102,956 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1912: 55,740ozs of gold obtained from 881,306 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1913: 45,397ozs of gold obtained from 692,256 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1914: 39,920ozs of gold obtained from 607,260 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1915: 21,511ozs of gold obtained from 317,636 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1916: 14,635ozs of gold obtained from 203,016 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1917: 8930ozs of gold obtained from 127,012 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1918: 4420ozs of gold obtained from 45,600 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1919: 4198ozs of gold obtained from 43,000 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1920: 4226ozs of gold obtained from 37,596 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1921: 5326ozs of gold obtained from 39,937 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1922: 5847ozs of gold obtained from 41,163 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1923: 3415ozs of gold obtained from 18,644 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1924: 2052ozs of gold obtained from 12,108 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1925: 971ozs of gold obtained from 12,108 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1926: 1323ozs of gold obtained from 7748 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1927: 1672ozs of gold obtained from 11,060 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1928: 1199ozs of gold obtained from 6397 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1929: 772ozs of gold obtained from 4047 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1930: There were no reports of gold being obtained from tailings by cyaniding during the year. There were no reports of cyanide plants in operation during the year.
1931: 807ozs of gold obtained from 8933 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1932: 2060ozs of gold obtained from 39,317 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1933: 3550ozs of gold obtained from 63,565 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1934: 14,842ozs of gold obtained from 321,104 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1935: 22,460ozs of gold obtained from 630,318 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1936 28,565ozs of gold obtained from 794,640 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 141 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [11.29]

1937 41,923ozs of gold obtained from 1,233,914 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 157 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [11.21]

1938 40,384ozs of gold obtained from 1,202,623 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 132 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [18.32]

1939 43,458ozs of gold obtained from 1,358,304 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 150 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [18.25]

1939 Cyanide plants at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Ironbark, Huntly, Sebastian, Fosterville and Marong are giving in most cases payable results. [18]

1940 38,759ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,301 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 188 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [18.25]

1941 37,050ozs of gold obtained from 1,176,936 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 165 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 4 Government plants. [18.23]

1942 19,869ozs of gold obtained from 626,643 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 85 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [18.20]

1943 6626ozs of gold obtained from 78,716 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 36 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [18.19]

1944 2936ozs of gold obtained from 59,045 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 19 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [18.19]

1945 2442ozs of gold obtained from 47,197 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [18.19]

1946 8694ozs of gold obtained from 262,810 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 40 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [18.22]

1947 9977ozs of gold obtained from 268,893 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 39 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [18.22]

1948 10,746ozs of gold obtained from 376,143 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 30 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [18.26]

1949 10,312ozs of gold obtained from 359,577 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 24 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [11.34]

1950 10,834ozs of gold obtained from 468,758 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 27 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.31]

1951 5093ozs of gold obtained from 220,625 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 9 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.27]

1952 1453ozs of gold obtained from 60,466 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.24]

1953 1025ozs of gold obtained from 15,807 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.21]

1954 789ozs of gold obtained from 14,677 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.21]

1955 764ozs of gold obtained from 13,805 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.23]

1956 476ozs of gold obtained from 10,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 6 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.23]

1957 523ozs of gold obtained from 11,861 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.23]

1958 569ozs of gold obtained from 11,150 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 5 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [19.31]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

SOUTH FREDERICK THE GREAT MINE

Other Names

Location  Unreserved Crown Land along the southern boundary of Sebastian School, east of Three Chain Road, Frederick the Great/Carshalton Reef, Sebastian

Map Reference  Raywood 1:25000 - BV488.447

Description  Mine site
Capped shaft still surrounded by its mullock paddock. At the base of the paddock on the northern side is a concrete winding engine foundation measuring 8 by 4 feet, and standing 2 feet high. The foundation has ¾-inch mounting bolts.

Battery site
70 metres to the west of the mine site are the concrete foundations of a 10-head battery. The foundations measure 16 by 11 feet, and stand 4 feet high. Part of the battery's loading ramp still survives, and on the eastern side of the battery foundations is a large concrete engine foundation. Near this engine foundation is a 3 foot square concrete pad, which still retains a circular impression. Presumably this was a stand for a gas producer cylinder. Located between the battery and the mine site is a rubbish dump which contains sections of an iron stack, and perhaps the remains of the gas producer cylinder.

History  Period of activity: 1871 (South Frederick the Great); 1881-1889 (Amalgamated South Frederick the Great); 1897-1906 (South Frederick the Great); 1933-1937 (South Frederick the Great)
Line of reef: Sebastian/Carshalton
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: 511ozs obtained from 1773 tons between 1934 and 1937
Deepest working level: 300 feet (Amalgamated South Frederick the Great)
Deepest shaft: 307 feet (Amalgamated South Frederick the Great)(below water level)

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  The site is one of a number at the northern end of the Carshalton line of reef which were marginally productive and economically insignificant (e.g. North Frederick the Great, Young Frederick the Great, Barnes Freehold). There are several other earlier, as well preserved and perhaps more representative medium-level low-production mine sites elsewhere in the study area, namely: Old Tom Reef (1857-1900), Frühling Reef (1860-1931), Lancashire Reef (1865-1907) and King of Prussia (1871-1885). This site, however, is the only one within the study area which was established during the 1930's revival of mining in Victoria.
Statement of Significance

The site is representative of one of the smaller-scale mines established in the 1930’s revival of mining in Victoria (criterion A) and has the potential to illustrate the features of such a mine (criterion C). The site is also part of a network of mining sites, including the Frederick the Great sites.

Level of Significance

Local

Recommendation

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, the site should be cleared of all domestic rubbish and derelict car bodies and parts, and further historical research should be undertaken to determine the sequence of activities on the site prior to 1930.

Heritage Boundaries

The site is bounded on the west by Three Chains Road and extends 300 metres east from the road in a strip 100 metres wide and encompassing all the features on the ground at both the mine and battery sites.

References

4. “Mining meetings.  Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 3 March 1883, p6, col.3.
5. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
11. “Our mines.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 2 December 1897, p5, col.3.
17. The Bendigo Advertiser [in Department of Mining and Industrial Development records].
18. The Bendigo Advertiser, ?,/?,1938, [in Department of Mining and Industrial Development records].

Notes

The existing battery site is located close to an earlier one.

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

07.08.1871 - South Frederick the Great Company: We have put up a whip on the 150 foot shaft, and a blacksmith’s shop, and completed putting in the ladders. Everything is in good working order. The east drive is in 50 feet in
sandstone, and the west chamber is opened out, and in about 15 feet in slate country. The reef in the Frederick the Great claim makes larger and better as it is worked south. [1]

28.03.1881 Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company - since last report we have sunk shaft 50 feet, and driven west 34 feet, cutting stone about one foot thick, showing gold. We are now rising on same; it is about 2 feet 6 inches thick. Shall crush during the fortnight. [2]

05.09.1881 Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company: The winze at the 50 foot level has been sunk 12 feet, total depth 64 feet; stone about 3 feet in thickness, with several spurs in the footwall. We have commenced opening out at the depth of 35 feet, and have driven north 15 feet. [3]

03.03.1883 Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company: The half-yearly general meeting of this company was held ... on Wednesday last. ... Directors’ report - Immediately after the date of the last general meeting, the directors who were then elected visited the mine for the purpose of deciding upon the work which should be continued; and after full consideration it was determined to cut down the main shaft which is situated near our northern boundary, and on the line of Bruhn's Tribute Company. A contract was let accordingly for cutting down and timbering the shaft in 3 compartments to 133 feet, which was satisfactorily completed; and another contract, now in progress, let to continue sinking another 100 feet, at which depth, should no stone be cut in sinking, it is intended to open out east and west. During the past week some stone has been passed through in sinking, but no gold has been seen in it, although the ground has a very promising appearance, the board has decided to keep the shaft going down under the present contract, which is at the rate of 32 shillings 6 pence per foot for sinking and timbering. [4]

06.1884 The Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company are driving a level at 133 feet, where there is a quantity of stone, going south. [5.15-16]

30.08.1884 Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company: The half-yearly general meeting was held on Thursday ... Directors’ report - During the last half year your directors, deferring to a strongly expressed wish of a section of our shareholders, have devoted most of their attention to prospecting the upper level at 133 feet, which has been driven in all about 150 feet, but they have come to the conclusion that a sufficient trial has been given to this portion of the ground for the present. In addition to the above work, the levels at 300 feet deep have been extended north and south about 120 feet, but in consequence of the quantity of water met with we were obliged to discontinue, and we are now fully impressed with the paramount advantage of continuing the sinking of the shaft, which, at 307 feet deep, is in a body of stone fully 15 feet thick, and in which gold has been frequently seen. The water, however, is beyond the power of the appliances at the service of the company on the surface, and consequently an expression of opinion by the shareholders is sought as to the propriety of erecting a moderately equipped winding engine, to a cost -say, of £700. Your directors are disposed to recommend this course as presenting the most advantages for the economical working of the mine. This expenditure might be shared by entering into a joint arrangement with Barnes Freehold Company, or in conjunction with the adjoining claim immediately south of your ground. ... [6]

19.01.1887 The South Frederick the Great, for which two applications for £100 were received, one from T. Darbyshire (a tributor) and the other from S. G. Cole. It turned out the money was wanted to assist in sinking a winze from 30 feet on a 3 foot reef, 20 tons from which gave 7ozs of gold. The board was not strongly impressed with the idea that this was “prospecting”. [7]

25.02.1888 Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company: The half-yearly general meeting of this company was held yesterday ... Directors’ report - since operations were resumed in the mine in November last, the following work has been done. At first it was thought advisable to haul the water out of the main shaft and prove the reef in the bottom (310 feet), but it was found that our present appliances were not sufficient to cope with the flow of water, and your directors have the matter of erecting a small winding engine under consideration. Men were put on to drive on the stone at about 30 feet
from the surface, but it was found to dip very fast, and could not be worked from this point. The south shaft was then sunk to a depth of 102 feet, and a crosscut put in 40 feet, the last 8 feet being in quartz, with no sign of being through yet. Should the stone not prove payable, it is intended to open out above the water level in the main shaft and crosscut for the reef. An application is before the Warden for a lease of a large area of ground to the south of our present lease, which will be a valuable addition to our property should anything payable be cut.

06.1888 At Sebastian, one or two claims, such as the Frederick the Great and South Frederick the Great Companies have somewhat improved prospects.

01.09.1888 Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company: The half-yearly meeting lapsed yesterday ... Director’s report - During the past six months a large amount of prospecting has been done on the stone at 233 foot level. There is a quantity of stone of good appearance, but up to the present is not payable. Work has been suspended at this level, and the men put to open out above the water level at 300 feet, to crosscut for the stone which was cut in the shaft, and in which fair prospects were obtained.

01.03.1889 Amalgamated South Frederick the Great Company: The half-yearly meeting was held yesterday ... There were no reports.

25.12.1897 South Frederick the Great have done a deal of prospecting, but so far without success.

02.01.1898 The South Frederick the Great are sinking and at ... have got into a large formation, which is ... mineralized, but shows no gold.

1899 South Frederick the Great, Sebastian: With the object of striking the continuation of the rich shoot worked from Bruhn’s shaft, the South Frederick the Great Company has sunk a shaft close to the mutual boundary of the leases; at about 450 feet a large body of mineralized stone was cut, but the gold contents were not payable. The company’s shaft is very evidently not deep enough.

01.01.1900 South Frederick the Great have had to abandon the deep ground owing to the heavy inflow of water, and they are now rising on a small stone above 365 feet.

1906 The South Bruhn’s shaft is down 69 feet; four men were at work.

1934 South Frederick the Great: 148ozs obtained from 176 tons of stone.

The South Frederick the Great mine complete underground survey. The South Frederick the Great mine. The mine is located between half and three-quarters of a mile south of the old Frederick the Great mine. The company which was only recently formed has sunk a shaft to 65 feet and met with a body of spurs between two west-dipping faults which are diverging, and from which yields up to 1 ounce per ton are being obtained. The probabilities are that this spur reef and faults are subsidiary to the old Frederick the Great fault and reef, which is not seen yet. An interesting feature of this gold occurrence is that, so far as the survey has gone, it appears to be in the Darriwil horizon.

1935 South Frederick the Great: 128ozs obtained from 409 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 276ozs from 585 tons of stone.

Sebastian - South Frederick the Great sank the main shaft 172 feet. Prospecting and development was carried out down to the 150-foot level. A five-head battery, in the course of erection, should be completed early in the coming year.

05.1936 New Mine at Sebastian - Photo showing staff outside building. Caption belong contains: Great interest has been displayed in the Sebastian district in the erection of the new battery for the South Frederick the Great Company, which commenced milling last week. Old residents remember the old Frederick the Great mill of 60 stamps which had an output of 6000 tons per month. The present mill of 5 head of stamps is situated close to the site of the old battery. In the back row, third from the left is Mr. H. Leed (representing legal managers), then Messrs W. Hooper (mine manager), J. O. Charleton (chairman
of directors), H. Laity (battery manager) and L. Jorgenson (engineer) ... the high
cost of carting and crushing in Bendigo, a new five-head battery, a suction gas
engine and other necessary equipment was purchased and erection has just
been completed by T J Jorgensen and Son. [17]
1936: South Frederick the Great: 205ozs obtained from 984 tons of stone.
The company had now obtained 481ozs from 1569 tons of stone. [16]
1936: Outside the main Bendigo goldfield, promising mines are being
opened up at Sebastian, Maldon, Costerfield etc. [16.23]
1937: South Frederick the Great: 30ozs obtained from 204 tons of stone.
The company had now obtained 511ozs from 1773 tons of stone. [16]
... companies which have not survived include the ... South Frederick the
Great. [16.11]
1938: Employees in mines - Number to be 703 ... The numbers of men
working underground and engaged on the surface are - New Chum Syncline 21;
South New Moon 60; Carshalton (BML) 54; Napoleon 40; Nell Gwynne 35;
Central Nell Gwynne 80; Deborah 50; North Deborah 11; South Frederick the
Great 12; South Red White and Blue 16; Monument Hill 37; Central Napoleon 7;
North Virginia 12; Hercules No 1 16; South Ironbark 16; Hercules 16; Ironbark
19; South Virginia 16; Virginia Extended 16; New Red White end Blue 74; North
Red White and Blue 41; Central Red White and Blue 20; Little 180 16; North
Nell Gwyne 18; Big Hill 6. [18]
01.1938: Mines such as the Central Nell Gwynne, Deborah, South New Moon,
and South Virginia have realized expectations, and are now producing with
every probability of further success. A few mines, notably the B.M.L. group,
comprising the Carshalton, Napoleon, and Nell Gwynne, after the expenditure of
much capital, failed to prove remunerative, and these companies have now
practically suspended operations. Other companies that have not survived
include the New Prince of Wales, Virginia South Extended, and South Frederick
the Great. [19]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

**SOUTH NEW MOON MINE**

**Other Names**

**Location**  
Parcel No. P123918, State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park, west side of Beelzebub Road, Garden Gully Reef, Eaglehawk

**Map Reference**  
Marong, 1:25,000 - BV536.343

Victorian Heritage Register  No  
National Estate Register  No  
Planning Scheme  No

**Description**  
South New Moon battery  
Brick engine foundation at east end of the site measures 16 by 5 feet and stands at least 6 feet high. Mounting bolts survive (1 inch diameter), and bricks are hand-made and set in a hard concrete mortar. Running west from the brick foundation is a line of battery stumps. Not all have survived, but there appear to have been Bight battery boxes, each 5 feet by 18 inches. The condition of the surviving stumps ranges from good to badly decayed. At the front of the battery stumps is a concrete floor, containing two small, rectangular concrete mounting pads. On top of the battery's loading ramp, at the rear of the site, is another brick foundation, 16 by 3½ feet.

The western side of the battery is dominated by a massive brick foundation, measuring 44 by 5 feet and standing at least 7 feet high. The brickwork rests on stone footings. At its northern end is an arched cavity, 3¼ feet wide by 2½ feet high, and at the opposite end, set in the eastern face, is a metal safe (2½ by 5 feet).

In front of the battery house is a partially exposed section of a wooden drain.

South New Moon engine house  
About 25 metres west of the battery are three large engine foundations, all standing approximately 6 feet high. Two of these, measuring 24 by 5½ feet, are constructed of red bricks. The brickwork of these two appears to have been repaired and/or modified in places with concrete. The third foundation is constructed of concrete, measuring approximately 13 by 5 metres, and appears to have been placed over an earlier brick foundation. A mullock paddock abuts the north and south sides of the engine house, where it is retained by a stone wall. On the mullock paddock, near the north-west comer of the engine house, are two concrete air receiver pads. They are 14½ feet apart and would have supported a cylinder of about 5 feet diameter. Also on the mullock paddock is a capped shaft some 25 metres north of the engine house. To the east of the engine house are the remains of a stone boiler setting.

New South Moon battery  
At the base of the mullock paddock's western side is another battery site. The face of the mullock paddock where it abuts the battery is retained by a 30 feet long by 15 feet high stone wall. The battery site consists of the fresh-looking hewn timber bedlogs and concrete foundations, which would have supported a 15-head battery. The concrete classification floor in front of the battery boxes is intact.

**History**  
Period of activity: 1865-1871 as a group of co-operative parties: Bevis/Beavis Brothers and Parker, Midas and Company, Bassett/Graham and Company and Paul/Pohl and Company; 1871-1927 as New South Moon Company; 1929 as
Great South New Moon; 1933-1937/1941 as New South Moon Company; 1937-1951 as cyanide operations by Gold Dumps Proprietar y South New Moon (with remains dating to the periods 1900-1910 and the 1930s). The South New Moon Company was the leading mine on the gold field from 1901-1905, and the leading mine in the State in 1903.

Line of reef: Moon/Garden Gully

Maximum recorded annual production: 36,519ozs obtained from 27,601 tons in 1904
Total production: 251,389/257,498ozs obtained from 452,661 tons
Dividends: £522,400
Deepest working level: 1200 feet
Deepest shaft: 1980 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The New Moon and South New Moon mines are two of the most significant in the Bendigo urban area.

Statement of Significance
This extensive and mostly intact site retains foundations from all the later and major phases of the mine’s operations, unlike most other mines within the Bendigo urban area (criterion B). The site displays one of the longest sequence of use by mining companies, which were among the top seven gold producers on a goldfield reported to have consisted of 829 mines [44], is associated with an important period of Bendigo's mining history (that is, it is a key site for the period from 1888 to 1913)(criterion A) and has the potential to educate and illustrate the “big-mine” phase of Bendigo mining (criterion C).

Level of Significance
National Estate

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with both the Victorian Heritage Council and the Australian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries
The Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lower Beelzebub Gully Road and the Bendigo-Pyramid Road, on the north and south by private property boundaries, and on the east by a line 100 metres east of Beelzebub Gully Road as far as Sandner Road and thence by direct line to intersect the northern boundary at a point 250 metres east of the junction of Janaways Road and Lower Beelzebub Gully Road.

References
Notes

This site has already been registered with the Victorian Heritage Council with this statement of cultural heritage significance:
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites consists of two large mines - South New Moon and New Moon - both containing an array of mining machinery foundations. The mines, after very indifferent beginnings in the late 1860s, went on to become State significant gold producers from the 1890s. Both mines closed during the First World War and only the South New Moon re-opened briefly during the 1930s.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites have attributes that elevate their significance above that of other extant historic mines on the Bendigo field. The South New Moon site has the last substantial remains of one (sic) the Bendigo’s premier dividend-paying mines (surpassed only by two others); and the New Moon battery foundations (which supported 71 heads of battery) are the last substantial remains of one (sic) the massive crushing facilities that marked the zenith of quartz mining in Victoria during the 1890s.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are of historical, archaeological and scientific importance to the State of Victoria.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are historically and scientifically important as characteristic examples of an important form of gold mining. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria. As well as being a significant producer of Victoria’s nineteenth century wealth, quartz mining, with its intensive reliance on machinery, played an important role in the development of Victorian manufacturing industry. The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are important as a manifestation of this aspect of gold mining.
The New Moon Quartz Gold Mining Sites are scientifically important in that they contain comprehensive foundations and archaeological deposits associated with a period when the Bendigo goldfield was a world leader. The site is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts and evidence which will be able to provide significant information about the technological history of gold mining.
The site has been defined in these terms:
All the land marked L-1, L-2 and L-3 on diagram number 608048 held by the Executive Director (of the Victorian Heritage Council) and including all above-ground structures (sites of concrete and brick engine beds, concrete floor slabs, battery foundations), water ponds, and remnants of mullock paddocks, and all archaeological deposits and artefacts.

Despite the very high yields sometimes obtained by the cooperative parties prior to 1870, it was not until 1899 that the company was able to lift the level of its annual production significantly above 1000ozs. To the end of 1898 the company had only obtained 17,399ozs 5 dwt from 34,381 tons of stone (for an average of about 800ozs per annum) and had declared £7200 in dividends.

Lower Beelzebub Gully Road is the title given to an otherwise unnamed track connecting Janaways Road southwards across Beelzebub Gully to the Bendigo-
Pyramid Road and running parallel to, and west of Beelzebub Gully Road.

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

02.12.1862 The success of Messrs Bevis Brothers and Parker during the last few weeks, they have been raising 3½ ozs stone, has imparted some energy to other claimholders. The Midas Company in the next claim are starting again on their shaft, already 98 feet in depth, and will in all probability get the same stone as Bevis and Company. Singular enough, one of the partners in the first named claim sold his interest in the claim (one fourth) only a few weeks since for £80. [1]

05.05.1863 There are still hopes of the Moon line of reefs, Sailor's Gully, turning out payable gold, or at any rate affording a compensative return to the miner for his labour. Messrs Graham and Hamilton have recently struck a lead at 120 feet sinking, which has yielded an average of an ounce to the ton. From the third crushing made last week, 32 ozs of gold were obtained from 30 tons of quartz, which is rather over the average. There are several other parties working along this line, who shortly expect to reach the same run of stone, which is a fine bold reef of great thickness, with the gold equally distributed throughout. [2]

15.07.1864 In Messrs Graham and Company's claim on this reef a vein of quartz 9 inches thick has been struck at a depth of 120 feet, in the whim shaft, in the south portion of the ground recently purchased from Bassett, and so largely is the stone impregnated with gold that 2 ozs per ton will probably be its lowest yield. In the north end of the same ground a large body of quartz is being worked, expected to yield an ounce to the ton. The adjoining claim south (Paul's) is producing stone averaging an ounce per ton at a depth of 150 feet, and the next claim (Bevis's) is equally good. [3, 4]

19.08.1865 Beavis and Company, on the Moon Reef, have been working small spurs at a depth of 130 feet from the surface, but they are not so remunerative as could be wished. It is probable that by sinking deeper good stone would be found, and this the company is likely to do. [5]

06.09.1865 In Pohl's claim, south of Graham and Hamilton, it is reported that the reef is yielding about 3 ozs to the ton. [7]

15.11.1865 Paul's claim, on the Moon Reef, is being worked upwards from the 130 foot level. The last crushing was poor, but the next will probably show an improvement, the anticipated yield being ¾ ozs per ton. Stone is also being raised from two small spurs on the west run of stone at 40 feet from the surface. [8]

24.07.1871 During the last fortnight the eastern crosscut has been extended 81 feet, total distance from shaft 140 feet. A contract to sink a new eastern shaft (7 feet by 4 feet), 200 feet from surface, has been let at 19 shillings 6 pence per foot, including timbering. We have commenced breaking stone from the south level, it shows well, gold being seen very freely. [9]

07.08.1871 Since my last report the eastern crosscut has been extended 12 feet. We are through the hard sandstone and into slate, which is intersected with gold-bearing spurs. We have about 20 tons broken from the backs in the south level, and intend crushing before next meeting. The contractors have sunk the new shaft 30 feet. [10]

16.10.1871 Since my last report the shaft has been sunk a further depth of 10 feet and timbered 35 feet, total depth 116 feet. The level from the eastern crosscut has been extended 19 feet towards the new shaft - both sinking and driving continue very good. [11]

16.11.1871 Since my last report the shaft has been sunk 10 feet; total depth 140 feet; and the south level driven a further distance of 13 feet. [12]

1871-1930s South New Moon - Adjoining the New Moon's lease on the south was that of the South New Moon. Commencing in 1871, this mine after experiencing some years of disappointment, proved one of the best mines on
the Bendigo gold field. To the time of its closure in 1937, this company crushed 452,661 tons for a yield of 251,389ozs paying £522,400 in dividends. The shaft was 1980 feet deep. From 1901 to 1905 the South New Moon was the leading mine on the Bendigo field, while in 1903 it was the best in the state. The most profitable year for shareholders was in 1904 when £120,000 was paid in dividends.

This mine also had a first-class plant which included a 40-head battery. On 29 December 1901, a new set of tubular steel poppet legs was in the course of erection.

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01.07.1872: South New Moon Tribute Company No.2: Depth of shaft from brace 46 feet. The tribute stone is improving, coming south towards our ground.

08.07.1872: South New Moon Tribute Company No.2: driving to continue, and expect to strike the same run as the tribute company this week. The prospects of this mine are first class.

29.07.1872: South New Moon Tribute Company No.2: Mr Frank A Flint reports: at the 53 foot level we struck the Tribute stone, showing splendid prospects. We have sunk 13 feet, and cut again through the stone about 9 inches thick, and widening going down. The specimens, which can be seen at the office, speak well for the rich run of stone. Sinking will be continued on the underlay (which is about 3 inches in 20 west) 20 feet, when we shall open out on the lode.

23.09.1875: South of the New Moon Reef Company numerous parties of tributors are busily engaged on the continuation of this line, and especially so on Mr Graham’s lease, and they appear well satisfied with the results of their undertakings. Some of these claims are in full operation right up to the old Argus Company’s lease, so that an extensive stretch of auriferous ground is being worked, with satisfactory results, and excellent prospects for permanency in the deeper levels.

14.09.1878: Yesterday Major Couchman, of the Mining Department, visited Sandhurst for the purpose of inspecting the several claims for which applications have been made for the use of the (diamond) drill. The last visit made was to three adjoining claims, the South New Moon, New Moon and Robin Hood companies. It is desired by those companies that one or more bores be put down for the purpose of testing the country. The South New Moon Company made a definite proposal, the only one which was conveyed to Major Couchman, to pay the cost of working the drill, and secure an adequate supply of water. ...
12.1880 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 123ozs 16dwt obtained from 335 tons of stone at 250 feet in spurs. [20.27-28]
28.03.1881 During the past fortnight the plat at the 435 foot level has been cut, and the shaft sunk 18 inches. There remains only 2 feet to sink to complete the contract. The crosscut east at 375 feet has been driven --- feet, making 119 feet from the shaft. A lava leader with veins of quartz has been cut, and there is now a small stream of water coming from the face. [24]
06.1881 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 103ozs 13dwt 7 grains obtained from 211 tons of stone at between 200 and 350 feet in spurs. [20.27-28]
09.1881 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 105ozs 13dwt 19 grains obtained from 177 tons of stone at 250 feet in spurs. [20.33-34]
09.1882 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 119ozs 17dwt obtained from 220 tons of stone. [25]
12.1882 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 80ozs 3dwt obtained from 215 tons of stone at 250 feet. [25]
06.1883 On the Moon line of reef prospecting is going on, and some good returns have been obtained by tributers. [17]
09.1883 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 15ozs 13dwt 12 grains obtained from 26 tons of stone at 250 feet. [25]
12.1883 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 52ozs 12dwt obtained from 121 tons of stone at 250 feet. [25]
06.1884 On the Devonshire, St Mungo, Johnson's, and Moon lines of reef, work is being pushed on most energetically. [17]
06.1884 South New Moon are busily prospecting. In the 315-foot and 375-foot cross-cuts the indications for gold are favourable. [17.15-16]
09.1884 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 29ozs 16dwt obtained from 61 tons of stone. [26]
06.1885 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 26ozs 3dwt 9 grains obtained from 61 tons of stone at between 250 and 500 feet. [26]
09.1885 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 32ozs 1dwt 18 grains obtained from 105 tons of stone. [26]
06.1886 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 78ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 126 tons of stone. [26]
09.1886 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 106ozs 7dwt 21 grains obtained from 194 tons of stone at between the surface and 500 feet. [26]
12.1886 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 59ozs 3dwt 23 grains obtained from 105 tons of stone at 500 feet. [26]
03.1887 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 43ozs 12dwt 18 grains obtained from 78 tons of stone at 250 feet. [26]
12.1887 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 44ozs 11dwt 8 grains obtained from 136 tons of stone at between 200 and 500 feet. [26]
06.1889 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 66ozs 18dwt 18 grains obtained from 172 tons of stone at 315 feet. [26]
09.1889 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 70ozs 3dwt 19 grains obtained from 163 tons of stone at between 100 and 500 feet. [26]
12.1889 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 97ozs 8dwt 6 grains obtained from 125 tons of stone at between 315 and 500 feet. [26]
03.1890 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 257ozs 9dwt obtained from 245 tons of stone at 315 and 500 feet. [27]
13.06.1890 The South New Moon have finished sinking and they will shortly open out for the New Moon run. The New Moon have again an excellent yield and appear to have a good future before it. [28]
06.1890 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 344ozs 7dwt obtained from 256 tons of stone at 130 and 315 feet. [27]
09.1890 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 448ozs 5dwt obtained from 527 tons of stone at between 315 and 420 feet. [27]
12.1890 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 224ozs 14dwt obtained from 337 tons of stone at 426 and 515 feet. [27]
06.1891 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 305ozs 15dwt obtained from 242 tons of stone at between 120 and 426 feet. [27]
09.1891 South New Moon, Moon Reef: 251ozs 19dwt obtained from 418
tons of stone. [27]

15.08.1892: From main shaft the crosscut west has been extended 15 feet, total 47 feet from plat. Are now going to sink a winze from the 500 foot crosscut to intersect the stone passed through in sinking the shaft. In the south shaft have been stoping from the level south from the 426 foot plat; also underhand stoping on the small spur on eastern run. Have crushed 34 loads for 27ozs 7dwt gold and treated 2 loads pyrites for 2ozs 14dwt; total 30ozs 1dwt gold. [29]

08.11.1892: During the fortnight the 580 foot crosscut has been driven west 10 feet, total 110 feet from shaft. Have driven the 500 foot east crosscut 12 feet; total 65 feet from shaft; have cut a spur about 4 inches thick showing gold and galena. Winze from 500 foot west crosscut sunk 5 feet and broke through to the 580 foot crosscut. South shaft - have driven the level north 10 feet, total 118 feet from 426 foot east crosscut; stone in drive showing a little gold. The level from 426 foot plat has been driven south 10 feet, total 128 feet. From stopes and levels have crushed 34 loads for 35ozs 9dwt gold; treated 9 loads of pyrites for 3ozs 11dwts of gold. Tributors crushed 15 loads for 21ozs 6dwt; total gold 60ozs 19dwt. [30]

07.02.1894: The South New Moon yesterday met with some small spurs in sinking at a depth of 738 feet. The stone shows a little gold. [31]

28.06.1895: South New Moon put through a crushing of 75 tons from 700 feet for 11ozs 10dwt amalgam and 45 tons from 275 feet for 37ozs 15dwt amalgam, making, with 3ozs 15dwt from silver, a total of 53ozs amalgam, which retorted 39ozs 16dwt gold. [32]

The half yearly meeting of this company was held ... last evening.

Mining manager's report - during the past six months, the following work has been done in the mine:- the 742 foot west crosscut extended 77 feet, total 282 feet from shaft. At 210 feet from shaft cut a back underlying west, with 3 inches of quartz on it; ground in the crosscut, broken country, with sandstone in the face. This work has been stopped. Have driven a crosscut east 87 feet from the 650 foot plat to intersect the spurs we passed through in sinking the shaft, but not finding stone of any importance, it was thought advisable to discontinue the work and open out on the stone in the shaft 40 feet below. Have cut a plat here, 700 feet from surface. Driven south 56 feet, and crushed 257 loads of quartz for 42ozs 17dwt of gold, stone about 4 feet thick. Have driven north 59 feet from the 600 foot west crosscut on a slide 55 feet from shaft. This slide I believe to be the same as the New Moon have at their 685 foot south level. Ground in face, quartz and slate. There have been several crushings taken out here, with very poor returns, and this place is also stopped for the present. Have sunk 20 feet from the 580 foot west crosscut, and broke through to the rise that was put up from the 660 foot crosscut. Have driven a crosscut east 55 feet from 822 foot plat, cut two small spurs, also drove south 5 feet; total, 136 feet from shaft. Quartz, one foot thick. There were several crushings taken out, but the returns were very poor. This work was also stopped for a time. Extended the south drive 21 feet, total 59 feet from 500 foot east crosscut. Extended the 315 foot south drive 23 feet, total 413 feet from east crosscut. Sunk the winze 12 feet on stone one foot thick and saw a little gold in breaking. In the whim shaft extended the south drive 16 feet and broke through to the 275 foot north drive. In the main shaft in stoping the stone shows gold. Have crushed 884 loads of quartz from all parts of the mine for 202ozs 14dwt gold; plates cleaned for 4ozs 12dwt, and 5 loads of pyrites treated for 3ozs 6dwt; total gold 215ozs 12dwt. There are 13 parties of tributors working in the mine, who have crushed 866 loads of quartz, and treated 8 loads of pyrites for a total of 434ozs 14dwt of gold. We are now sinking a winze from 666 foot west crosscut, 110 feet from the shaft. According to the survey that has been made, we should strike the Moon reef in about 40 feet sinking. At the 742 foot west crosscut, 175 feet from shaft, cut a back underlying west with 3 inches of quartz on it. If payable gold be not obtained in this winze, I would recommend that you put up a rise on this back, and that you sink a winze from 742 foot crosscut to the 822 foot crosscut on the mine back; and if there is no payable stone between these crosscuts, to sink the shaft. By the prospects the New Moon have coming...
towards us we should be on payable gold shortly. [33]

29.06.1895: The South New Moon cleaned off 38 tons for a yield of 115ozs 17dwt of gold. [34]

26.06.1896: South New Moon. The half yearly meeting of the above company was held ... last evening, ...

Directors’ report - during the past half year we have been prospecting what we suppose to be the New Moon run of stone at 40 feet above the 600 foot west crosscut. We have driven levels north and south, and would recommend the driving of a level to the New Moon boundary to ascertain whether or not the stone is identical with that which the New Mon Company has driven on to within 50 feet of our north boundary. ...

Mining manager’s report - during the past 6 months the following work has been done in your mine:- at your last meeting we holed the winze that was sunk from the 580 foot west crosscut to a rise that was put up from the 660 foot crosscut on stone about 5 feet thick. The principal part of the work done during the last 6 months has been confined to prospecting this run of stone to a height of 40 feet, where the stone makes into spurs as it turns over west, dipping north. Are now driving an intermediate level south on the quartz which we are stoping north to see if it will improve. This level is 40 feet above the 660 foot crosscut. In stoping north the quartz in the back is 10 feet west of drive. We are now engaged shooting out the side of the drive and timbering the same. 78 feet of the 660 foot north drive is timbered. There is 45 feet of ground more to take out and timber to make it level with the end of the old drive. When this is done I would recommend that you extend this level to the New Moon boundary and follow the stone that we are now working on. Although it is poor at present, I believe you will get on payable gold shortly. There have been 1466 loads of quartz crushed from here for 324ozs 17dwt of gold. From the 315 foot south drive and stopes there have been 111 loads crushed for 28ozs of gold. This work has been stopped. From all parts of the mine 1577 loads have been crushed for 352ozs 17dwt. Treated 21 loads of pyrites for 66ozs gold. There have been an average of 34 men tributing in the mine during the last 6 months. They crushed 951 tons of quartz for 454ozs 7dwt of gold. At the 660 foot west crosscut 180 feet from the shaft, sunk a winze on the leader 65 feet, and another 10 feet of sinking will put it through to the 740 foot crosscut. ...

1897: 2799ozs 8dwt obtained from 7892 tons of stone and £2400 paid in dividends. [35]

06.1898: Up to this time the South New Moon Company had obtained 15,243ozs 13dwt from 30,440 tons of stone and had declared £5600 in dividends. [37]

07.1898: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 268ozs 11dwt obtained from 580 tons of stone. [37]

08.1898: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 174ozs 6dwt obtained from 843 tons of stone. [37]

09.1898: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 213ozs 14dwt obtained from 657 tons of stone. [37]

10.1898: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 68ozs 3dwt obtained from 570 tons of stone. [37]

11.1898: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 309ozs 9dwt obtained from 420 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. [37]

12.1898: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 506ozs 16dwt obtained from 871 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 17,399ozs 5 dwt from 34,381 tons of stone and had declared £7200 in dividends. [37]

1.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 2512ozs 10dwt obtained from 7766 tons of stone and £1600 paid in dividends. [36,12]

01.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 319ozs 7dwt obtained from 948 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. [37]

02.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 358ozs 17dwt obtained from 888 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. [37]

03.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 380ozs obtained from 1093 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. [37]
04.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 310ozs 13dwt obtained from 1060 tons of stone. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

05.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 418ozs 17dwt obtained from 1022 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

06.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 366ozs 10dwt obtained from 1157 tons of stone. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

06.1899: South New Moon - This is another company with a bad record. It has paid £7200 in dividends during the 16 years that have elapsed since its establishment as a No Liability Company. [38]

07.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 542ozs 9dwt obtained from 1225 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company leased 43 acres and intended to erect a 30-head battery. [37]

08.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 759ozs 13dwt obtained from 1219 tons of stone and £1600 was declared in dividends. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

09.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 706ozs 7dwt obtained from 1618 tons of stone. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

10.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 325ozs 8dwt obtained from 1257 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

11.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 385ozs 19dwt obtained from 1139 tons of stone. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

12.1899: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 403ozs 3dwt obtained from 1503 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company leased 43 acres and intended to erect a 30-head battery. [37]

1899: 6350ozs 11dwt obtained from 13,847 tons of stone and £6400 paid in dividends. [36.11]

01.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 410ozs 5dwt obtained from 1094 tons of stone. The company leased 43 acres. [37]

02.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 433ozs 8dwt obtained from 1199 tons of stone. The company leased 43 acres. £4120 was paid to the mill account. [37]

03.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 582ozs 16dwt obtained from 1343 tons of stone. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

04.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 391ozs obtained from 1224 tons of stone. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

05.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 525ozs 11dwt obtained from 1767 tons of stone. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

06.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 425ozs 3dwt obtained from 1503 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

07.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 456ozs 19dwt obtained from 1530 tons of stone. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

08.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 456ozs 19dwt obtained from 1530 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

09.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 559ozs 16dwt obtained from 1960 tons of stone and £1600 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

10.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 413ozs 18dwt obtained from 1615 tons of stone. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

11.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 720ozs 10dwt obtained from 1770 tons of stone and £1600 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]

12.1900: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 463ozs 2dwt obtained from 1515 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. To the end of the year the company had obtained 29,291ozs 18 dwt from 62,373 tons of stone and had declared £19,200 in dividends. [37]
1900: 5542ozs obtained from 14,145 tons of stone and £5600 paid in dividends. [36.10]
0.1.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 459ozs 5dwt obtained from 1920 tons of stone. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.2.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 484ozs obtained from 1430 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.3.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 348ozs 10dwt obtained from 1920 tons of stone. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.4.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 487ozs 2dwt obtained from 1406 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.5.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 980ozs 17dwt obtained from 1944 tons of stone and £2400 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.6.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 757ozs 13dwt obtained from 1552 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.7.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 1974ozs 7dwt obtained from 1594 tons of stone and £4800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.8.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 2499ozs 17dwt obtained from 1935 tons of stone and £6400 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
0.9.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 1695ozs 1dwt obtained from 1551 tons of stone and £4800 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
1.0.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 1966ozs 17dwt obtained from 1885 tons of stone and £6400 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
1.1.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 2721ozs obtained from 1530 tons of stone and £5600 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. [37]
1.2.1901: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 1838ozs 17dwt obtained from 1670 tons of stone and £6400 was declared in dividends. The company had a 30-head battery and leased 43 acres. To the end of the year the company had obtained 44,783ozs 1 dwt from 82,220 tons of stone and had declared £57,600 in dividends. [37]
0.1901: 15,491ozs obtained from 19,847 tons of stone and £38,400 paid in dividends. [36.11]
1902: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 16,980ozs 9dwt obtained from 18,998 tons of stone and £59,200 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 61,763ozs 10dwt from 101,218 tons of stone and had declared £119,200 in dividends. [36]
1903: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 27,166ozs 9dwt obtained from 24,900 tons of stone and £83,200 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 91,570ozs from 126,118 tons of stone and had declared £322,400 in dividends. [36]
1904: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 36,519ozs 18dwt obtained from 27,601 tons of stone and £120,000 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 127,210ozs 9dwt from 153,715 tons of stone and had declared £322,400 in dividends. [36]
1905: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 25,334ozs 11dwt obtained from 28,114 tons of stone and £70,400 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 152,543ozs 13dwt from 181,829 tons of stone and had declared £392,800 in dividends. [36]
The South New Moon Company has experienced another very prosperous year; considerable alterations and additions have been made to the milling plant,
which has been kept fully employed on ore drawn from the various levels between 500 feet and 1200 feet. The ore treated amounted to 28,114 tons, yielding 23,889ozs, while 498 tons of concentrates yielded 1445ozs. A larger amount of progressive work has been done in cross-cutting, driving, and rising. The main shaft has been sunk a further 200 feet, making it 1610 feet from the surface. 128 men, on the average, were employed. [36.117]

1906: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 13,329ozs 15dwt obtained from 28,060 tons of stone and £28,800 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 165,873ozs 8dwt from 210,489 tons of stone and had declared £421,600 in dividends. [36]

South New Moon, Moon Reef: The South New Moon Company has a dividend record of £28,800, or 18 shillings per share for the year. The shaft is 1630 feet deep; 152 men were employed. A new winding plant will be erected next year. [36.126]

South New Moon Company - The premier mine of the district undoubtedly, and one that compares favourably with the world's gold producers. Not many years ago it was a very insignificant mine when contrasted with its present successful career. It serves to show that investors should never lose faith in Bendigo stock. It is only another instance of many on the field, where the stacker comes out triumphant in the end. This mine up to date has turned out 157,153ozs of gold, and distributed £112,000 among lucky shareholders. . . The mining appliances are up-to-date . . . One of the mechanical sights of this mine is a well finished mammoth air compressor, built by Roberts and Sons Bendigo. [40]

1907: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 10,381ozs 15dwt obtained from 29,254 tons of stone and £12,800 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 176,244ozs 13dwt from 239,743 tons of stone and had declared £424,000 in dividends. [41]

South New Moon, Moon Reef: The depth of the shaft is 1780 feet. During the year an excellent winding plant has been erected. It is fitted with Corliss valves, and is working well. This company has a battery of 40 heads; 26 men are employed on the surface, and 140 underground. [41.146]

1908: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 8572ozs 6dwt obtained from 32,170 tons of stone and £6400 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 184,816ozs 16dwt from 271,913 tons of stone and had declared £440,800 in dividends. [41]

South New Moon Company - 21,170 tons of stone were crushed, which yielded 8572 ounces of gold at a cost per ton of 15 shillings 11 pence. Dividends, £6400. Depth of shaft, 1867 feet; a 200 feet sink is in progress; 140 men are employed underground, and 28 on the surface. A battery of 40 heads is in use. A connexion has been made by driving levels south from the main shaft and north from the Clarence boundary, which has improved the ventilation. Several rises have been completed, making connexion from the 1060 foot to 980 foot levels, and from the 980 foot to 900 foot levels; also connexion by rises from 1780 feet to 1380 feet, at distances in height of 100 feet, connecting with a cross-cut on the eastern back, giving splendid natural ventilation. [41.130]

1909: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 10,239ozs 12dwt obtained from 34,172 tons of stone and £16,000 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 195,056ozs 8dwt from 306,080 tons of stone and had declared £456,800 in dividends. [41]

1910: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 6210ozs 19dwt obtained from 23,994 tons of stone and £4800 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 201,267ozs 11dwt from 339,074 tons of stone and had declared £461,600 in dividends. [41]

The South New Moon Company is operating on large bodies of stone at different levels; the western portion at the shallower levels shows an improvement. [41.133]

1911: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 9946ozs 5dwt obtained from 21,950 tons of stone and £17,600 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 211,213ozs 16dwt from 352,034 tons of stone and had
declared £449,200 in dividends. [41] The Pearl, Victoria, Catherine, New St. Mungo, United Devonshire, and South New Moon Companies are exploiting this (Sheepshead) line by sinking and cross-cutting. ... Koch’s Pioneer, Windmill Hill, Great Northern, Virginia, South New Moon and New Moon Companies on this (Garden Gully) line are the principal gold producers and large employers of labour. ... The Sandhurst, Collmann and Tacchi and Johnson’s No.1 are obtaining payable yields. The Johnson’s No.2, Golden Age, South Virginia, Virginia, New Argus, Clarence United, South New Moon and New Moon Companies are prospecting the line (Paddy’s Gully) further north. [41,145] 10. 06.1912. It is interesting to note the levels from which the most prominent mines at present are procuring their gold. The United Hustler’s and Redan Company is operating at 365 feet, the Central Red, White and Blue at 318 feet, the Golden Pyke at 447 feet, the New Prince of Wales at 690 feet, the Johnson’s, on the Derby line, at 1150 feet, the Ironbank at 480 feet, the Catherine Reef United at 2300 feet, and the South New Moon at from 580 feet to 1140 feet. [42] 09.1913. South New Moon. Its great dividend record. In the last decade the South New Moon Company has outshone as a dividend payer every other mine in the state. The dividend declared on Saturday makes the record half a million sterling, representing £15/12/6 per share on a 32,000 issue. That record has been excelled by two other mines on the Bendigo field, namely, Garden Gully United, which has a dividend total, including its tribute companies of £1,046,658 and the Great Extended Hustlers occupies second place with £857,200. Many years have elapsed since these companies were in
the heyday of their prosperity. The South New Moon entered on its career in 1871. The mine did not claim any distinction for many years. In fact the company had a precarious existence at different periods, and the Government aid was sought and obtained in the year 1887. The present company purchased the lease from Mr. James F. Graham.

For many years the company had an uneventful career, and in May 1889, there were 20,627 shares forfeited for non-payment of calls. The first dividend of 6d per share came in January 1890, but profits came along slowly for many years. It was in June 1900 that the company practically entered on its great dividend paying career. Since the inception of the company 381,324 tons have been milled for a gold yield of 223,891 ozs, which is exclusive of residues. [43]

1913: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 6371 ozs 1 dwt obtained from 16,066 tons of stone and £9600 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 225,603 ozs 19 dwt from 386,965 tons of stone and had declared £501,600 in dividends. [41]

The South New Moon Company has kept up a regular and profitable output from the formations being worked at the 900, 980, 1060, and 1140 feet levels, crushing 16,066 tons for 6371 ozs 11 dwt gold, and paying £9600, or 6 shillings per share in dividends. Total tonnage to date is 386,965 tons for 225,063 ozs. Dividends to date amount to £501,600. [41.117]

Considerable prospecting work has been done by miners to the north on this (Paddy's Gully) line, viz East Virginia, New Argus, Clarence United, South New Moon, and New Moon, but the results have been disappointing. [41.118]

1914: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 8002 ozs 1 dwt obtained from 18,859 tons of stone and £12,800 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 233,330 ozs 5 dwt from 405,710 tons of stone and had declared £514,400 in dividends. [41]

The South New Moon Company was crushing regularly from the formations at the 900 feet, 980 feet, 1080 feet and 1140 feet levels, until operations were suspended late in the year, owing to a shortage of water. The year has been a profitable one to the shareholders. [41.105]

1914-1925: Part of the mine was worked on tribute. [44]

1915: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 4201 ozs 9 dwt obtained from 13,710 tons of stone and £6400 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 236,995 ozs 7 dwt from 419,002 tons of stone and had declared £520,000 in dividends. [41]

The South New Moon Company has had profitable returns from operations carried on at the 580 feet, 875 feet, 900 feet, 980 feet and 1060 feet levels. [41.51]

1916: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 3553 ozs obtained from 10,623 tons of stone and £2400 was declared in dividends. To the end of the year the company had obtained 240,549 ozs from 429,625 tons of stone and had declared £522,400 in dividends. [41]

South New Moon Company: Work carried on at the 580, 875, 900, 980 and 1060 feet levels. The stone mined during the year has been low grade, but sufficient gold has been obtained to cover working expenses. [41.15]

1917: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 3053 ozs obtained from 8356 tons of stone and £800 was declared in dividends. [41]

South New Moon: Operating on the big spurry formation which occurs at the 740, 820, 875 and 900 feet levels. The stone mined has shown a profit. [41.13]

Eaglehawk District: No development of general benefit to the field has taken place. Gold yields have been small, and together with the high cost of mining material, have, in some instances, mitigated against the general animated mining activity common to this district. Most of the mining companies in the Eaglehawk portion of the Bendigo mining district amalgamated their interests, and now carry on under the title of the Bendigo Amalgamated Goldfields Company. Greater economy in management is anticipated.

The work carried on by the company in the shafts on the several lines of reef is follows:-

Garden Gully Line of Reef: At the Koch's shaft, Windmill Hill shaft, Johnson's
No. 2 shaft, Golden Age shaft.
Pyke and Moon Lines of Reef - Constellation shaft, Great Northern shaft,
Virginia shaft, Specimen shaft, New Argus shaft.
Clarence and North Argus shafts - Work suspended.
New Chum Line of Reef - Catherine shaft
Derby Line of Reef - Johnson's No.3 shaft
Paddy's Gully Line of Reef - Clark shaft it is the intention of the company to sink
the shaft and do prospecting work.
South New Moon
North New Moon [41]
☐ 1918: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 2596ozs obtained from 8006 tons of stone.[41]
☐ At the Garden Gully line the South New Moon Company continued to
produce regular outputs from its 740, 820, 875 and 960 feet levels, and a fair
average has been maintained during the year. A number of tributors have also
found profitable employment in the mine. [41.13]
☐ 1919: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 1832ozs obtained from 4848 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ 1920: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 1374ozs obtained from 3734 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ 1921: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 608ozs obtained from 2100 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ South New Moon Tributers, Moon Reef: 465ozs obtained from 1181 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ 1922: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 516ozs obtained from 1569 tons of stone.
The to the end of the year the company had obtained 251,486ozs from
461,168 tons of stone. [45]
☐ South New Moon Tributers, Moon Reef: 493ozs obtained from 1749 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ 1923: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 420ozs obtained from 2083 tons of stone.
The to the end of the year the company had obtained 251,021ozs from
459,987 tons of stone and £522,400 had been declared in dividends. [45]
☐ South New Moon Tributers, Moon Reef: 416ozs obtained from 1495 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ 1924: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 239ozs obtained from 1290 tons of stone.
The to the end of the year the company had obtained 251,260ozs from
452,277 tons of stone and £522,400 had been declared in dividends. [45]
☐ South New Moon Tributers, Moon Reef: 148ozs obtained from 370 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ 1925: South New Moon, Moon Reef: 129ozs obtained from 384 tons of stone.
The to the end of the year the company had obtained 251,397ozs from
452,661 tons of stone and £522,400 had been declared in dividends. [45]
☐ 1927: Report indicated that the poppet legs were steel and winding plant
was a pair of first motion engines. There was a 40 head battery fitted with rock
breakers, automatic feeders, amalgamating and concentrating tables, and a
mine manager's residence and office on the site; The mine had electric light.
The later company had a Walker and Company winding engine and air
compressor. [44]
☐ 1929: Great South New Moon, Moon Reef: 650ozs obtained from 293 tons of stone.
[45]
☐ 1931: South New Moon Tributers, Moon Reef: 121ozs obtained from 232 tons of stone.[46]
☐ 1933: A new company, the New South Moon was formed to re-open the
original South New Moon, remaining in operation until 1941. During this period,
46,529 tons of stone were crushed for 8878ozs. No dividends were declared.
[46]
☐ 1930 mining revival - New South New Moon commenced operations on
the original South New Moon shaft in 1933, faced with the formidable task of
unwatering the flooded workings. At first an air-lift pump lowered the water from
the original level of 120 feet to 440 feet. In 12 months of operation, some
300,000,000 gallons of water were pumped from the mine. Not only was the
water drawn from the Company's own lease, but also for a distance of almost seven miles along the line of reef, extending from the nearby North New Moon to the Great Southern mine just south of Bendigo. Water levels in all the old abandoned shafts along this line were also being lowered.

In December 1934, a multi-stage electric pump, installed in the main shaft, took over from the air-lift pump and were raising water at a rate of 29,000 gallons per hour. Later additional pumps were installed, and some 2,000,000 gallons per day were pumped from the shaft. At the time of the mine's closure in 1941, the water level had been lowered to 820 feet. Most of the water pumped from this mine flowed down Napoleon Gully and Sydney Flat. A number of hydraulic sluices were thus able to operate for some time, and much old alluvial ground was re-worked. [134.214-227]

1934: South New Moon Gold Mining Company, Moon Reef: 8ozs obtained from 67 tons of stone.[46]

1935: South New Moon Gold Mining Company, Moon Reef: 416ozs obtained from 1754 tons of stone.[46]

South New Moon N.L. unwatered the Garden Gully line from the Great Southern (at the south end of the field) to beyond the New Moon (at the northern end) to a depth of 580 feet below the surface at the South New Moon shaft. Prospecting and development work has been carried out at the various levels that have been unwatered. A ten-head battery, now in the course of erection, should be operating in January. The company intends to commence unwatering the lower levels early in the new year. [24.19]

11...05.1936: South New Moon ... The chief work of the term was the selection and erection of the crushing and milling plant, comprising: 100 ton capacity bins at the shaft station, Jaques 20 by 12 roll jaw crusher, a 20 inch belt conveyor, 187 feet between centres, mill bin of 100 tons capacity, and 10 stamps of 1200 pounds and accessories. This plant is Yallourn power operated. The genesis of construction providing for unit operation where possible on the night tariff rate. Thus, as with pumping, crushing and conveying plant operates between the hours of 10.30 p.m. and 6.30 a.m. [47]

06.1936: South New Moon - This mine was first opened, and though the early results were poor, their subsequent history showed decided improvement. The main shaft was sunk to 1,980 feet, the best results being obtained from reefs at 435 feet, 660 feet, 585 feet, and 980 feet. Gold totalled 256,056 ozs and dividends £524,000.

The present company was formed in August 1933 and its lease includes 1½ miles of the Garden Gully line. The mine has been dewatered to 700 feet, and spurry formations have been worked at the 440 foot and 500-foot levels. For the half-year ending June, 1936, the company crushed 5,375 tons for a yield of 614ozs. It is intended to unwater the mine to the 1050-foot level. [48]

1936: South New Moon Gold Mining Company, Moon Reef: 1223ozs obtained from 10,010 tons of stone. To the end of the year the company had obtained 1832ozs from 12,779 tons of stone. [46]

The South New Moon Company is operating on a new system of spurs at the 580 feet level, and ore is being stoped over a width of from 8 feet to 20 feet, a trial crushing yielding 850ozs 11dwt of gold from 150 tons. [46.23]

A Jaques crusher ... a 20 drill air compressor and an additional 10 head battery with corduroy tables installed. [44]

1937: South New Moon Gold Mining Company, Moon Reef: 2311ozs obtained from 9336 tons of stone. To the end of the year the company had obtained 4143ozs from 22,115 tons of stone. [46]

Mines such as the Central Nell Gwynne, Deborah, South New Moon and South Virginia, have realized expectations and are now producing with every probability of further successes. [46.11]

1937 - 1951 Cyanidation of tailings - operations of the Gold Dumps Company. The ores mined on Bendigo and Eaglehawk gold fields are of a type from which valuable constituents can be liberated from the gangue by a comparatively coarse comminution of the ore. Stamp milling followed by plate amalgamation (a comparatively simple method of treatment) when coupled with gravity concentration of the sulphides which are of paragenic origin, has given a
sufficiently high percentage recovery to permit a continuance of mining operations with outstanding success. This method of treatment, however, has not been 100 per cent. efficacious, and has resulted in the accumulation of millions of tons of low grade residues (or tailings as they are more commonly known), the gold content of which was considered as irrecoverable prior to the discovery that gold was soluble in alkaline cyanide solutions, and that it could be precipitated from these solutions by chemical reaction with zinc.

With this discovery as a beginning, methods for the recovery of gold from tailings were evolved, and the cyanidation of tailings eventually grew into the present day commercial enterprise capable of producing profits on a moderate capital outlay. Most plants with small throughput were erected by parties of cyaniders and the better grade of re-leaching sandy materials treated with success. These parties made use of the leaching vat and relies almost entirely upon natural percolation of solutions through the material being treated, followed by the precipitation of the gold from the pregnant solutions by reaction on zinc shavings. Precipitation by using charcoal was attempted with doubtful success. The treatment of the lower grade tailings was of necessity left to the company or party possessing sufficient capital to install the machinery necessary to ensure a satisfactory throughput.

Gold Dumps Pty. Ltd. which was formed in 1937, with a capital of £100,000 divided into 100,000 shares of £1 has operated continuously in Victoria for 14 years, and has pioneered the large-scale treatment of the lower grade tailings. With the experience gained in the treatment of alluvial slum at Rutherglen, Carisbrook, etc., operations at Bendigo were commenced with a specific knowledge of tried and proven flowsheet for the different classes of materials, and of the machinery required to ensure a steady, maximum plant throughput. . . . Three plants were erected by this company in the Bendigo and Eaglehawk districts:-

1) On the Red, White and Blue dumps at Golden Square;
2) On the dumps produced by the Devonshire group of mines at California Gully, Eaglehawk; and
3) On the New Moon Mine dumps at Sailors Gully, Eaglehawk.

. . . the erection of the plant at Golden Square, the plant being centrally placed to allow of the treatment of the Red, White and Blue Mine dumps, the Great Southern Mine dumps, and the current tailings produced by the North Deborah Mine No.1 treatment plant. After operating this plant for a number of years, operations were suspended early in 1949 because of low grade values and low slum content. Prior to the cessation of operations at the Golden Square plant, a similar plant was in the course of erection at the New Moon dumps, and a still large plant at the dumps of the Devonshire group of mines, the operations which will be briefly described. As in the case of the Golden Square plant, the additional plants were centrally placed to enable the treatment of other dumps in the locality.

Process:

Breaking down the dumps - dumps sluiced and material collected in a sump, which is then lifted by four class J.M.S inch Thompson pumps and conveyed by pipeline to the hydro-separator. A hydro-separator of the Dorr pattern is used, the material delivered to the unit being subjected to separation into a coarser material consisting chiefly of sandy particles, and a finer material which overflows with the solutions and passes to the pumping circuit for delivery to the mill section of the plant.

Settling Areas - With a view to obtaining sufficient room for initial operations the free sand removed by the classifier was stacked to a height of approximately 20 feet on the east side of an elevated area to the north-west of the site of the dumps. The sands, together with all sands classified from the circuit in the future, will be placed on the areas from which the original dump materials have been removed.

Treatment Plant - at the mill the pulp is fed into the first of six agitation tanks, each of which is 25 feet in diameter and 12 feet deep, and constructed of 5/8-inch welded mild steel plate.

Filtering - The pulp on leaving the last of the agitation tanks is pumped to a
Moore type vacuum filter in which the solid content is separated from the solutions, and the latter allowed to pass to a Merrill-Crow precipitating unit. Precipitation and smelting. Not described.

Water used in the plant is obtained by pumping from the South Devonshire mine shaft. At this plant an average of 33 men are permanently employed on shift work. The operations at the New Moon plant are similar to those carried out at the Devonshire plant, and differ only in connection with the unit of plant used to classify the pregnant solutions, and the positioning of the classifier for removal of sands. At this plant the whole of the dump materials are transferred to the mill where the sands are classified from the circuit and passed to settling dumps. Separation of the solids from the solutions is obtained by the use of two Oliver drum--type fitters, each being 12 feet in diameter and capable of removing an average of 450 tons of solids every 24 hours. [49]

01.1938: Mines such as the Central Nell Gwynne, Deborah, South New Moon, and South Virginia have realized expectations, and are now producing with every probability of further success. A few mines, notably the B.M.L. group, comprising the Carshalton, Napoleon, and Nell Gwynne, after the expenditure of much capital, failed to prove remunerative, and these companies have now practically suspended operations. Other companies that have not survived include the New Prince of Wales, Virginia South Extended, and South Frederick the Great. [50]

07.1938: Deborah, South New Moon, and Carshalton, which were on the verge of steady production at the commencement of the year, showed fine increases ...

South New Moon Company ... was formed in 1871, and had a precarious existence for many years, having to seek Government assistance on occasions to keep the wheels turning.

Employees in mines - Number to be 703 ... The numbers of men working underground and engaged on the surface are - New Chum Syncline 21; South New Moon 60; Carshalton (BML) 54; Napoleon 40; Nell Gwynne 35; Central Nell Gwynne 80; Deborah 50; North Deborah 11; South Frederick the Great 12; South Red White and Blue 16; Monument Hill 37; Central Napoleon 7; North Virginia 12; Hercules No 1 16; South Ironbark 16; Hercules 16; Ironbark 19; South Virginia 16; Virginia Extended 16; New Red White and Blue 74; North Red White and Blue 41; Central Red White and Blue 20; Little 180 16; North Nell Gwynne 18; Big Hill 6. [51]

07.1938: The lines of reef represented in the gold production are - Nell Gwynne, 4333oz; Deborah, 3,237oz; Sheephead, 2,416oz; and Garden Gully (South New Moon), 1276oz ... The outlook for the Bendigo field has not been more reassuring during the previous 25 years than at present. [51]

1938: South New Moon Gold Mining Company, Moon Reef: 2422ozs obtained from 12,316 tons of stone. To the end of the year the company had obtained 6565ozs from 34,431 tons of stone. [52]

1939: South New Moon Gold Mining Company, Moon Reef: 658ozs obtained from 4727 tons of stone. To the end of the year the company had obtained 7799ozs from 42,266 tons of stone. [52]

South New Moon Tributers, Moon Reef: 576ozs obtained from 3108 tons of stone. [52]

1940: South New Moon Gold Mining Company, Moon Reef: 506ozs obtained from 2257 tons of stone. To the end of the year the company had obtained 8878ozs from 46,529 tons of stone. [52]

South New Moon Tributers, Moon Reef: 286ozs obtained from 1515 tons of stone. [52]

1944: Two cyanide plant operating on the Virginia South New Moon dumps are working with greatly reduced staffs. [53]

1947: Gold Dumps Pty Ltd has operated continuously on the Big Blue dump. The company has erected extensive plant at Sailors Gully to treat the large dumps of the old New Moon, South New Moon and Virginia mines. [54]

03.1948: Gold Dumps Pty Ltd has operated continuously on the Big Blue Dump, treating 600 tons daily. The company has erected extensive plant at Sailors Gully to treat the large dumps of the old New Moon, South New Moon
and Virginia mines. This plant is treating 500 tons daily, and a similar plant is soon to be erected at Devonshire Gully. Other cyanide plants have been operating almost continuously, the largest being that of Messrs Nation and Bussey on the old Victoria Consols dump. [55]
SPARO’S PYRITES WORKS

Other Names
Spargo and Company; J. P. Spargo; Great Western Pyrites Works; Spargo Brothers

Location
Parcel No. P128055, Crown Land, Flume Hill, south-west of Sparrowhawk Road

Map Reference
Campaspe 2.2, 1:10,000 - BV535.286

Victorian Heritage Register Yes
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description
The remains of the plant are located 800 metres north of the sand dump. Partly exposed by current extraction operations (removal of calcined sands and top soil) is a brick stand measuring 33 by 22 feet. This feature stands to a maximum height of 4 feet. Below the front (western face) of the brick stand is the remains of a level brick floor. All bricks are hand-made. Above the brick stand, 6 metres to the west, is a fenced and uncleared hill slope. The fence runs over a largely buried circular brick base. Running north from this feature are five more circular bases. The bases are set 5 feet apart. The second base from the south is also largely buried by dirt, as are bases 5 and 6. Bases 3 and 4 are more discernable, covered only by brick rubble. Both of these bases have slightly raised concrete lips. Positioned between the bases are the remains of brick mounting beds with one inch diameter bolts. The most intact mounting bed measures 7 by 2 feet, and stands 4 feet high. Between the line of brick bases and mounting beds and the boundary fence are other features, including, a ditch, two floors (concrete covered by asphalt), and a small mound of calcined sand. Running along the back (west) of the site is a 1½ metre high embankment containing some concrete footings. Above this embankment is a road. Overall the site would cover an area of about 50 metres square. The uncleared section of the site is covered with spiny rush and debris, and there is a great possibility of buried features. There is extensive damage to all masonry foundations and the south end of the site has been slightly damaged by earthworks for a power line. Many sites are buried in debris, earth and sand or hidden by thick grass.

History
Period of activity: 1872-1911+
Maximum recorded annual production: 3884ozs in 1874

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
There are two other pyrites works within the study area. These two are: Deeble’s (1872) and Liddell’s (1876). This site appears to have been almost the earliest. It is far better preserved than Deeble’s but no better preserved than Liddell’s. The latter site is far more compact and has greater potential for education and illustration.

Statement of Significance
The site is associated with the introduction of pyrites treatment on Bendigo (criterion A). Because of the distinct possibility of buried remains the site also has some potential to answer timely and specific archaeological research questions (criterion C).
**Level of Significance**  
Local

**Recommendation**  
The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and further historical research carried out to precisely date the site and ascertain the potential extent and nature of any buried remains.

**Heritage Boundaries**

**References**
2. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, No.1 or Kangaroo Flat division.
4. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
5. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
8. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
10. “Pyrites.” Report of the Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to report on the methods of treating pyrites and pyritous vein-stuffs as practised on the goldfields, and generally to report and make recommendations as to the best and most economical means of extracting gold from auriferous pyrites; together with minutes of evidence, plans, sections and appendices.” Victoria, Papers presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of His Excellency the Governor, Session 1874, Volume III, No.96, 1874, 82pp, four plans.

**Notes**
After September 1884 gold production from pyrites was recorded by mining company rather than by pyrites works, but as the total levels of recorded production for all these works both in the period beforehand and afterwards are comparable, these works probably maintained their position as the third most productive on Bendigo at least until the works were once again referred to in 1911. They probably continued in operation until the cessation of most pyrites treatment on Bendigo in the 1914-1918 period. There is no documentary evidence that tailings treatment by chlorination or by cyaniding were ever practised at the site.

As the site is overgrown there is some potential for buried remains. This site has already been registered with the Victorian Heritage Council with this statement of cultural heritage significance:

“Spargo’s Pyrites Gold Works contains of (sic) the remnants of six circular brick bases, several concrete floors, a culvert and a small mound of calcined sand. The treatment of auriferous pyritic ore, to facilitate gold extraction, commence on the Bendigo goldfield in the early 1860s. None of the early attempts proved profitable until the introduction of the chemical chlorination process during the 1870s. Records show that John Spargo’s treatment works was operating at Bendigo by 1872, the plant included a reverberatory furnace and arastra (grinding mill or Chilean mill). By the 1880s, Bendigo had become a major centre for the treatment of ‘refractory’ ores, with several large pyrites companies, including Spargo’s, operating up until the First World War. Spargo’s like many others, closed during the war due to the lack of man-power, etc, and does not appear to have recommenced after the war.

“Spargo’s Pyrites Gold Works is of historical, scientific and archaeological importance to the State of Victoria.

“Spargo’s Pyrites Gold Works is historically and scientifically important as a characteristic and well preserved example of an important form of gold mining. In some ores, the greater part of the gold is combined with pyrites, making the
gold very difficult to extract. From the mid nineteenth century, miners experimented with various metallurgical (heat treatment) processes to unlock gold from pyritic ore. Extant evidence of these metallurgical processes, of which Spargo's Pyrites Works is an example, are extremely rare in Victoria. “Spargo’s Pyrites Gold Works is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts and evidence which will be able to provide significant information about the technological history of gold mining.”

The site has been defined in these terms:
“All of the crown land including the remnants of grinding pans, other foundations, archaeological deposits and artefacts within a 75 metre radius (of middle grinding pan) and with Australian Map Grid co-ordinates E534 N286 on 1:100,000 map sheet number 7724 Bendigo.”

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

06.1872: Spargo and Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 151ozs 8dwt 18 grains obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans.

09.1872: Spargo and Company: 187ozs 1dwt obtained from 87 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans.

12.1872: Spargo and Company, Great Western Gully: 521ozs 18dwt obtained from 132 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

03.1873: J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 507ozs 17dwt 6 grains obtained from 97 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

06.1873: J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 386ozs 13dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

09.1873: J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 699ozs obtained from 298 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

12.1873: J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 613ozs 16dwt obtained from 279 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

03.1874: J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 1594ozs 15dwt obtained from 250 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

06.1874: J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 990ozs 12dwt obtained from 241 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

09.1874: J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 633ozs 7dwt obtained from 248 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

12.1874: J. P. Spargo, Pinchgut Gully: 667ozs 4dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

03.1875: J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 794ozs 5dwt obtained from 297 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

06.1875: Great Western Pyrites Works, Specimen Hill: 874ozs 15dwt obtained from 447 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

09.1875: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 725ozs 1dwt obtained from 376 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

12.1875: Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 947ozs 12dwt obtained from 453 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

03.1876: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 7028ozs 15dwt obtained from 379 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

06.1876: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 902ozs 15dwt obtained from 401 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

09.1876: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 576ozs 5dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

03.1877: Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 447ozs obtained from 307 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

06.1877: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 467ozs 10dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

09.1877: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 270ozs 15dwt obtained from 132 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

12.1877: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 257ozs obtained from 142 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

03.1878: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 10dwt obtained from
134 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

- **06.1878**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 237ozs obtained from 115 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **09.1878**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 15dwt obtained from 191 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **03.1879**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 415ozs 11dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **06.1879**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 457ozs 5dwt obtained from 232 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **03.1880**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 527ozs 5dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **06.1880**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 427ozs 11dwt obtained from 230 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **09.1880**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 473ozs 13dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **12.1880**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 467ozs 9dwt obtained from 219 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **03.1881**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 287ozs 9dwt obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **06.1881**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 419ozs obtained from 195 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **09.1881**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 463ozs 7dwt obtained from 215 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **12.1881**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 392ozs 12dwt obtained from 209 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **03.1882**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 342ozs 71dwt obtained from 175 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **06.1882**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 321ozs obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **09.1882**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 270ozs 7dwt obtained from 123 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **12.1882**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 317ozs 6dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **03.1883**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs obtained from 183 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **06.1883**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 375ozs 6dwt obtained from 213 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **09.1883**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 173ozs 8dwt obtained from 92 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **12.1883**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 274ozs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **03.1884**: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 153ozs obtained from 73 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **06.1884**: Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 207ozs 11dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- **09.1884**: Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 307ozs obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

The Cornishman, Thomas Edwards, who in 1876 had successfully introduced the chlorination process of gold extraction at Clunes, had moved to Bendigo in the seventies and there developed extensive pyrites treatment works, receiving parcels of ore from all over Australia. Several other operators, including Spargo and Company, Liddell Brothers, the United Pyrites Company and Cook and Company, also set up roasting works in the northern part of the field.

- **1911**: Reverberatory furnace and arastra. Pyrites burner (by 1911). [1]

Pyrites treatment on Bendigo

- **01.1860**: Mr Shiress, the chemist, of Sandhurst, is analyzing and making experiments upon the conglomerate found within Noble and Company's claim, and gives satisfactory accounts thereof. He is making use of the furnaces built by Mr Carpenter for that purpose within the claim. [2]
12.1862: The Catherine Reef United Claimholders erected a reverberatory furnace for the treatment of pyrites. This was the first such furnace erected at Bendigo. [3]

06.1868: The Comet Company, Redan Hill, are down 533 feet, and are cross-cutting at 500 feet to strike the Hustlers line, which they expect to meet in a few days; they employ over 50 men in their mine. A buddle has been erected for the purpose of working their tailings, but the pyrites have not proved payable. [4]

06.1869: H. Koch, Pioneer Works: 53ozs obtained from 15 tons of pyrites by a Brown and Stansfield concentrator, Koch reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pan. [5]

09.1869: H. Koch, Pioneer Works: 538ozs 10dwt obtained from 161 tons of pyrites and blanket sands. [5]


The Hustler's Reef Company are having the pyrites separated from their tailings, by means of troughs, each about 12 feet in length, with an incline of half an inch to the foot. A stream of water running through carries away the light sand. The tailings are gradually dropped in with a shovel at the head of the trough, where the water enters. The pyrites separated in this way were perfectly clean. The manager of this company and Mr Carr, of the Extended Hustler's Reef Company, speak very highly of Faull's 'patent lubricator', which they believe effects a saving in fuel. [4]


There has been great excitement and speculation in the share market, which has subsided considerably within the last month, in consequence of speculators now having to contribute towards the expense of opening up new ground, of which more has been taken up for mining purposes than I have ever known before in the same time.

Considerably more quartz has been raised than could be crushed, partly because we have not sufficient wood. The bad state of the roads has rendered it impossible for the carters to keep up the supply, as they have now to travel a great distance to procure timber. Some have fortunately had enough fuel on hand to carry them through the wet season; but it is generally urged by the proprietors of mines that the scarcity of timber for firewood and underground workings is becoming a matter for serious consideration, and that a substitute for firewood must be obtained. The reckless cutting down of saplings is causing great complaint. A considerable quantity of coke, coal, and gas tar has been used by machine owners for firing, but coal is far too expensive at the present cost. Referring to this subject, Mr Koch, the proprietor of the Pioneer works in Long Gully, reports that 'the quantity of pyrites operated on is much smaller than usual, in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining firewood, and the cost of coal being too great to make the process remunerative.' [4]

10.11.1870: A visit to Mr Koch's crushing works at Long Gully will reveal to the visitor the enterprise which is that gentleman's distinguishing characteristic. These works are daily being added to, preparatory to the great addition of some 90 stamps, which will make these crushing works the most complete and extensive, we believe, in the colony. Already a new boiler has been fitted up. The furnaces and apparatus for reducing pyrites have been very successful, and as the chimney for them was found insufficient a large new one has been built, which is a fine stack. This will enable a very strong flow of water in the condensing chamber. A new buddle, much larger, and of more elaborate construction than the one at present in use, is being erected. The centrifugal tailings pump has been placed in position, and is now in work, to the great saving of time and power. It is found to work very well. [6]
H. Koch, Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 539ozs 14dwt obtained from 209 tons 16 hundredweights of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.  

Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 760ozs 5dwt obtained from 209 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans.  

Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 911ozs 16dwt obtained from 350 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.  

Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1161ozs 5dwt obtained from 346 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1062ozs 18dwt obtained from 321 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.  

Two additional reverberatory furnaces, with Wheeler's amalgamating pans, have also been erected.  

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 254ozs obtained from 102 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra.  

Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1160ozs 14dwt obtained from 357 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans.  

Spargo and Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 151ozs 8dwt 18 grains obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans.  

Two additional reverberatory furnaces have been erected, and are fully employed in roasting pyrites. Several companies use ties (strakes) for separating pyrites from tailings.  

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company: 72ozs 15dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra.  

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company: 227ozs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra.  

Spargo and Company: 187ozs 1dwt obtained from 87 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans.  

Pioneer Crushing Works: 999ozs 3dwt obtained from 311 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans.  

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 484ozs 16dwt obtained from 203 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Spargo and Company, Great Western Gully: 521ozs 18dwt obtained from 132 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 1045ozs of amalgam obtained from 265 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 208ozs 12dwt obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 900ozs 9dwt obtained from 180 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 507ozs 17dwt 6 grains obtained from 97 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 693ozs 3dwt obtained from 251 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 502ozs obtained from 224 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 386ozs 13dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 1070ozs 18dwt obtained from 210 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 1082ozs 11dwt obtained from 312 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 699ozs obtained from 298 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 304ozs 10dwt obtained from 112 tons of pyrites and blanketings.  

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company,
Jackass Flat: 487ozs 3dwt obtained from 229 tons of pyrites and blanketings
J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 613ozs 16dwt obtained from 279 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]
03.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 445ozs obtained from 263 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1784ozs obtained from 238 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 1594ozs 15dwt obtained from 250 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 762ozs obtained from 180 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [5]
06.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 410ozs obtained from 239 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 990ozs 12dwt obtained from 241 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 398ozs 6dwt obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [5]
09.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 596ozs 6dwt obtained from 248 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 633ozs 7dwt obtained from 248 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 360ozs obtained from 166 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 1405ozs 7dwt obtained from 259 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [5]
Nearly 1100 tons of pyrites have been treated, yielding an average of over 3ozs 15dwts per ton. [4]
13.12.1874: After an investigation, extending over 18 months, the board appointed to inquire into the best method of treating pyrites has submitted its report to the Minister of Mines, by whom it was laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday evening. ...
It has been definitely ascertained that quartz containing pyrites should be crushed in its raw state, but the pyrites must be roasted previous to amalgamation, and it is stated that the process can best be accomplished by means of reverberatory furnaces and inclined hearths. The best method of concentration has been proved to be by the use of Borlase's buddles with Munday's patent scrapers. Wheeler's pans and Chilean mills are pronounced to be very efficient for the purpose of amalgamation, but the board has been unable to determine their comparative saving values. .... [9, 10]
12.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 681ozs obtained from 285 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 2351ozs 9dwt 6 grains obtained from 357 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 252ozs 18dwt obtained from 138 tons of pyrites and blanketings
J. P. Spargo, Pinchgut Gully: 667ozs 4dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 198ozs 8dwt 6 grains obtained from 68 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [5]
03.1875: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 454ozs 9dwt obtained from 213 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1165ozs 11dwt obtained from 303 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 200ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 129 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 246ozs 17dwt obtained from 73 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 794ozs 5dwt obtained from 297 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [5]

The average yield from the quartz is very good, 76,000 tons yielding over 13½dwts. and 1,000 tons of pyrites 2ozs 15dwt per ton. [4]

06.1875: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 459ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1226ozs 15dwt obtained from 380 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 190ozs 19dwt obtained from 140 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 198ozs 16dwt obtained from 64 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace
Great Western Pyrites Works, Specimen Hill: 874ozs 15dwt obtained from 447 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [5]

The richest quartz and pyrites have come from the Catherine and St Mungo Reefs at Eaglehawk, but the Pandora Company, on the Garden Gully Reef, have a very large body of stone averaging nearly 1½ozs to the ton. [4]

09.1875: Sandhurst Pyrites Company, New Chum Gully: 310ozs 5dwt obtained from 144 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 725ozs 1dwt obtained from 376 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 891ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 410 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 1125ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 137ozs 5dwt obtained from 115 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

Two or three companies are endeavouring to erect effectual but less expensive machinery for saving pyrites, and also for beating raw quartz so as to reduce the cost of crushing. [4]

12.1875: Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 209ozs 15dwt 16 grains obtained from 90 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1712ozs 15dwt obtained from 506 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 730ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 243 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 78ozs 2dwt obtained from 97 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 947ozs 12dwt obtained from 453 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

The quantity of pyrites saved from tailings is increasing, and the yield of gold therefrom is considerable. [4]

03.1876: Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 234ozs 15dwt obtained from 118 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 7028ozs 15dwt obtained from 379 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1147ozs obtained from 378 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 662ozs 11dwt 18 grains obtained from 340 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 78ozs 7dwt obtained from 90 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

06.1876: Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 140ozs 7dwt obtained from 78 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 902ozs 15dwt obtained from 401 tons of...
pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1283ozs 18dwt obtained from 368 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 551ozs 11dwt obtained from 549 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 171ozs 18dwt obtained from 88 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

Mining affairs in this division are in a prosperous condition - 90,000 tons raised, yielding an average of 12dwt 8 grains, and by including the gold from the pyrites taken from the same quartz, the average is nearly 13dwt. [4]
09.1876: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 576ozs 5dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1796ozs 15dwt 5 grains obtained from 582 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 664ozs 12 grains obtained from 347 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 133ozs 8dwt obtained from 123 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell Brothers, Derwent Gully: 163ozs 4dwt obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]
12.1876: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 438ozs 2dwt 3 grains obtained from 229 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 113ozs 13dwt obtained from 135 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 1104ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 468 tons of pyrites and blanketings
The Morning Light Company, in Golden Gully, last week obtained 336ozs of gold from 10 tons of dressed pyrites. [4]
03.1877: Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 447ozs obtained from 307 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 421ozs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 211 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 368ozs 15dwt obtained from 110 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 91ozs 12dwt obtained from 111 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 177ozs 19dwt obtained from 96 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [5]
06.1877: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 270ozs 2dwt obtained from 147 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 72ozs 8dwt obtained from 29 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 955ozs 19dwt 8 grains obtained from 322 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 467ozs 10dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1877: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 437ozs 10dwt obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 50ozs 8dwt obtained from 51 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 857ozs 4dwt 13 grains obtained from 354 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 270ozs 15dwt obtained from 132 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 281ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from
141 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

- 12.1877: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 432ozs 7dwt obtained from 260 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 36ozs 12dwt obtained from 40 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 291ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 137 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 257ozs obtained from 142 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 107ozs 5dwt obtained from 82 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

- 03.1878: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 212ozs 19dwt obtained from 121 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 490ozs 13dwt 18 grains obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 10dwt obtained from 134 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 107ozs 5dwt obtained from 82 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

- 06.1878: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 347ozs 18dwt obtained from 173 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 674ozs 17dwt 10 grains obtained from 349 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 237ozs obtained from 115 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 141ozs 19dwt 9 grains obtained from 60 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

- 09.1878: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 953ozs obtained from 144 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 505ozs 10dwt 12 grains obtained from 158 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 395ozs 16dwt obtained from 198 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 15dwt obtained from 191 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

- 12.1878: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1082ozs 1dwt 22 grains obtained from 283 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 255ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 120 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 475ozs 19dwt obtained from 269 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

- 03.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1048ozs 4dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 204ozs 6dwt obtained from 84 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 286ozs 12dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

- Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 1049ozs obtained from 528 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 432ozs 4dwt obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

- 09.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 884ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 412 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 244ozs 4dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 281ozs 7dwt 12 grains obtained from 181 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [5]
12.1879 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 480ozs 2dwt obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings by chlorination and 432ozs 16dwt obtained from 208 tons of pyrites and blanketings by roasting and grinding.
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 440ozs 17dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings by roasting and grinding. [5]

03.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 906ozs 11dwt obtained from 505 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 527ozs 5dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 168ozs 8dwt obtained from 108 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 364ozs 2dwt obtained from 121 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

06.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 773ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 339 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 427ozs 11dwt obtained from 230 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 274ozs 10dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 595ozs 1dwt obtained from 174 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

09.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 350ozs 18dwt obtained from 165 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 473ozs 13dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 316ozs 9dwt obtained from 225 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 476ozs 3dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

12.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 751ozs 14dwt obtained from 381 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 467ozs 9dwt obtained from 219 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 311ozs 11dwt obtained from 171 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 609ozs 19dwt 18 grains obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

The deepest shafts in Sandhurst are not being further sunk, but may be shortly, as the Carlisle, North Garden Gully, and Passby United Company, on the Garden Gully Reef, have obtained 340 tons of quartz, averaging 12 dwts to the ton, at their 1,320-foot level. In addition to this, the quartz contained a large percentage of pyrites, which has not yet been treated. [4]

03.1881 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 280ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 287ozs 9dwt obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 152ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 63 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

06.1881 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 416ozs obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 419ozs obtained from 195 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 464ozs 2dwt obtained from 265 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 403ozs 18dwt 12 grains obtained from 143 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

09.1881 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 556ozs 9dwt obtained from 274 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 463ozs 7dwt obtained from 215 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat:
431ozs 16dwt obtained from 224 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 491ozs 16dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]


Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 392ozs 12dwt obtained from 209 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 299ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 573ozs 14dwt obtained from 196 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

03.1882: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 342ozs 71dwt obtained from 175 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 320ozs 6dwt obtained from 176 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 596ozs 16dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

06.1882: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 591ozs 2dwt obtained from 273 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 321ozs obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 786ozs 13dwt obtained from 327 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

R. J. Liddell and Company, Sparrowhawk: 547ozs 7dwt obtained from 199 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]


Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 270ozs 7dwt obtained from 123 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 663ozs 12dwt obtained from 287 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 492ozs 14dwt obtained from 202 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [5]


Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 317ozs 6dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 724ozs 2dwt obtained from 341 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 459ozs 15dwt 12 grains obtained from 192 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

03.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 104ozs obtained from 425 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs obtained from 183 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 645ozs obtained from 326 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 460ozs 9dwt 12 grains obtained from 203 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

06.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 992ozs 12dwt obtained from 410 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 375ozs 6dwt obtained from 213 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 437ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 247 tons 15 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 772ozs 9dwt obtained from 432 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

09.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 960ozs 8dwt obtained from 420 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 173ozs 8dwt obtained from 92 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 383ozs 1 4dwt 12 grains obtained from 193 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 648ozs 7dwt obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

03.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1063ozs 3dwt obtained from 492 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 274ozs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 435ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 623ozs 15dwt obtained from 388 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

03.1884: 3150ozs 6dwt obtained from 1363.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1874ozs 17dwt 12 grains obtained from 774.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1275ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 589 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1304ozs 12dwt obtained from 512 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 153ozs obtained from 73 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 417ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 189 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 623ozs 15dwt obtained from 318 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

06.1884: 2930ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 1234 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1829ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 708.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1101ozs 11dwt grains obtained from 525.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1468ozs 12dwt obtained from 456 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 571ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 193 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings

Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 207ozs 11dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

09.1884: 2915ozs 15dwt obtained from 1113.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 2257ozs 5dwt obtained from 802 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 658ozs 10dwt obtained from 311 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1468ozs 12dwt obtained from 456 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 481ozs 13dwt obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 307ozs obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 633ozs 17dwt obtained from 301 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [5]

12.1884: 3150ozs 6dwt obtained from 1363.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1874ozs 17dwt 12 grains obtained from 774.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1275ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 589 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

03.1885: 1454ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 358.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division with 418ozs 17dwt obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1035ozs 17dwt 12 grains obtained from 358.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

06.1885: 1990ozs 5dwt 18 grains obtained from 875.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1012ozs 14dwt obtained from 408 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 977ozs 11dwt 18 grains obtained from 467.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and

09.1885: 1437ozs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 558 tons of pyrites and
blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 335ozs 3dwt 18 grains obtained from 215.25 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1201ozs 14dwt obtained from 343.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

- 12.1885: 1368ozs 1dwt 3 grains obtained from 591 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 576ozs 7dwt obtained from 241 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 791ozs 14dwt obtained from 350 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

- 03.1886: 992ozs 17dwt 13 grains obtained from 544ozs 18dwt 12 grains obtained from 1915 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 853ozs 16dwt 17 grains obtained from 394.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

- 06.1886: 1398ozs 15dwt 5 grains obtained from 585.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 544ozs 18dwt 12 grains obtained from 1915 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 853ozs 16dwt 17 grains obtained from 394.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

- 12.1886: 1041ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 776.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 135ozs obtained from 65 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 878ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 369.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 878ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 369.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division.

- 09.1887: 1350ozs 13dwt obtained from 559.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 503ozs 4dwt obtained from 217.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 524ozs 7dwt 2 grains obtained from 262.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district and 627ozs 8dwt 18 grains obtained from 276 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

- 06.1888: 1187ozs 11dwt obtained from 429 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 660ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 527ozs 4dwt 12 grains obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

- 09.1888: 1498ozs 12dwt 6 grains obtained from 509.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 480ozs 8dwt obtained from 154 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1018ozs 4dwt 6 grains obtained from 355.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

- 06.1888: 1187ozs 11dwt obtained from 429 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 660ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 527ozs 4dwt 12 grains obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

- 09.1888: 1298ozs 10dwt 12 grains obtained from 913 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 614ozs 15dwt obtained from 211 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 778ozs 15dwt 12 grains obtained from 302 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.

- 12.1888: 1240ozs 4dwt obtained from 507 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 652ozs 2dwt obtained from 295.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 588ozs 2dwt obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.
Sandhurst district with 369ozs obtained from 170 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 616ozs 6dwt obtained from 256 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

06.1889  1183ozs 6dwt obtained from 514 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division with 688ozs 19dwt obtained from 321 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 246ozs 13dwt obtained from 88 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

09.1889  844ozs 19dwt obtained from 407 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division with 688ozs 19dwt obtained from 321 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 494ozs 7dwt obtained from 193 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

12.1889  1270ozs 3dwt 18 grains obtained from 545 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division with 598ozs 6dwt obtained from 319 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 494ozs 7dwt obtained from 193 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [5]

1890  3901ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 1776.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.111]

1891  3461ozs 5dwt 22 grains obtained from 1526 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.106]

1892  15,274ozs obtained from 6717 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.12]

1893  14,314ozs 11dwt 4 grains obtained from 5507 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.12]

1894  14,356ozs 17dwt 14 grains obtained from 5865 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.14]

1895  12,497ozs 14dwt 10 grains obtained from 5181 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.10]

1896  13,978ozs 8dwt obtained from 4977.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.11]

1897  18,196ozs 12dwt obtained from 7088 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.10]

1898  16,930ozs 9dwt obtained from 6534 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.11]

1899  18,496ozs 6dwt obtained from 6344 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.11]

1900  15,948ozs 7dwt obtained from 6105 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.10]

1901  15,484ozs obtained from 6061 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.11]

1902  20,812ozs obtained from 7020 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.14]

1903  18,967ozs obtained from 6658 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.16]

1904  16,926ozs obtained from 6246 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.18]

1905  19,990ozs obtained from 7456 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.20]

1906  25,832ozs obtained from 10,388 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.18]

1907  18,564ozs obtained from 7839 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.17]

1908  31,474ozs obtained from 15,210 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.15]

1909  36,448ozs obtained from 18,505 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.18]

1910  30,196ozs obtained from 16,938 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.18]

1911  27,704ozs obtained from 16,271 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.20]

1912  25,482ozs obtained from 14,229 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.18]
1913—14,180 ozs obtained from 10,453 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.17]
1914—18,155 ozs obtained from 9936 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.16]
1915—15,892 ozs obtained from 11,402 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.12]
1916—12,371 ozs obtained from 9231 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [6.5]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

SPLITTER’S GULLY ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

Location  Parcel No. P127148, State Forest, east side of Splitter’s Gully Track, north of Apollo Hill, Splitter’s Gully, Whipstick

Map Reference  Epsom 1:25,000 - BV576.362

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description
On the eastern end of an 80 metre long earthen embankment are the outlines of two puddling machines. Both puddling machines have a diameter of 22 feet. One of the puddling machines is in a good state of preservation - inner mound prominent and the puddling trench has sheer sides. No wooden pivot post visible, outlet channel visible. Only saplings growing in the site. The other puddling machine, located 5 metres away, survives only as a faint outline, but its inner mound does retain fragments of the wooden pivot post. There is a large mound of washed gravel associated with the two puddling machines.

In a side gully to the north of this site there are traces of shallow alluvial workings.

History  Period of activity: unknown

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Flat (1852), Fiddlers Green (1852), Peter the Great (right hand branch)(1856), Phillips Gully (1857) and Shallow Diggings (1858). The rush to Myers Creek was more extensive and involved more miners.

Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron’s Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter’s Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully.

Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron’s Dam, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter’s Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts.
No documentary records have been found for any puddling machines constructed in the nineteenth century, which had an outer diameter of 22 feet. There is one example recorded where the diameter was 20 feet, but this was an exception; the average being much closer to 16 feet [1.180-186]. If the puddling machine at this site was constructed in the nineteenth century then its size was highly unusual (perhaps indicating a regional variation), or it was not constructed in the nineteenth century. If the latter, then it is quite likely it was constructed in the period between 1933 and 1936 when it is known there were over a thousand men engaged in any one year in alluvial mining in the Bendigo district.

Statement of Significance
The site has potential for education and interpretation due to the relatively undisturbed nature of the puddling site (criterion C and criterion D).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area within the Splitters Gully Mining heritage Area. In particular, further historical and archaeological work should be undertaken to determine the provenance of the puddling machines.

Heritage Boundaries
The Splitters Gully Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Simpsons Road, on the east by Loeser Road northwards as far as the first gully north-east of Apollo Hill, on the north by this gully as far as 100 metres east of the leftmost branch of Splitters Gully, on the east by a line 100 metres east of the leftmost branch of this gully to Splitters Gully Track, on the south by this track as far as its intersection with Loeser Road, on the east by Loeser Road northwards as far as its intersection with a cross track, on the north east by a line from this intersection to the summit of Adelaide Hill, on the west by the line of the second gully west from Adelaide Hill extended across the right branch of Splitters Gully to Splitters Gully Track and thence along a line 100 metres west of the leftmost branch of Splitters Gully southwards to the head of the first gully west of Apollo Hill, and finally along a line 100 metres west of this gully to Simpsons Road.

References
3. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
5. Dicker's Mining Record, March 1868, 71.

Notes
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998.

Chronology
17.02.1868: We had almost begun to think that the Whipstick, once so famous or the production of nuggets of large size, was worked out; but it appears that there are still those lumps of gold, which in days of yore gladdened the hearts of the miners. A German, named Jacob, who had been “hatting” in Splitters’ Gully, Whipstick, for many a weary day, and had hardly been earning his tucker, came on Saturday morning last on a nugget which weighed 275ozs 13dwt. He was picking down the sidings of some old and partially worked out ground at a depth of 5 feet, when the pick struck against the nugget, which at first he thought was a boulder, but the second stroke of the pick unearthed the glittering mass of
gold... [2]

03.1868: 275ozs 13dwt nugget (No.121) found at a depth of 5 feet by a German named "Jacob". It was almost pure gold, with a little ironstone. [3.17-18, 4.12, 5]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

SUFFOLK UNITED MINE

Other Names

Location  Parcel No. P123918, State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park, approximately 200 metres north of the New Moon site, Garden Gully Reef, Eaglehawk

Map Reference  Eaglehawk 1:10,000 - BV535.347

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description  Site inspected from outside the existing mining company's fence. From that vantage point, only two parallel brick winding engine foundations are visible.

History  Period of activity: 1870-1918 (the winding engine appears to have been erected in 1899 and additions to machinery were made in 1911)
Line of reef: Moon/Garden Gully
Maximum recorded annual production: 6728ozs 8dwt obtained from 5969 in 1909
Total production: 24,566/26,000/38,035ozs obtained from 26,818/74,745 tons
Dividends: £27,135/£37,000/£37,035 [17, 24]
Calls: £35,792
Deepest working level: 1364 feet
Deepest shaft: 1873 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  The site is one of four at the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef which were both productive and economically significant for a short period of time in the first decades of the twentieth century (1909-1915). The other mines in this group (from south to north) are North New Moon (1894-1924), New Moon Consolidated (1901-1916) and New Moon United (1902-1915).

Statement of Significance  The site is associated with the big-mine period of Bendigo's mining history (1888-1914), it was a success as a mine in terms of its production levels, having been an important mine in the period between 1904 and 1912, and is part of a group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant (criterion A).

Level of Significance  Regional

Recommendation  The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area.
Heritage Boundaries

The Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lower Beelzebub Gully Road and the Bendigo-Pyramid Road, on the north and south by private property boundaries, and on the east by a line 100 metres east of Beelzebub Gully Road as far as Sandner Road and thence by direct line to intersect the northern boundary at a point 250 metres east of the junction of Janaways Road and Lower Beelzebub Gully Road.

References

5. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 5 September 1885, p6, col.3.
22. The Bendigo Advertiser, 7 October 1915.
23. The Age, 21 June 1918.

Notes

For most of the nineteenth century the ground was worked by a small number of cooperative and/or tribute parties. Among these referred to in the Bendigo Advertiser were Suffolk No.1 Company (1871-1875), Suffolk No.2 Company (1872-1875), Suffolk Tribute (1883-1906), Suffolk Tribute North (1885-1886), Suffolk Tribute No.1 Company (1885-1889), Suffolk Tribute No.1 North (1885-1889), Suffolk Tribute United (1898-1906) and Suffolk United (1906-1917). The relationship between these companies has yet to be determined.

Lower Beelzebub Gully Road is the title given to an otherwise unnamed track connecting Janaways Road southwards across Beelzebub Gully to the Bendigo-Pyramid Road and running parallel to, and west of Beelzebub Gully Road.

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

26.10.1871: Suffolk No. 1: Having completed putting in ladders, we are now engaged driving on the reef at the 2140 foot level. At this level it is well-defined.
about 5 feet thick, and shows a little gold. [1]

16.11.1871: Suffolk No.1: We are raising stone from the reef at the 1450 foot level; it is about 3 feet thick, shows a little gold and is well-defined. [2]

22.01.1872: Suffolk No.1: The crosscut at the bottom of the south shaft is in 20 feet. We expect to cut the reef in about 15 feet more. [3]

22.01.1872: Suffolk No.2: The tributers are engaged raising stone, and will crush shortly; it looks very well. [4]

05.09.1885: Suffolk Tribute: Have extended south along the stone, 11 feet 6 inches, and north 5 feet. 42 tons of stone yielded 15ozs 9dwt of gold. Are joining the company on the north in sinking a joint shaft which will be more convenient than our present one, which is 200 feet on underlay. [5]

09.1885: Suffolk Tribute: 119ozs 9dwt obtained from 168 tons of stone. [6]

09.1886: Suffolk Tribute: 144ozs 16dwt obtained from 111 tons of stone at 390 feet. [6]

12.1886: Suffolk Tribute: 164ozs 15dwt obtained from 110 tons of stone at 300 feet. [6]

06.1887: Suffolk Tribute: 75ozs 19dwt obtained from 105 tons of stone at 300 feet. [6]

09.1887: Suffolk Tribute: 252ozs 8dwt obtained from 438 tons of stone at 300 feet. [6]

12.1887: Suffolk Tribute: 92ozs 26dwt obtained from 198 tons of stone at 300 feet. [6]

03.1888: Suffolk Tribute: 84ozs 13dwt obtained from 184 tons of stone at between the surface and 360 feet. [6]

06.1888: Suffolk Tribute: 68ozs 1dwt obtained from 121 tons of stone at between 300 and 360 feet. [6]

09.1888: Suffolk Tribute: 36ozs 16dwt obtained from 113 tons of stone at 360 feet. [6]

12.1888: Suffolk Tribute: 5ozs 3dwt 6 grains obtained from 20 tons of stone at 360 feet. [6]

03.1889: Suffolk Tribute: 5ozs 13dwt 15 grains obtained from 16 tons of stone at 250 feet. [6]

13.06.1890: The Suffolk Tribute and Suffolk Tribute No.1 have amalgamated and 2 penny call had been made and is now overdue. [7]

03.1891: Suffolk Tribute: 16ozs 9dwt 10 grains obtained from 30 tons of stone. [6]

06.1891: Suffolk Tribute: 3ozs 13dwt 15 grains obtained from 16 tons of stone at between the surface and 300 feet. [6]

29.10.1892: Suffolk United: the main shaft sunk 7 feet, total 377 feet; also timbered 18 feet. Have cut slate in west end, and a little more water. Have laid pipes from Government main to supply fresh water for the boiler, as our dam might fail in summer, and it is not advisable to use reef water. [8]

08.11.1892: The stone in the Suffolk Tribute winze below 360 feet appears to be making larger and still shows gold. [9]

04.09.1893: Suffolk United Tribute - shaft sunk 12 feet; total from plat 20 feet, and from surface 434 feet; ground slate and sandstone. [10]

22.12.1894: Suffolk United: During past fortnight have sunk shaft 8 feet; total from plat 117 feet, and from surface 621 feet; also timbered 6 feet; ground hard ribs of sandstone and slate. [11]

18.02.1895: Suffolk United - Shaft sunk 12 feet; total from plat 33 feet, and from surface 637 feet; ground, small ribs of sandstone and slate. [12]

06.1898: Suffolk Tribute: 154ozs 6dwt obtained from 537 tons of stone and 26ozs from 9 tons of pyrites. [13]

07.1898: Suffolk Tribute: 109ozs 8dwt obtained from 301 tons of stone. [13]

08.1898: Suffolk Tribute: 118ozs 5dwt obtained from 228 tons of stone. [13]

09.1898: Suffolk Tribute: 59ozs 16dwt obtained from 258 tons of stone. [13]

10.1898: Suffolk Tribute: 69ozs 1wt obtained from 285 tons of stone. [13]

11.1898: Suffolk Tribute: 99ozs 7dwt obtained from 225 tons of stone. [13]

12.1898: Suffolk Tribute: 64ozs 10dwt obtained from 204 tons of stone. [13]

01.1899: Suffolk Tribute: 67ozs 8dwt obtained from 421 tons of stone. [13]

02.1899: Suffolk Tribute: 45ozs 2dwt obtained from 338 tons of stone. [13]
03.1899: Suffolk Tribute: 17ozs 16dwt obtained from 138 tons of stone. [13]
01.06.1899: Suffolk Tribute United Company- has not yet paid a dividend
now erecting a single horizontal engine with a pair of drums 9 feet in diameter, capable of sinking to nearly 3000 feet. [14]
08.1899: Suffolk Tribute: 114ozs 11dwt obtained from 299 tons of stone. [13]
10.1899: Suffolk Tribute: 292ozs 9dwt obtained from 658 tons of stone. [13]
11.1899: Suffolk Tribute: 309ozs 16dwt obtained from 808 tons of stone and £825 declared in dividends. This was the first dividend declared by the company. [13]
12.1899: Suffolk Tribute: 375ozs 10dwt obtained from 618 tons of stone and £1650 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £2475 in dividends. [13]
01.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 191ozs 1dwt obtained from 575 tons of stone. [13]
02.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 182ozs 2dwt obtained from 757 tons of stone. [13]
03.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 657ozs 11dwt obtained from 1152 tons of stone. [13]
04.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 249ozs 1dwt obtained from 630 tons of stone and £1650 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £4125 in dividends. [13]
05.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 277ozs 8dwt obtained from 753 tons of stone. [13]
06.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 661ozs 15dwt obtained from 1347 tons of stone and £1650 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £5775 in dividends. [13]
07.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 525ozs 16dwt obtained from 964 tons of stone. [13]
08.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 341ozs 17dwt obtained from 1077 tons of stone and £825 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £6600 in dividends. [13]
09.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 300ozs 9dwt obtained from 491 tons of stone. [13]
10.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 223ozs 1dwt obtained from 498 tons of stone. [13]
11.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 100ozs 19dwt obtained from 553 tons of stone. [13]
12.1900: Suffolk Tribute: 105ozs 2dwt obtained from 83 tons of stone. [13]
1900: Suffolk Tribute: 3816ozs obtained from 4934 tons of stone and £4125 declared in dividends. [15.10-11]
01.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 15ozs 7dwt obtained from 282 tons of stone. [13]
02.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 9ozs 12dwt obtained from 86 tons of stone. [13]
03.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 23ozs 6dwt obtained from 120 tons of stone. [13]
04.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 56ozs 10dwt obtained from 266 tons of stone. [13]
05.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 59ozs 15dwt obtained from 547 tons of stone. [13]
06.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 67ozs 1dwt obtained from 190 tons of stone. [13]
07.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 158ozs 9dwt obtained from 334 tons of stone. [13]
08.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 416ozs 18dwt obtained from 926 tons of stone. [13]
09.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 127ozs 2dwt obtained from 496 tons of stone. [13]
10.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 278ozs 9dwt obtained from 513 tons of stone. [13]
11.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 522ozs 3dwt obtained from 661 tons of stone and £825 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £7425 in dividends. [13]
12.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 351ozs 11dwt obtained from 913 tons of stone. [13]
1901: 2086ozs obtained from 4934 tons of stone and £825 paid in dividends. [15.11-12]
02.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 2338ozs 12dwt obtained from 8792 tons of stone and £825 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £8250 in dividends. [15]
03.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 1709ozs 18dwt obtained from 4349 tons of stone. The company had now declared a total of £8250 in dividends. [15]
04.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 1776ozs 4dwt obtained from 4486 tons of stone and £1650 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £9900 in dividends. [15]
05.1901: Suffolk Tribute: 294ozs 1dwt obtained from 1372 tons of stone. The company had now declared a total of £9900 in dividends. [15]
The Suffolk Tribute United Company has vigorously carried on prospecting operations, but the results on the whole have not been as satisfactory as was anticipated at the beginning of the year. The shaft has been deepened to 1674 feet, and cross-cuts driven to the reef channel. At the two lower crosscuts a massive reef was encountered, and in exploiting it a colour or two of gold has been seen occasionally, but so far it has not proved of a payable character. 1372 tons of quartz were raised and treated for 295ozs. 39 men are employed. [15.117]

1906: Suffolk Tribute: 171ozs 1dwt obtained from 733 tons of stone. The company had now declared a total of £9900 in dividends. [15]

1906: The Suffolk United Company...The geographical position of this mine has kept it in favour for a number of years and shareholders have gamely preserved, hoping to pick up the formations that have paid so well in the southern mines. This mine presents many geological freaks through the action of a cross-course near the New Moon boundary. To make things worse they were greatly handicapped until recently by being a Tribute Company. Now, however, they are a strong company of 40,200 shares, with a large lease which embraces the New Chum line of reef as well as several intermediate lines. So far the only success they have met with is the reefs above 1010 feet and 1104 feet levels. A large body of stone is now being prospected at the 1764 feet levels. The same reef was fair grade in the New Moon workings between 1445 feet and 1545 feet. The Suffolk have not come on to any payable stone yet, but the general appearance of the formation (which is the largest and most defined they have met with yet) warrants a more extensive research. The general appearance of the deeper levels points to the conclusion that the cross course referred to is losing its influence in its downward course. Experts declare that the mine will yet come to the front. Mr William Davey looks after the working arrangements. [16]

1907: Suffolk Tribute: 549ozs 18dwt obtained from 1929 tons of stone. The company had now declared a total of £9900 in dividends. [17]

1908: Suffolk Tribute: 790ozs 4dwt obtained from 1238 tons of stone and £1005 declared in dividends. The company had now declared a total of £1005 in dividends. [17]

1908: The Suffolk Company has obtained some excellent prospects, and some good crushings has caused the company’s name to appear on the dividend list. Shaft, 1874 feet. [17.130]

1909: Suffolk United - The value of the tributers’ work has been strikingly illustrated on this mine by the opening up of the rich vein of quartz...at 1364 feet. The manager (Mr R. Hummel) proposes putting up another battery. [18]

1909: Suffolk Tribute: 6728ozs 8dwt obtained from 5969 tons of stone and £16,080 declared in dividends. The company had now obtained 8183ozs and declared a total of £17,085 in dividends. [17]

1910: Suffolk United (next property south of North New Moon)...operating good quality stone over the 1364 foot level. [20]

1910: Suffolk Tribune: 3848ozs 17dwt obtained from 5855 tons of stone and £7635 declared in dividends. The company had now obtained 11,742ozs from 14,678 tons of stone and declared a total of £24,120 in dividends. [17]

20. 10.1910: The Suffolk United Company has had a fairly successful year. Operations have been confined principally to the backs over the 1364 foot level; prospecting work is carried on at the 1773 level north; depth of shaft to bottom plat, 1873 feet; 33 wages men are employed underground as well as two tributers. [22.133-134]

1911: Suffolk Tribute: 2108ozs 17dwt obtained from 4970 tons of stone and £2010 declared in dividends. The company had now obtained 13,850ozs...
18dwt from 19,648 tons of stone and declared a total of £26,130 in dividends. [17]

1912: Suffolk Tribute: 2663ozs 19dwt obtained from 3030 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 16,514ozs 18dwt from 22,678 tons of stone and declared a total of £26,130 in dividends. [17]

The Suffolk United and South New Moon Companies have been crushing intermittently with varying results. [17.120]

1913: Suffolk Tribute: 1773ozs 16dwt obtained from 3933 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 18,288ozs 16dwt from 26,611 tons of stone and declared a total of £26,130 in dividends. [17]

The Suffolk United and South New Moon Companies have been crushing regularly from the reef at 1364 feet, but the result of the year’s work has left little or no profit. [17.117]

1914: Suffolk Tribute: 2139ozs 9dwt obtained from 2319 tons of stone and £1005 declared in dividends. The company had now obtained 20,428ozs 6dwt from 28,930 tons of stone and declared a total of £27,135 in dividends. [17]

The Suffolk United Company has been working on the small reef at 1364 feet, also at 1204 feet, but the year’s operations have shown no profit. [17.105]

07.10.1915: Bendigo Mining Companies - Dividends, Calls and Scrip Values - The war census, which is now being taken, and the income tax schedules, which will shortly have to be filled in, impose on holders of mining scrip the responsibility of recording dividends received and the amount paid in calls, together with a statement of the value of scrip held. In order to assist the investing public in the compilation of the statistics we have compiled the records of the Bendigo mining companies. The following is the list of Bendigo mining companies:- Birds Reef, Carlisle, Casey Red, White and Blue, Catherine Reef United, Central Red, White and Blue, Clarence United, Collmann and Tacchi, Confidence Extended, Cornish United, Central Neil Gwynne, Constellation, East Virginia, Fortuna Hustler's Garden Gully United, Golden Age, Golden Pyke, Goldfields Consolidated, Goldfields Extended, Goldfields North, Gold fields South, Great Extended Hustler, Great Northern, Great Southern, Hercules and Energetic, Hustler's Consol, Hustler's Reef, Ironbank, Johnson's Reef, Koch’s Pioneer, Manning's Central Blue, Murchison, Neil Gwynne, New Argus, New Chum Goldfields, New Golden Fleece, New Moon, New Moon United, New Moon Consolidated, New Nil, New Prince of Wales, New Red White and Blue, New Shenandoah, New St Mungo, North Bendigo, North Johnson's, North New Moon, Pearl, Princess Dagmar, Red White and Blue United, Sea, South New Moon, South Garden United, South Prince of Wales, Specimen Hill, Spring Gully, Suffolk United, Sheephead, South Johnson's, Stafford Reef, The Langdon, Thistle Reef, United Ulster, United Devonshire, Unity, United Hustler's and Redan, Virginia, Victoria Consols, Victoria and Pandora, Williams United, Windmill Hill, White Hills Gold Recovery. [22]

1915: Suffolk Tribute: 1037ozs 16dwt obtained from 3129 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 21,466ozs 4dwt from 32,509 tons of stone and declared a total of £27,135 in dividends. [17]

The Suffolk United Company, during the year, carried on prospecting work, but the gold obtained would not meet working expenses. [17.52]

1916: Suffolk Tribute: 312ozs obtained from 833 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 24,466ozs from 33,342 tons of stone and declared a total of £27,135 in dividends. [17]

The Suffolk United Company has carried on some valuable prospecting work, but so far, success has not been attained. [17.15]

1917: Suffolk Tribute: 99ozs obtained from 193 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 24,565ozs from 26,804 tons of stone and declared a total of £27,135 in dividends. [17]

21. 06.1918: New Company Formed - Vigorous Developmental Policy - A definite basis of agreement has been reached by the representatives of the proposed new company that is to work certain leases on the Eaglehawk section of Bendigo mining field and the Bendigo Amalgamated Gold Mining Company. Mr G. E. Dickenson, chairman, and Mr Greening, engineer, representing the new company, and Mr A. H. Merrin, chief inspector in the Department of Mines, yesterday interviewed representatives of the Amalgamated Company at Bendigo
with respect to taking over of the New Moon, Clarence United, New Argus and Suffolk United leases, and the purchase of certain plant. Mr Dickenson stated last night that negotiations had been completed between the new venture and the Amalgamated company. The syndicate he represented, which would be registered next week as the Bendigo Al company, had arranged to take over the leases mentioned, and the purchase of the plant at the New Moon, Clark and Neangar shafts had been effected.

Mr E. C. Dyason, managing director of the Bendigo Amalgamated Company, in the course of an interview, said satisfaction should be felt in the fact that the negotiations for the formation of the new company to operate at the north end of the field were likely to be completed shortly. The area embraced portion of the Bendigo Amalgamated Goldfields holdings on the Garden Gully, Paddy's Gully and Derby lines of reef, and included the Suffolk, New Moon, Clarence and pan of the New Argus properties. The Amalgamated Company was carrying on important prospecting work in the area at the Clark and Neangar shafts. [23]

1918: Suffolk Tribute: 1oz obtained from 14 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 24,566ozs from 26,818 tons of stone and declared a total of £27,135 in dividends. [17]

1918: A new company, known as the Bendigo A1, having acquired the group previously known as the New Moon, North Argus and Suffolk mines, has unwatered the main shaft at the New Moon and is carrying on prospecting operations from that point. [17]
UNFORTUNATE BOLLE’S REEF MINE

Description
North of Scotsmans Track is a line of reef workings, about 150 metres in length, running approximately north-south. The workings consist of three collapsed shafts and some shallow open-cutting, from which leads an adit. Several shafts have been sunk onto the underlying drive.

History
Period of activity: 1862-1865
Line of reef: Unfortunate Bolle’s
Maximum recorded annual production: 107ozs obtained from 10 tons in 1862
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: 30 feet
Deepest shaft: 30 feet (above water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Wallace (1856-1906), Black Rock (1857-1879), Sandfly (1857-1890), Barkly (1857-1951), Elliott (1858-1889), Unfortunate Bolle’s (1862-1865), Shamrock (1862-1881), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

Statement of Significance
The site displays all the characteristics of reefs in the Whipstick area - very rich on the surface and poor at depth and has the potential to illustrate an important phase of mining in this area (criterion C). It also contains some well-preserved 1860s shallow reef workings (criterion D).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries
The site is approximately rectangular, bounded on the south by the Raywood Channel and extending northwards for a distance of 50 metres either side of the workings along the reef.

References
3. W. Perry, “Tales of the Whipstick: a history of the Whipstick, Neilborough,
Sebastian, Raywood and Myers Creek gold rushes, Victoria.” Eaglehawk, Perry, 1975, 249pp.
9. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.

Notes
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
06.1862: Whilst investors were still licking their fingers after having had them burnt in the speculation blaze, news reached Sandhurst that a German digger, Jacob Bolle had come upon a golden outcrop in the Whipstick Scrub no more than a couple of miles from Sydney Flat. Sandhurst acted predictably...diggers dragged out cradles and dishes and headed for The Whipstick. In July, Bolle took a couple of hundred ounces from a crushing of twenty tons, but the glittering promise was deceptive- the Unfortunate Bolle’s Reef, as it came to be called - was no more than a richly studded blow of quartz. Bolle's discovery was followed, however, by other strikes. [1.133]
06.1862: Bolle Reef- A German named Nicholas Bolle and a North of England man, Frederick Price ...discovered a rich reef .. visitors inspected the rich claim [and found] a trench twenty feet long and three feet deep had been excavated, and the reef which was small, from three to twelve inches thick, exposed. At the end of the trench a shaft had been sunk to a depth of twelve feet ... Mr. Bolle and Mr. Price handed round among the visitors for inspection, rich specimens ...A newspaper report on 4 September 1862, stated that the latest crushing from Bolle's Reef 10 tons, obtained at a depth of fourteen feet, yielded 107ozs 14dwt ...Bolle's Reef had a short life, which was typical of most Whipstick quartz reefs. A mining report of Saturday, 14 August 1863, stated that Bolle's Reef had failed to fulfil early promise, and comparatively little work had been undertaken. [3.7]
09.1862: The fortunate prospectors of the prospecting claim are still doing remarkably well. Their last crushing of 10 tons, taken out 14 feet below the surface, produced 107ozs 14dwt. The reef at that depth makes into an eastward and westward leg, the first named being considerably the richest. One piece of stone, about the size of a man’s hand, our informant states, yielded 8½ozs. Mr Smith, of the Epsom branch of the Bank of Australasia, has already purchased from the lucky owners of the claim upwards of £1200 worth of gold. [4]
09.1862: We are informed that a new reef has been opened out and worked a large face of the reef with varying success, but always payable. The first claim south (Clisby and Company) is under register, they having gone down about 30 feet; and got a body of stone 6 feet thick, but showing no gold. [5]
09.1862: We are informed that a new reef has been struck near Old Tom Gully, Whipstick. The stone was struck at 7 feet; some of the specimens shown to our informant are represented as very rich. [6]
1862: Whipstick- In 1862 Jacobs Reef was discovered, and a party of Germans opened the alluvial at Jacobs Gully; the Unfortunate Bolles Reef, was also discovered. J A Patterson, there in 1862, gives the names of the diggings north east of Flagstaff Hill as the Whipsnake, the Beehive, and Skylark diggings. [2.248]
03.1863: A new reef has been (found) somewhere near Old Tom Reef, which ... deep (i.e. about 6 feet thick), the trial crushing have gone from 7 to 9dwt. [7]
08.1863: Bolle, the discoverer of a celebrated Whipstick reef, named the Bolle Reef, having worked this reef till it no longer paid, went on a prospecting tour, and within the last few days has found another reef, 5 miles from the first, towards Elysian Flat, ... [8]

09.1865: Nine new quartz claims have been registered:- 1, Balle-balle Reef, 80 yards, Scotchman's Gully, Old Whipstick. [9.54-55]

29.08.1931: Not far from Jacob's Reef is the one known as Unfortunate Bolle's, found by a party of foreigners, the results of the first crushing from Bendigo. It was extraordinarily rich - as golden, it was reported by the local press, as any stone ever previously obtained - and unfortunately it was a patch on which the prospectors had lighted, and it was exhausted almost as soon as found, the subsequent crushings having for some time given only 10dwt's to the ton. Later, however, the stone again improved, and good yields were obtained from it. [10]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

**WALLACE REEF MINE, DAM AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Parcel No. P127162, State Forest, east of Neilborough Road, Whipstick</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Epsom 1:25,000 - BV561.386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Victorian Heritage Register | No |
| National Estate Register | No |
| Planning Scheme | No |

**Description**

Battery site

On the eastern edge of the road is a shallow, dry dam, to the south of which are traces of tailings and a possible battery site. Further south is the site of Magetti's Hotel.

Reef workings

On the hill east of the tailings are the Wallace Reef workings, consisting of shallow sinkings along the gully and a large open-cut now partly filled by mullock, domestic rubbish and industrial waste. To the north and west of these workings the ground has been sluiced hydraulically to bedrock.

**History**

Period of activity: 1856-1906

Line of reef: Wallace

Maximum recorded annual production: 290ozs obtained from 612 tons in 1873

Total production: unknown

Deepest working level: 160 feet

Deepest shaft: unknown, but probably not below water level

**Thematic Context**

Mining

**Comparative Examples**

The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Black Rock (1857-1879), Sandfly (1857-1890), Barkly (1857-1951), Elliott (1858-1889), Unfortunate Bolle's (1862-1865), Shamrock (1862-1881), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

Within the study area there are at least seventeen dams constructed to provide water for mining purposes. These are: Peter the Great Dam (right hand branch)(1856), Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron's Dam (1858), Old Tom Reef (1860), No.7 Reservoir (1861), Frederick the Great (1865), Raywood Reservoir (1865), Frühling Reef (1871), Liddell's (probably 1876), at least one at Fiddler's Green (by 1879), Elliott's Reef (by 1887), Christoff Reef (1895), Wilson's Hill (by 1896), Lightning Hill (by 1903), on the ridge above the Lancashire Reef workings (by1908) and New Moon Consolidated (by 1910). Several of these dams are still serviceable and at least three are still in use. These three are Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron's Dam (1858) and No.7 Reservoir (by 1861). The dam at this site was one of the earliest constructed in the Whipstick, but its outline is now not very noticeable.

**Statement of Significance**

The site contains the earliest recorded quartz workings in the Whipstick area and the site of the first battery (criterion A). The site also contains a range of mining activities from open cuts to shallow shafts, and subsequent hydraulic...
sluicing and therefore has some potential to illustrate the pattern of mining in the area (criterion C).

**Level of Significance**

Local

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, the site should be cleared of all recent domestic rubbish and industrial waste.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The site is bounded on the west by the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road and extends eastwards for 200 metres to include all the reef workings, the area of hydraulic sluicing, the dam, battery site, and the site of Magetti’s hotel.

**References**

5. “Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 23 September 1858.
7. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
9. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
10. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
15. “Bendigo mining intelligence.  The Whipstick." From our own Correspondent, 15 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 16 September 1858.
16. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
20. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 1 October 1898.
21. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.
23. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
27. Department of Mining and Industrial Development, records.
Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district.

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

07.1856: Wallace Reef was worked by a party, Scott and Company, in July 1856. They persevered for some time, and by October 1857, Wallace Reef was a busy place with a dozen claims in operation. One party had already struck payable gold at depth of 20 feet ... A visitor to the Whipstick in looking battery of from four to six stamps driven by a small high pressure engine, and worked by a party of Germans. ...Towards the close of 1863, Wallace Reef was deserted ... The battery was later shifted further into the Whipstick to the Shamrock Reef, where it remained in operations for many years. [1.7]

10.1857: A fine specimen was sent to our office from a claim on this reef, in which the auriferous stone has been struck at a depth of 20 feet. The gold shows well, and it is expected that the claim will turn out a very valuable one. The Wallace Reef is situated close to Black Horse Gully, about 3 miles on the Sandhurst side of the Whipstick diggings. Gold has been struck in two or three claims. There are about 12 or 14 claims going down. The whole are held under miner’s right. [2]

11.1857: The first lot of quartz (about 15 tons) arrived yesterday from the Wallace Reef, Bailie and Company’s claim, at Grant and Stevens’ quartz crushing machine. It is a rubbley looking quartz like cement, and from its colour gold is difficult to be discerned in it. From 10 to 12 dwts has, however, been the yield from a bucketful experimented on in a dolly. We shall be able to report further hereon on Saturday. [3]

03.1858: A great deal of quiet prospecting in quartz is going on just now, both in the vicinity of the Wallace Reef and all over the Whipstick, generally some of these prospectors are down beyond 100 feet with encouraging indications. [4]

09.1858: Reefing operations go on satisfactorily, so far as indications are concerned, although gold has not yet been struck in any reef in this locality, except at the Wallace and White Horse reefs. [5]

09.1859: The shareholders on this line have been doing so well lately, that it is in contemplation to join all the claims and purchase an engine to pump and crush; and there is little doubt but such will be the case shortly. [6]

11.1859: I have the honor to pay before the Board of Science a description and plans of the Wallace Reef. The reef is situate about six miles from Sandhurst, and may be considered, perhaps, the most extensive of the detached reefs now being worked, of which, as I have remarked, there are several in this division. The Wallace Reef has now been opened about three years, and has been more or less worked during the whole time. [Here follows a minute description of the workings on the reef, the underlay of the veins etc.]

The portion of the reef that I have been able to examine bears N 11 degrees 340 minutes west, and has no perceptible dip in that direction, and in thickness varies between 8 feet and 10 feet throughout. At a distance of nearly half a mile from the Wallace, in a line bearing north-east, lies the Elliot Reef which, although of less importance at present than the former, has been opened for some time. It is now nearly abandoned, only two men being employed on it. The depths of the shafts, the distances between them, their relative positions, together with the height of the ground close to Bally’s shaft, above the level of the sea, are correctly given on the plan. [7.11-12]

05.1860: Evans and Company, Wallace Reef: 8 head battery driven by an 8 horsepower engine. [7.116-118]

09.1860: One new crushing machine of 6 horsepower has been lately put up on the Wallace Reef and is now at work, but the one at the Elysian Flat has stopped work. [7.258]
The bustle and activity ... of this locality, at one time, is no longer. The reef has been wholly deserted for the past months, caused chiefly by the want of crushing machinery. Wallace and party continued sinking till the water level was reached, at ---. There they found a very large body of stone, but the body of gold in it was very small, not more than one or two pennyweights. The reef was about 15 feet thick, and if what it had contained been confined in narrow --- it would have paid handsomely to crush. Efforts were made to get below this level in the hopes that it might get richer, but the water prevented them succeeding, and very soon all work had been stopped. Other parts nearer the surface were prospected, but nothing permanent could be got; occasionally a patch yielded half an ounce or an ounce to the ton, and eventually it was given up. Wallace and party are now working on Elliott's Reef, about a mile from the Wallace Reef. ... [8]

Wallace Reef: 11 reef miners at work. [9.37-40]
Wallace Reef: 5 reef miners at work. [9.39-42]
Wallace Reef: 6 reef miners at work. [9.42-44]
Wallace Reef: 10 reef miners at work. [9.43-44]
Wallace Reef: 6 reef miners at work. [9.47-49]
Wallace Reef: 6 reef miners at work. [9.45-46]
Wallace Reef: 2 reef miners at work. [9.44-45]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 181ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 354 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 245ozs 4dwt obtained from 400 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 37ozs 12dwt obtained from 167 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 8ozs 18dwt obtained from 45 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 20ozs 15dwt obtained from 53 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 23ozs 10dwt obtained from 150 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 52ozs 16dwt 15 grains obtained from 137 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 130ozs 3dwt obtained from 154 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 91ozs 18dwt obtained from 245 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 55ozs 3dwt obtained from 197 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 112ozs 1dwt 18 grains obtained from 225 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 119ozs 12 grains obtained from 234 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 113ozs 9dwt 12 grains obtained from 269 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 109ozs 3dwt 18 grains obtained from 239 tons of stone. [10]
Wallace Reef, Whipstick: 149ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 364 tons of stone. [10]
Vogele and party, on the Wallace Reef, Whipstick, crushed 5 loads for 2ozs from a reef 24 feet wide. [11]
Magetti and Company (Whipstick) crushed 30 tons for 4ozs 10dwt. [12]
Magetti and Company, who for several years past have been
prospecting the Wallace Reef at Whipstick, have met with a new development. In crosscutting at a depth of 160 feet, they have broken into stone from 3-4 feet wide, and in which several colours of gold have been seen. The prospect is regarded as very promising by those interested in the venture. [13]

1906: At the Wallace Reef, Mr. Walker has erected a battery of five heads. The shaft is 75 feet deep. [14.126]

Sluicing on Bendigo
16.09.1858: The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry’s" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [15]

06.1874: At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well. [16]

06.1875: A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [16]

06.1877: The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [16]

03.1878: Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [16]

03.1878: Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [16.27]

09.1878: Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...

The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.
To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000 gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals
Total: 22,267,000 gals [16]

15.12.1879: The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [17, 18]

22.08.1885: In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer’s Flat, and ... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs,
and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our 
oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud 
Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground 
which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the 
immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing 
companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound 
in this locality. [19]

1890  3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the 
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk 
and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 
alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on 
Sandhurst/Bendigo. [20]

1891  4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the 
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk 
and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 
alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on 
Sandhurst/Bendigo. [20]

1892  5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst 
mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 
2250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial 
members in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on 
Sandhurst/Bendigo. [20]

1893  5576ozs 13dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst 
mining district during the year, with 700ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100ozs 
on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in 
the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. 
[20]

1894  8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the 
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk 
and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 
alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on 
Sandhurst/Bendigo. [20]

1895  5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the 
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 
1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial 
members in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on 
Sandhurst/Bendigo. [21]

1896  14,784ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the 
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk 
and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 
alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at 
work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

1897  15,017ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the 
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 
10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial 
members in the district; no information was available about the numbers at 
work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

1898  15,729ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the 
Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 
10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial 
members in the district; no information was available about the numbers at 
work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]
1900-12,406 ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000 ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175 ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1901-9692 ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076 ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1902-12,689 ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319 ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1903-9860 ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268 ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1904-12,745 ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481 ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

1905-12,748 ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260 ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48 ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

Murray and Company: 122 ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

1906-9269 ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164 ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53 ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

1907-18,696 ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317 ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 853 ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

B. Ford’s Dredge: 622 ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1912: 2812ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford's Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1913: 3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford's Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1914: 2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
F. W. Miller's Dredge: 25ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1915: 3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1916: 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1917: 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1918: 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [22]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on
Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1920: 587 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1921: 988 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1922: 914 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 146 ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1923: 361 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 101 ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1924: 440 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 145 ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1925: 337 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 168 ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1926: 367 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1927: 287 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1928: 573 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1929: 585 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1930: 688 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

24.08.1931 Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [26]

1931: 3867 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

H. E. Knapman: 174 ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1932: 5051 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

H. E. Knapman: 125 ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1933: 4429 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial
miners in the district. [24]
H. E. Knapman: 119ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
1934: 5395ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
Day and Mason: 41ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
H. E. Knapman: 252ozs obtained from 2.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
1935: 4609ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
1936: 7196ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
Aurum Dredging Development: 132ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
C. Barton and G. Barton: 14ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Henderson and party: 21ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Knapman and party: 85ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Meldrum and party: 42ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
G. Miller: 28ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully: 14ozs, 0dwt.
Edwards and party, Maiden Gully: 15ozs, 10dwt.
Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully: 15ozs, 10dwt.
Henderson and Party, Dead Dog Gully: 14ozs, 0dwt.
Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully: 44ozs, 0dwt.
Keck and Church
Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully: 30ozs, 0dwt.
Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully: 40ozs, 0dwt.
Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully: 14ozs, 0dwt.
H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat: 64ozs, 0dwt.
T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat: 64ozs, 0dwt.
Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully: 90ozs, 0dwt.
Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully: 16ozs, 0dwt.
Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully: 16ozs, 0dwt.
Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully: 40ozs, 0dwt.
Total: 537ozs, 9dwt. [27]
1937: 2151ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
Aurum Dredging Development: 32ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Henderson and Hopgood: 13ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
D. J. Rigbye: 48ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
1938: 2346ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
H. R. Hansen: 22ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 67ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
1939: 2671ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
H. R. Hansen: 38ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
1940: 4862ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
A. Maynard: 67ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 61ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
1941: 682ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
G. Barton and party: 4.9ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
J. N. Day: 62ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
P. S. Floyd: 16ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
R. Lethlean: 60ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
P. Lougoon: 110ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 24ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 85ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
1942: 510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]
1943: 527ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district. [25]
D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [25]

1944: 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1944: Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [25]

1945: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1946: 423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

Styles Brothers: 43ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1947: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 9ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully. [25]

Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [25]

1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [25]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [24]

Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [24]

1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully. [21]

P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [21]

Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer’s Flat. [21]

G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [21]

1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer's Flat. [21]
Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer's Flat. [21]

1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial
miners in the district. [21]
Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer's Flat. [21]

1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [21]
Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer's Flat. [21]

1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining
district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial
miners in the district. [21]
A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial
miners in the district. [21]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of
material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [21]
W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [21]
W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [21]

1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [21]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 105ozs obtained from 1980 cubic yards of
material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [21]
W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [21]

1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [21]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of
material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [21]
W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [21]

1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [21]
W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [21]

1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [21]
W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [21]

1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]

1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [21]

1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [21]
ELYSIAN LEAD II

Other Names Webster's battery
Location Freehold Land, west side of Raywood-Neilborough Road, Neilborough
Map Reference Raywood 1:25,000 - BV523.502

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description Remnant of a large tailing dump.
History Period of activity: 1896-1897
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown

Thematic Context Mining

Comparative Examples There are several better preserved and more representative deep lead mines elsewhere in the study area: to the east of Neilborough and at Wilson's Reef and Myers Creek.

Statement of Significance Site has little integrity and no significance.
Level of Significance None
Recommendation None
Heritage Boundaries None

References

Notes Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998
Chronology 14.09.1896 New Webster’s - the manager (Mr George Lewis) reports that the company has now duly registered, and work is going on. The claim is situated at Elysian Flat, near Raywood. [1]
28.12.1896... on the Neilborough, or Elysian Flat lead, the New Webster and others are doing well. [2]
25.12.1897 The New Webster's Company at Neilborough, which paid a dividend early in the year, subsequently ceased operations. [3]
**Wilson's Hill Mines and Cyanide Works**

**Description**

All the features on this site are contained on a triangular parcel of land bounded by Wilsons Reef Road to the north and the Bendigo-St. Arnaud Road on the south east. The ground generally slopes downwards towards the south west. On the slopes at the northern end of the site there is a scatter of shallow workings with small heaps of disturbed mullock. On the flatter ground towards the south west corner there is a dam and raceway (the Wilson Hill Channel) and several features which all appear to relate to 1930s cyaniding operations. These include: a small mound containing at least four circular concrete cyanide vats; eight concrete pads for a water tank; and a large, partly quarried dump near the Bendigo-St. Arnaud road. Close to the northern boundary of the reserve there is a scatter of brick and stone rubble which may indicate a house or battery site.

The mullock heaps are very weathered and many have also been damaged by trail bikes.

**History**

Period of activity: 1867-1884; 1895-1906; 1912-1913; 1931. During the first phase there were many parties/companies in operation: Simpson/Norwich (1867-1872), Wilson (1867-1884), McKay (1867), Duke of Edinburgh (1867), Try Again Company (1867), Gray and Company (1867), Anderson and Company (1867), McKenzie and Gray (1867), McDowell and party (1867), Moore and Company (1868), Inverness Company (1868-1873), Bullock Creek Company (1870-1872), Pride of Marong (1871-1872), Laird of Lorne (1871), Kent Tribute Company (1871-1875), Wilson's Extended Tribute Company (1871-1873), Sailor Prince Company (1871), Homeward Bound Company (1871), Nonpareil Company (1871), Banana Company (1871), Prince Charlie Company (1871) and Star of the East (1872-1873).

Line of reef: Wilson's, Duke of Edinburgh, Simpson's, Prince Charlie

Maximum recorded annual production: unknown

Total production: unknown

Deepest working level: 460 feet

Deepest shaft: 610 feet (below water level)

**Thematic Context**

Mining

**Comparative Examples**

The reef workings in this area were to the settlements of Wilsons reef and Marong what the Nil Desperandum and Frederick the Great were to Raywood and Sebastian respectively.

There are five other cyanide works sites within the study area. These are: Gold...
Dumps (Moon Reef), Devonshire Sand, Frederick the Great, Old Tom Reef and Shamrock. All are from the 1930's period of mining on Bendigo and therefore relate to the second phase of cyaniding in Victoria. There are no sites in the study area which belong to the first phase of cyaniding, prior to 1914.

**Statement of Significance**
The site is associated with the discovery of gold in the Marong area in 1867 and also with the small-scale re-treatment of tailings by the cyanide process, representing the last phase of mining on Wilson's Hill (criterion A). The site is representative of the smaller cyaniding sites in the study area (criterion D) and has the potential for education and interpretation about this and earlier phases of mining in the area as part of Wilson's Hill Bushland Reserve (criterion C).

**Level of Significance**
Regional

**Recommendation**
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, further historical and archaeological work should be undertaken in an effort to distinguish the various lines of reef and the approximate location of the various parties/companies which worked in the area and their machinery sites.

The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

**Heritage Boundaries**
The approximately triangular site is bounded on the south-east by the Bendigo-St Arnaud Road, on the north by Wilson Reef Road and on the west by private property boundaries and is identical with the area occupied by the Wilson Hill Bushland Reserve.

**References**
2. "Mining intelligence. The reefs at Bullock Creek." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 October 1867, p2, col.6.
5. "The rush at Bullock Creek." From our own Correspondent, Saturday, 19 October, The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 22 October 1867, p2, col.6.
7. "The new rush at Bullock Creek." From our Correspondent, Saturday, 26 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 28 October 1867, p2, col.6.
10. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
11. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
12. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
14. "The rush at Bullock Creek." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 21 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 22 October 1867, p2, col.6.
27. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 8 July 1871, p2, col.5.
30. "Mining company meetings. Norwich Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 August 1871, p6, col.2.
37. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 12 September 1871, p2, col.5.
42. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 15 September 1871, p2, col.6.
45. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 26 September 1871, p2, col.5.
83. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 26 September 1876, p3, col.3.
85. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 3 November 1876, p4, col.2.
86. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 29 November 1898, p4, col.1.
89. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 December 1899, p4, col.2.
105. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.
108. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.
112. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
114. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.

Notes

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BLACK ROCK FLAT MINES AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

Location      Parcel No.P123422, Kamarooka State Forest, east side of Black Rock Road, Black Rock Reef, Whipstick
Map Reference Summerfield 1:25,000 - BV570.478

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description On the west side of a 300 metre-long outcrop of black rock is a line of small mullock paddocks. Also a patch of alluvial sinking.

History Period of activity: 1857-1879+
Line of reef: Austrian/Black Rock
Maximum recorded annual production: 180ozs obtained from 157 tons
Total production: 306ozs obtained from 274 tons
Deepest working level: 100 feet
Deepest shaft: unknown, but probably above water level

Thematic Context Mining

Comparative Examples The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Wallace (1856-1906), Sandfly (1857-1890), Elliott (1858-1889), Barkly (1857-1951), Shamrock (1862-1881), Unfortunate Bolle’s (1862-1865) and Apollo Hill (1864-1887). The sites on Black Rock Flat are unusual because they are have remained undisturbed by deeper level mining, sluicing or cyaniding.

Statement of Significance The site contains representative examples of shallow alluvial and reef workings of a type found at many other sites within the study area.

Level of Significance None

Recommendation

Heritage Boundaries Not relevant

4. “Mining intelligence. The new rush to the Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 16 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 18 August 1858.
5. “Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 27 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 26 August 1858.
8. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.
9. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, Wednesday, 6 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 7 June 1866.
10. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 18 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 June 1866.
11. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Tuesday, 3 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 July 1866.
14. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
15. “Mining meetings. Austrian Mining Company (Registered).” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 8 January 1870.
17. “Alluvial gold at the Whipstick.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 23 August 1879, 2, col.6.

Notes

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

03.06.1857: I visited yesterday the new rush or what is commonly called Dead Man's Gully. It is situate in the scrub, about eight miles from the Whipstick Diggings, and is reached by going along the new line of road from Moorehead's Reef for about five miles, and then diverging off the road into the bush to the right in an east by north direction, for about three miles. ... The new branch road that strikes off at right angles 3 miles on the main (north and south) road, and running between 2 and 3 miles in an east by south direction, opens up one of the most wild and picturesquely grand scrub countries that could be well conceived. The road passes close to the "black rock", a formation of the most fantastic form and singularly diversified character. It consists of huge colossal masses of a sort of decomposed granite intersected with veins or strata of a vitrified conglomerate of felspar. ...

[We beg to call the attention of our correspondent to the fact, that the gully designated by him "Dead Man's" has been named by the Resident Warden after its discoverer, Phillip's Gully, in order to distinguish it from another locality in the neighbourhood known as Dead Man's. Editor] [71]
14.11.1857: Mining operations, generally speaking, at the Whipstick have assumed a somewhat healthier aspect, during the past week than for many months previous, and it would appear as if things were beginning to look up amongst the tub and cradle men. Whether this is to be attributed to the recent supply of water (which, by the bye, is fast disappearing) or to the unusual good luck in nugget finding, it is hard to say; but one thing is certain, gold has been more plentiful, and money consequently more profuse, this week than for some time hitherto.

Several parties within the last ten days have moved out to some new ground in the vicinity of the Dead Man's Hut, and in close proximity to Mr. Mount's property, where prospecting operations on a limited scale have for some time past been practically carried on, and it would appear with partial success, for it is said on reliable authority that more than one hole is paying and paying well. [101]
11.08.1858: Elysian Flat. We have received a report of a rush at the Whipstick. Our accounts are of a very favourable character, it being stated that
gold is procurable by trying a dishful of dirt at any part of a locality which has hitherto been terra incognito to any but the fortunate few who had been "doing it on the quiet". These new diggings are about six miles to the north north east of Flagstaff Hill, a large population has already gathered about the locale of the rush. Water is plentiful about the old workings, and all the dams are well filled. Our Whipstick correspondent appears to refer to the locality in his remarks about the prospectors. [172]

18. 08.1858: I made much fruitless inquiry at Elysian Flat concerning this new rush, where comparatively few persons either knew or have heard anything whatever about it (?) - and what is better, they do not care to hear about it, so far as leaving the claims now being worked is concerned. By dint of certain bush tracks, however, I managed to reach what is called the new rush, and found the ground occupied by some 300 men, most of whom have obtained more or less encouraging results, although a pennyweight to the dish is among the heaviest yields coming under personal notice. The prospecting party that caused the rush seems to have been the most fortunate. One of their claims is said to have washed half an ounce to the tub. The sinking is shallow, and not harder than most of the Elysian Flat holes. The bottoms are pipeclay, or rather sandstone with pipeclay pockets, and very much resemble Phillip's Gully, from which place it is only a few miles distant, lying about midway between that gully and Elysian Flat, and in the immediate vicinity of the Black Rock on the original cut road which intersects the main Elysian Flat road at right angles; about a mile from the turn off to Elysian Flat. It will be observed that the locality of this rush is in a totally opposite direction to Elysian Flat, being considerably to the east of that goldfield; and the country so far from being of the level character peculiar to Elysian Flat, is quite the reverse, being undulating and hilly, and abounding in gullies, most of them having water-worn tracks, heavy flood marks and landscaarp indentations, and, for the most part, covered with tall ferns and mallee scrub, with intervals of box timbered plains and scrub bound flats. As there is as yet no beaten track to the place, and even several old Whipstickians have been disappointed in finding it, it behoves all new chums and fresh arrivals anxious to visit this new locality to look sharp as to what directions they may receive from persons acquainted with the route.... [176]

26. 08.1858: The new rush between this and Elysian Flat still continues to go ahead, and diggers from far and near may be seen running to and fro ready for a "go in" at this newly discovered locality, where there cannot be fewer than 400 men now at work, and all apparently getting gold more or less remuneratively; one or two branch stores from Elysian Flat have been observed in transit and course of erection with the last few days, and merry ring of the blacksmith's anvil floats on the ambient air, and the rush, although of only a few days growth, is rapidly advancing in development (so far as the opening of the ground is concerned), and assuming an old established appearance. It is said that gold is being got in remunerative proportions, and "rare strokes" are said to be doing in more than one or two golden holes in this rush, yet as no ocular proof has been obtained in confirmation of these current rumours, it would, of course, be imprudent to quote them as bona fide results. I can state, however, from eye-witness and reliable information that 12, 15 and in one instance 24dwt to the tub, have been washed out of several claims here, and some of the piled up washdirt is at present running from one to 3 or 4ozs to the load; while, on the other hand, there is the usual quota of duffers and shicers, and some of them vexaciously hard ones too! The want of water is a sad drawback here, none being available nearer than Elysian Flat and its suburbs. The ground here offers natural facilities for conserving water on a large scale that will, no doubt, be embraced and made available in course of some time. ... [177]
the outside of the stone. There is little doubt of it turning out a good ref. Mr Hart informs us that in going through the bush to make the above survey, he observed numerous outcrops which would, no doubt, if prospected, be found of an auriferous character, if sufficient enterprise could be encouraged to take a few prospectors into these comparatively untried ranges. ... [485]

20.12.1865: A new reef, writes our Raywood correspondent, was opened about 3 weeks ago in the Whipstick, at a place called the Black Rock, from which 4 tons of stone were crushed at the Caledonian engine, Epsom, on Friday last, and yielded the handsome return of 14ozs 4dwt, or 3ozs 11dwt per ton. The reef is 2 miles due east from the Shamrock Hotel, Elysian Flat. The lucky prospectors have named it the Austrian Reef, one of them being a native of that country. I paid a visit to the reef this morning, and saw gold very plainly in a great number of the stones lying about the claim; and although most of the stone crushed was got from the surface, the prospectors have sunk a shaft 20 feet in depth, from which they have obtained richer looking stone than that already crushed. [531]

20.12.1865: Austrian Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 14ozs 7dwt obtained from 4 tons of stone. [16.53-54]

20.12.1865: Four prospecting ... claims have been registered: ... namely, the Lance Reef Prospecting Claim, Black Rock Prospecting Claim, Masonic Prospecting Claim and Austrian Prospecting Claim. [16.53-54]

03.1866: Austrian Reef, No.3 North, Whipstick: 16ozs 18dwt obtained from 13 tons of stone. [16.51-52]

Austrian Prospecting Company, Whipstick: 14ozs 4dwt obtained from 4 tons of stone. [16.51-52]

Austrian Reef, No.2 North, Whipstick: 12ozs 2dwt obtained from 22 tons of stone. [16.51-52]

07.06.1866: ... the Austrian, the Hope and Manly's reefs (are) all raising great quantities of stone. [316]

19.06.1866: A prospecting quartz claim, situated in the Whipstick, about midway between the Austrian and the Hope reefs, was granted on the 15th instant to a party named Child, Wing and Harding, who stated they had found gold on the surface, and in the stone, for a length of 60 feet. This is the fourth reef, all within a mile of each other, that has been discovered since the beginning of last summer, or since the bush fires destroyed the scrub, namely, the Austrian, the Black Rock, the Hope, and the one above mentioned, which the discoverers have named the Welney Reef. A fine crushing of 7 tons of stone from the Black Rock Reef, yielded 1ozs 7dwts per ton. [318]

06.1866: Austrian Reef, Whipstick: 66ozs 5dwt obtained from 55 tons of stone at 25 feet, 9ozs 18dwt obtained from 22 tons of stone at 25 feet, and 5ozs 4dwt obtained from 13 tons of stone at 30 feet. [16.48-50]

06.1866: Black Rock Reef Company, Whipstick: 56ozs obtained from 28 tons of stone at 60 feet. [16.48-50]

06.1866: The Austrian is about four miles nearer the township of Neilborough, commonly called Elysian Flat; there are only two claims at present at work, the prospectors' and another. I obtained a small specimen; the shaft is only 30 feet deep, and the yield about an average of 1oz to the ton; the other, 12dwt. The Black Rock is about a quarter of a mile to the east; the first crushing from this reef has only just taken place, and yielded 2ozs to the ton; the shaft is 60 feet deep; the gold is from the surface, but the vein is thin. [16.48-50]

07.06.1866: A first crushing of 28 tons of stone from the Black Rock Reef gave 2ozs per ton. ... 22 tons from the Austrian Reef yielded 9ozs 18dwt. [321]

12.1866: Barkly, Manly, Hope and Austrian Reefs, Elysian Flat: 148ozs 10dwt obtained from 170 tons of stone at between 60 and 100 feet. [16.45-46]

09.1869: Austrian Company, Whipstick: 30ozs obtained from 25 tons of stone at 20 feet. [16.34-35]

09.1869: The reefs in the neighbourhood of Elysian Flat and Whipstick show signs of improvement, the Austrian Company on the Whipstick getting a return of 30ozs to 25 tons of stone. [16.34-35]

22.11.1869: The Austrian Company in the Whipstick are looking very well at present. The stone they are working in the Whipstick, which they thought a flat
spur, has turned down, from whence they infer it is the leg of the reef; it shows
gold splendidly. The eastern stone goes down like a wall and shows fairly. This
company has a lease of 23 acres in 20,000 shares. [581]
24.12.1869: Austrian Gold Mining Company (registered) - the manager (Mr C.
J. Brown) reports that 45 tons of stone has been crushed for 360zs 17dwt of
gold. The stone has been taken from the — foot level and winze. The drive
south on the eastern stone has been extended 26 feet from shaft. The western
stone is running nearly flat in rising on it; both look very promising under foot.
[582]
[12.1869: Austrian Company, Elysian Flat: 690zs obtained from 71 tons of
stone on the surface. [11]
[01.1870: Austrian Mining Company (Registered). The ordinary half-yearly
meeting of shareholders was held yesterday ... Directors’ Report - Up to July of the present year the workings were confined to
the northern end of our ground where the stone had formerly been worked to a
depth of 100 feet; but the stone was not found to be payable, although yielding
between 6 and 7dwt to the ton, owing to the heavy charges for carrying and
crushing. We then commenced prospecting the southern end of the ground
with far better results, a first crushing obtained from stone within 20 feet of the
surface averaged 1ozs 5dwt to the ton. We have since sunk a shaft 50 feet and
driven in upon the stone with most encouraging prospects, besides striking a
spur, in sinking, which also will yield well. We have driven along the stone 30
feet south and 15 feet north, and from 45 tons obtained the yield of 360zs
17dwt. The stone is about 3 feet thick, and has a well-defined back and looks
fully as well underfoot. We have instructed the mining manager to sink the shaft
another 50 feet for the purpose of testing the reef at a greater depth, and if the
stone should prove as remunerative as above it would be a question whether it
would not be for the interests of the company to erect crushing machinery on the
ground, and fido away with the present heavy expense of carting and crushing.
... [398]
15.07.1870: Austrian Company (registered) - The half yearly meeting of this
company was held ... on Tuesday. ... Mining manager’s report - I beg to report that during the past half-year a great
amount of permanent work has been done. The main shaft has been sunk 56
feet, a plat cut out and timbered at the 50 foot level, a main drive has been
driven 28 feet to the west and 8 feet to the east. At the 130 foot level a winze
shaft has been sunk 52 feet on the western stone, 12 feet from the main shaft,
at the 50 foot level, and holed through into the main drive at the bottom level.
From the sinking of this shaft, and short stopes north and south. I have about
90 tons of stone, and have commenced to cart this stone, and if the weather
continues fine I expect to finish crushing about the 20th of this month. A winze
shaft has been sunk 22 feet to the end of some old workings to the north of the
present workings, where we got a lot of poor stone all the way down. A drive
north has been driven on the western stone 34 feet at the 75 foot level for about
half the distance. Some very nice stone has been seen, but at the end the
stone ran off very fine and poor. I had commenced to stope from the backs of
the western stone, when I received instructions from your directors to stop
breaking stone, and continue the north drive at the 75 foot level, which has been
done, and I have also commenced a crosscut to the east from that drive 6 feet
from the end. I expect to get the eastern stone in about 20 or 25 feet. A whip
has been erected over the main shaft. On account of so much permanent work,
and bad roads of late, I have only been able to crush 42 tons during the past half
year, which yielded 430zs of gold. This stone was taken from the south backs
on the eastern stone. ... [585]
23.08.1870: A miner, named F. D. Stephens, called at the Mining Registrar’s
Office, yesterday, and registered a prospecting claim, which is situated on the
Black Rock Flat, 3 miles from Elysian Flat. The ground is alluvial, with 12 feet of
sinking and 4 feet of washdirt, which has averaged 1dwt to the load. The extent
of ground applied for is 150 by 250 feet. The discovery is of some importance,
but the prospect so far obtained is not sufficient to warrant a rush taking place.
[728]
1899. Austrian Reef. A considerable amount of work has been done on this reef both by open cutting and shaft sinking, the main shaft being about 60 feet deep and in a good condition for working. Very little information can be gained respecting this reef, but it is stated to have been very rich in the surface cutting. An underlay shaft was sunk on what appears to be a branch of the reef, and averaged ½ozs to 3dwt per load to a depth of 40 feet. This reef is now abandoned, though it is said that a large reef is to be seen at the bottom of the main shaft, which would average 3dwt per ton. Dark-blue slate and yellowish sandstone is seen on the mullock heaps. Graptolites are to be found in the slates, also what appear to be other fossil remains.

Black Rock Reef. This reef is situated in Black Rock Flat, and has had considerable work done upon it by the sinking of shafts and cuttings. I could not gain any information respecting it, but no doubt gold was found in payable quantities, seeing that so much work has been done. There is also the remains of a small crushing battery to be seen. ... A small area of alluvial workings is seen in the gully to the west of the Black Rock Reef. Graptolites in dark blue slate are to be seen here.

Italian Reef. This reef is situated higher on the same slope as the Tasman Reef, and several shafts have been sunk on it, also an extensive open cutting. No reliable information can be obtained respecting it, only that the original holders got very payable returns from the reef near the surface.

Tasman Reef. This reef was originally worked by open cutting, and taken out for a width of about 3 feet. The surface stone was very rich in places, and averaged as much as 12ozs per load. An underlay shaft was sunk to a depth of 108 feet on the west side of the reef mentioned, in cutting, the reef continuing down to this depth, and at times averaged 2ozs to the load. At 108 feet, what appears to have like a fault came in from the west and formed a junction with the reef, but the stone getting poor at this point no further work was done. The fault itself carried some stone, and this was profitably worked. Another shaft was sunk to a depth of 1200 feet, and a cross cut east intersected the reef previously worked in the cutting, and though the reef is from one foot 6 inches to 2 feet wide, it is not payable under present conditions. There seem to be an excellent prospect in this mine, and it appears strange that the work was not continued to ascertain what remained below the junction of the reef and fault mentioned above.

Stephen's claim. Some 200 yards north east of the Tasman Reef and still further down the slope of the hill, Stephen and party have been working on a very strong body of stone. Two shafts about 30 feet deep each and an open cut were put down on the reef, from which a crushing was taken, and averaged over 3dwt, but a subsequent crushing only averaged 1½dwt. This reef, I think, is the continuation north of the Trevillick Reef.

Trevillick Reef. This reef is situated about 25 chains south east of Tasman Reef, and was opened about 1876 by a Mr Nancarrow. It was worked along its course by open cutting for a distance of 260 feet, and averaged about 8dwt per load. A shaft was sunk slightly to the east of the reef, which was cut at 50 feet, but averaging only 3dwt, it could not be profitably worked. A shaft is being at present sunk on the southern continuation of the reef, and a crushing is being taken out, the stone showing a fair prospect. The Tasman, Trevillick, Austrian and Italian reefs are within a radius of 20 chains, and the crowns and slopes of the hills on which they are situate are intersected by many reef outcrops which invariably carry gold. The surface soil also carries gold, and with water convenient the whole of the surface in this locality might be sluiced with profit. [41]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BLACK ROCK ROAD EUCALYPTUS DISTILLERY

Other Names

Location Freehold Land, 400 metres north of Black Rock Reef, west side of Black Rock Road, Whipstick

Map Reference Summerfield 1:25,000 - BV570.486

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description In-situ 3-pass Cornish boiler, 6 feet diameter and 19½ feet long, with an offset flue 3 feet in diameter. The date of its last inspection - 20-12-1939 - and the maker's name - Hampton and Halliday, Engineers, Footscray - is cast on the furnace end of the boiler. At the east end of the boiler is a square brick chimney base and a collapsed iron stack made from the fire tube of a Cornish boiler with Galloway tubes. Nearby is an intact crane (constructed of bush timber) positioned above two circular, 7 foot diameter brick vats. A brick-lined drain leads from the vats to a long brick condensing pit. There are two shallow dams nearby.

History Period of activity: Inspector’s stamp on the boiler suggests the distillery was operating in 1939.

Thematic Context Rural Industry

Comparative Examples There are six other eucalyptus distillery sites identified within the study area: Blandford Road (c.1900-1920+), Pierce’s (1911-1998+), Flett’s (1921-1980), Hartland’s Loeser Road (c.1930-1940+), Hartland’s Neilborough East Road (c.1930-1940+), Black Rock Road (c.1939) and Coles’ (c.1940). These sites display a range of intactness from Pierce’s, which is operational, and Flett’s, which is disused but essentially intact, to Blandford Road and Hartland’s Neilborough East Road where all the plant, machinery and equipment has been removed.

Statement of Significance The site contains a rare example of a Cornish boiler with an offset flue (criterion B), displays a representative collection of plant, machinery and equipment (criterion D) and by its proximity to Black Rock Road and eucalyptus thickets has potential for illustrating aspects of the eucalyptus distilling industry (criterion C).

Level of Significance Local

Recommendation The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries The essentially square site is bounded on the east by Black Rock Road and on the south by the eastern extension of Palmer Road and extends northwards from this road and westwards from Black Rock Road for a distance of 100 metres.
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BLANDFORD ROAD EUCALYPTUS DISTILLERY

Other Names

Location  Parcel No. P123420, Kamarooka State Forest, junction of Black Rock and Blandford roads, Whipstick

Map Reference  Parcel No. P123420, Kamarooka State Forest, junction of Black Rock and Blandford roads, Whipstick

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description  On the east side of a dam is the site of an early eucalyptus distillery. Local historian, W. Perry, remembers seeing two wooden, barrel-shaped vats on the site, c.1930. Little of this survived by 1992, except for a section of 1-inch diameter water pipe, protruding from a depression. Even this was not visible in 1998.

History  Period of activity: c.1900 to 1920s. [1]

Thematic Context  Rural Industry

Comparative Examples  There are six other eucalyptus distillery sites identified within the study area: Blandford Road (c.1900-1920+), Pierce’s (1911-1998+), Flett’s (1921-1980), Hartland’s Loeser Road (c.1930-1940+), Hartland’s Neilborough East Road (c.1930-1940+), Black Rock Road (c.1939) and Coles’ (c.1940). These sites display a range of intactness from Pierce’s, which is operational, and Flett’s, which is disused but essentially intact, to Blandford Road and Hartland’s Neilborough East Road where all the plant, machinery and equipment has been removed.

Statement of Significance  The site has little historical or scientific significance.

Level of Significance  None

Recommendation  None

Heritage Boundaries  None

References  1. Personal communication, W. Perry to David Bannear, 1992.

Notes  Nothing found at the site which was found to be thickly overgrown with young eucalyptus trees.

Assessed by  David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
**City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites**

**CENTRAL NEW MOON MINE**

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<tr>
<th>Other Names</th>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victorian Heritage Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Estate Register</td>
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<td>Planning Scheme</td>
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**Description**
Small, intact mullock heap and dry dam.

**History**
- **Period of activity:** 1905 - 1910
- **Line of reef:** Moon/Garden Gully
- **Maximum recorded annual production:** unknown
- **Total production:** unknown
- **Deepest working level:** 350 feet
- **Deepest shaft:** 354 feet (below water level)

**Thematic Context**
Mining

**Comparative Examples**
The site is one of a number at the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef which were unproductive and economically insignificant (e.g. Adelaide New Moon and Full Moon). There are several other earlier, better preserved and more representative medium-level low-production mine sites elsewhere in the study area, namely: Old Tom Reef (1857-1900), Frühling Reef (1860-1931), Lancashire Reef (1865-1907) and King of Prussia (1871-1885).

**Statement of Significance**
The site has no significance.

**Level of Significance**
None

**Recommendation**
None

**Heritage Boundaries**
None

**References**

**Notes**
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

**Chronology**
- **1905:** Central New Moon Company:- This is also a new mine, where operations have been commenced by opening a shaft 10 feet by 4 feet, which has been put down 168 feet. It employs three men. [1.117]
- **1906:** At the Central New Moon Company’s mine a new winding plant has been erected; the shaft is 296 feet deep; 18 men were employed. [1.126]
- **1910:** After a prolonged term of idleness, the Central New Moon Company commenced baling, and the shaft has been unwatered; its present depth is 354 feet.
feet. When the well is completed the company intend opening out at 350 feet. The water has been very heavy. [2.134]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

CHRISTOFF REEF MINES

Other Names  Christopher Reef, Chyrstoff Reef, Christophe Reef
Location  Parcel No. P127150, State Forest, west of Loeser Road, in Splitters Gully, Whipstick
Map Reference  Epsom 1:25,000 - BV576.366

Description  Extending in a north-north-westerly direction from a forest track towards Adelaide Hill, there is a line of small mullock heaps which have been partially bulldozed to fill shafts. Near the northern end of the line of workings is a larger mullock heap. No evidence of an associated machinery site was found with this heap, but near a dry dam south of the heap is a deposit of battery sand. West of the central group of mullock heaps are several large cacti, suggesting the former site of a garden and house.

History  Period of activity: 1856-1866, 1879-1898
Line of reef: Elliott/Christoff, Bullock Gully
Maximum recorded annual production: 1111ozs obtained from 817 tons in 1887
Total production: 1557ozs obtained from 1505 tons between 1886 and 1889
Deepest working level: 118 feet
Deepest shaft: 218 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Wallace (1856-1906), Black Rock (1857-1879), Sandfly (1857-1890), Barkly (1857-1951), Elliott (1858-1889), Unfortunate Bolle's (1862-1865), Shamrock (1862-1881), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

Statement of Significance  The site is representative of some relatively undisturbed shallow-level low-production quartz workings chiefly from the period 1886-1889 (criterion D) and was one of a number of sites in the study area worked in the 1880s with money provided from the prospecting vote (criterion A).

Level of Significance  Local

Recommendation  The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites and should be included as a significant sub-area within the proposed Splitters Gully Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries  The Splitters Gully Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Simpsons Road, on the east by Loeser Road northwards as far as the first gully north-east of Apollo Hill, on the north by this gully as far as 100 metres east of the leftmost branch of Splitters Gully, on the east by a line 100 metres east of the leftmost branch of this gully to Splitters Gully Track, on the south by this track as far as
its intersection with Loeser Road, on the east by Loeser Road northwards as far as its intersection with a cross track, on the north east by a line from this intersection to the summit of Adelaide Hill, on the west by the line of the second gully west from Adelaide Hill extended across the right branch of Splitters Gully to Splitters Gully Track and thence along a line 100 metres west of the leftmost branch of Splitters Gully southwards to the head of the first gully west of Apollo Hill, and finally along a line 100 metres west of this gully to Simpsons Road.

References
2. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
6. “Elmore notes.” From our own Reporter, Wednesday, 15 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 16 October 1879, p2, col.5.
7. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
8. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
18. “Mining in the Whipstick.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 13 August 1887, p6, col.1/2.
20. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.
23. “Mining in the Whipstick.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 29 April 1895, p4, col.3.
24. The Bendigo Advertiser, 1 August 1896.
28. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.

Notes
Splitters Gully Track is the title given to an unnamed track which connects Loeser Road to the Eaglehawk-Neilborough Road generally in a south-westerly direction along the main left branch of Splitters Gully.
The main period of activity was between 1879 and 1889. In 1887 on Christoff Reef there were at least these ten claims/leases (from north to south): Morning Light (100 yards), Rohan and Fitzpatrick, Davies, E. Siler and mate (100 yards), W. Siler and mate (100 yards), Bachyths, Hodge and Bogunda/Bachyths and Company (200 yards), Highmore and Johnson, Salvation Army (Miller, James and Company), Bogunda and Oppossum; a distance of at least 1100 yards.

The main workings were those of W. Siler and mate and Bachyths and Company. On the Bullock Gully line further west, at the same time, there were at least four claims/leases (from north to south): Jubilee (Robbins)(400 yards), Little Nell, C. Robbins and Company and Dauntless.

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

03.1856: That busy gentleman “rumour” has been circulating the report of a large amount of gold being found in the Whipstick, but is unfortunately smacked of the “German” too much to be accredited. I was however credibly informed that a number were working near Adelaide Hill, with what success is not known. [1]

☐ 09.1864: Christophe Reef: 7 miners at work. Dublin Reef: 10 miners at work.
Adelaide reef: 3 miners at work. [2, 29.37-40]
☐ 12.1864: Christophe Reef: 8 miners at work. Dublin Reef: 14 miners at work.
Adelaide reef: 4 miners at work. [2, 29.39-42]
☐ 03.1865: Christophe Reef: 2 miners at work. Dublin Reef: 14 miners at work.
Adelaide reef: 4 miners at work. [2, 29.42-44]
☐ 06.1865: Christophe Reef: 2 miners at work. Dublin Reef: 6 miners at work.
Adelaide reef: 4 miners at work. [2, 29.43-44]
☐ 09.1865: Christophe Reef: 4 miners at work. Dublin Reef: 4 miners at work.
Adelaide reef: 4 miners at work. [2, 29.47-49]
☐ 12.1865: Christophe Reef: 6 miners at work.
Adelaide reef: 2 miners at work. [2, 29.45-46]
☐ 03.1866: Christophe Reef: 3 miners at work. [2, 29.44-45]
☐ 29.09.1879: Within the past few days several parties from Eaglehawk and Sandhurst have visited the Whipstick with the object of pegging out ground in that locality, consequent upon a report that a good reef had been found by 2 men, who are reported to have obtained an excellent yield from a trial crushing. Some reticence is maintained as to the precise locality where the prospect was obtained, and it is said to be situated in the Whipstick scrub, about 2½ miles from Eaglehawk, and a mile to the east of the Red Jacket. The difficulty of finding the place may be guessed, when a party of gentlemen from Eaglehawk, who were proceeding to the place for the purpose of pegging out some ground, and who were pretty well acquainted with the locality, drove about for a couple of hours, and could not find the exact spot, although they were within half a mile of it nearly all the time. From the particulars that we could glean it appears that the party is composed of a man named “Black George” and another man, who have been prospecting in the locality for a number of years. The reef, which is from 12 to 15 inches thick, shows gold pretty freely, and same to be well-defined, and a trial crushing of 4 tons gave a yield of 2ozs 8dwt 6 grains of gold, and as the stone is easily obtained, having been struck in a drive of an old shaft 50 feet from the surface, this yield ought to prove remunerative. There are other old shafts on the ground, but at present beyond some claims pegged out, there are no other operations being carried on. It will be observed by the notes from Elmore forwarded by our reporter that some excitement has been created in that township by the discovery of another reef, which is said to show gold. [3]

29.09.1879: The township of Elmore, or several of its leading residents, at least, have been touched by the gold fever. There has been quite a stir in the
neighbourhood during the past few days in consequence of a report that a gold-bearing reef has been found by a couple of the residents of the district in the Whipstick scrub, about 17 miles from the township, on the Whipstick side of the railway line. The locality is about 4 miles from the residence of Mr Warren, ranger of the Kamarooka Forest. It appears that a man named Blanchin, has with his son been prospecting in the scrub during the past few weeks, and on Thursday or Friday last came across a surface reef, about 2½ feet thick, with the appearance of which he was much impressed. He communicated his discovery to a friend, named Sufferan, who has had some experience in quartz mining, and the latter put a shot into the stone about 2 feet from the surface, and found that it contained gold. Specimens were brought into the township and shown to various people, all of whom apparently were immensely pleased. ... [4]

02.10.1879: Our Huntly correspondent writes:- on Tuesday I paid a visit to the rush at the Whipstick, referred to in your Elmore notes on Monday. The reef is being opened up as reported in your paper of Monday last, and the ground has been marked off on each side of the prospectors for some considerable distance, but no work is being done of any consequence by any party except the original party. They are busily engaged in sinking in the reef, and feel sanguine that it will pay well. While I was on the ground the prospectors let off a blast, and in some of the stone that was taken up I found several fine specks of gold, in fact, there was gold, although very fine, in nearly all the stone taken out. The prospectors expect soon to have a trial crushing ready. [5]

16.10.1879: The rush at the Whipstick scrub still creates a deal of interest in the township. The prospect is stated to be about the same as previously, gold being frequently seen in the stone broken. The first crushing is expected to take place in about a fortnight's time. ... [6]

09.1880: In alluvial mining payable gold has been found in 50-feet sinking in private ground, near Adelaide Hill, about seven miles north of Sandhurst. A great rush took place, and an immense number of claims were marked out; many of them have been abandoned, but a good number are still being worked with profitable results. Several puddling machines have been erected in the vicinity. In connection with the washdirt, a quantity of cement carrying payable gold is found, which has to be carted a distance of about four miles to crush. It is thought that the lead will find its outlet in the Lower Huntly lead. [7:31-32]

12.1880: The alluvial diggings at Adelaide Hill have been almost deserted, but there are three or four claims which will prove payable. [8:31]

09.04.1886: Our Melbourne correspondent writes - The Mining Department has received from Mining Surveyor O'Dwyer a report for the month of the operations of the Eaglehawk Prospecting Association. ... Bachyths and Company, Christopher Reef, has passed through several spurs of gold. ... [10]

07.1886: The Borough Prospecting Committee ... paid their usual monthly visit to the claims in the vicinity of the Whipstick today. The Christoff Reef was the first visited. At the 100 foot level that have extended the crosscut 20 feet, the ground is rather hard with ironstone veins and small spurs. They have passed through several spurs but have not seen any signs of gold. It is expected that the reef will be cut through in about 36 feet. [11]

08.1886: ... members of the prospecting Committee visited the various claims at the Whipstick today. The Christoff Reef Company have driven their east crosscut 25 feet during the past four weeks, total 102 feet. Several spurs have been driven through, but no gold has been seen. In about 20 feet more driving they will reach the reef, which is slate country. [12]
09.1886: The Eaglehawk Prospecting Committee ... paid their usual monthly visit of inspection to the Whipstick yesterday. The Christof Reef, which was the first inspected, has been driven 26 feet west. The claim north of them have cut the reef and crushed 17 tons for a yield of 7½dwt to the ton. The company referred to above are now driving north to get into the lava in the same reef, which is distant about 20 feet. They have also sunk the shaft 5 feet, making a total depth of 140 feet from the surface. [13]

10.1886: Christopher Reef, Bachyths and Company. This party commenced to receive subsidy in January 1886. They have sunk shaft 101 feet. At 52 feet drove east 14 feet, at 106 feet drove crosscut to west 30 feet, and east 134 feet; at 120 feet in east drive, passed through a flucan reef with small reef at back of it. About 4 chains north of these workings on line of reef, Siler and Company went into an old shaft to prospect for this reef and found it 25 feet east of the shaft, it is there 3 feet wide. They took out 18 loads of quartz, which yielded 6ozs 16dwt of gold; they are now taking out another crushing, which looks better than the last. Bachyths and Company have been subsidized to the amount of £101 3 shillings. [14]

01.1887: Winding through the scrub the claim of G. Bachyths and Company, on Elliott’s Reef, for which £50 was asked, was next visited. Locally the line is known as the Chyrstof Reef, and is two miles south of the Elliott’s Reef claim. The shaft is down 124 feet, and at 106 feet, they crosscutted 134 feet east and 36 feet west. Here they cut three spurs showing gold, but not payable. They wish to put in a crosscut at the water line 124 feet for the reef. Siler, in the next claim, had half an ounce per ton from a reef 3 feet thick. [15]

07.1887: A very pleasing item comes from the Christoff Reef in the Whipstick - Bachyths and Company, one of the parties subsidized by the Old Eaglehawk Prospecting Board have crushed 30 tons for 46ozs 13dwt of gold. The reef is from 2 to 2½ feet thick. [16]

07.1887: The good returns being obtained at the Whipstick mentioned yesterday, have attracted considerable attention and a large number of claims have been taken up. Our Eaglehawk correspondent writes as follows regarding the same locality. Messrs Bermuda and Company, on the Christoff Reef, Whipstick, have just cleaned up a crushing of 29 loads of stone for a yield of 47ozs of gold. This they obtained at a depth of 60 to 70 feet from the surface. This yield has caused a good deal of excitement in Eaglehawk, and numbers of parties have pegged out claims at the Whipstick and several private companies have been formed. Good returns have been obtained by Siler and Company, north of Bermuda’s. Downie and party on the same line of reef have struck water in their shaft at a depth of 100 feet, and are now crosscutting for the reef on which Bermuda and party are engaged. They are awaiting the result with interest. [17]

07.1887: A good deal of attention has recently been directed to the Whipstick by the excellent yields obtained by Siler and party and Bachyths (better known as “Black George”) and party on the Chyrstof Reef. This reef is situated about 4 or 5 miles beyond Eaglehawk, between Big Hill and Adelaide Hill. A gully runs down from the line of reef, and the extensive character of the old alluvial workings bears ample evidence as to the accuracy of the record of its former richness. It is said that the gold here was exceedingly coarse, and that nuggets, 5, 7 and 9 pounds were amongst the treasures which it yielded. There was every indication that the gold could not have travelled far, and it probably had its source in one of the adjacent reefs. In the locality there are two parallel lines of reef, probably about 100 yards or so apart. They are named the Christoff Reef and the Bullock Gully Reef, the former being the leading one at present. Owing to the recent discoveries it may be interesting to give a few particulars as to the various claims. A large number of leases have been taken up recently and in most of them work has commenced. Though Siler’s and Bachyths’ claims are the leading ones, it may be as well to mentions the claims as they were visited. Starting at the north end the most extreme claim on the Christof Reef belongs to Mr Jabez Robbins of Eaglehawk. This claim also embraces the Bullock Gully Reef, and, as they are working on the latter line it will be noticed in connection with the
other claims on the same line.

Proceeding south upon the Christof Reef we enter upon the Morning Light claim, 100 yards long by 150 wide, held by a private party under miner's rights. They have been working 3 weeks, only one shift of course - and have sunk a shaft, 7 feet by 3 feet 3 inches, a depth of 30 feet. They are doing all their work permanently, and intent to sink to water level, about 130 feet, but will probably crosscut before that for the reef.

Adjoining them is the claim of Rohan and Fitzpatrick, who are at present cutting down their shaft to make room for ladders. In sinking they have cut 5 or 6 spurs, in which a color of gold was seen. They will sink a little further and then cut for the reef.

In the case of “Davies” lease the only representative of the claimholders to be seen was in a most bewildering state of “know-nothingness”, evidently thinking he was being interviewed by a “jumper” or some other horrible personage, disguised as a reporter. Eventually it pleased him to think that the shaft was down 50 or 60 feet and some spurs passed showed a little gold, that they would open out about 80 feet and that the lease was about 125 yards long. The reporter was consoled with the thought that the next time he called “Ike” might be on the surface.

The claim of E. Siler and mate is 100 yards long, and held under miner’s right. The shaft is 120 feet deep, and they are crosscutting west at 70 feet for the reef, which they will shortly reach.

The next claim is one of the leading ones on the line, is 100 yards in length and held under lease by W. Siler and mate. This claim has been paying for 8 or 10 months, and they still have a lot of payable stone to work. The reef is from 2 to 3 feet thick, but at times makes in bulges to 5 or 6 feet; it dips south and underlays west, and there is a well-defined foot wall; a lava runs along the footwall. The bulk of the gold is found not in the reef itself but in the soft casing on the footwall. The returns average from half an ounce up to nearly 2ozs. The last return was 600zs gold from 50 tons, and the previous crushing gave an average of 1ozs 14dwt gold. They will start another crushing today. They have, going south, worked the reef up to within 4 feet of Bachyth’s boundary. The shaft is down 203 feet, but the levels are at 118 feet. There are only three partners in this claim, consequently they are going very well. The stone is very easily got, and the greatest expense is carting.

Adjoining Siler’s on the south is the claim of Bachyths, Hodge and Bogunda. The claim has been extensively worked in the past and has paid pretty well. They hold a lease of 200 yards. Recently they opened up on a body of stone in one of the south shafts at a depth of 218 feet. The stone is sometimes 3 feet thick, but averages 18 inches to 2 feet. The only crushing they have has was a week or two ago, when 30 tons yielded 45ozs of gold. They have some dead work to do, but will take out another crushing in 2 or 3 weeks. This is a different stone to that worked by Siler, as it lies about 10 feet away from the lava. There is a great difference in the reef also. Siler’s stone is of a whitish character, whereas that in Bachyths’ claim is very black and much mixed with ironstone. Bachyth’s party have enough work on hand at present, but by-and-by they will tackle Siler’s reef, where the latter squared up to the boundary. Siler’s reef will, however, probably dip under the water level before it gets far into Bachyth’s claim, and as this will necessitate machinery, a public company will probably be floated to provide the capital.

South of this a large number of leases have been taken up, but most of them are only in a prospecting stage at present. Highmore and Johnson have sunk to 112 feet, and are crosscutting for the reef. Miller, James and Company (known as the Salvation Army claim) are sinking, and the same remark applies to Bogunda’s claim, the Oppossum, and others south.

Coming back to the original starting point at the north, for the purpose of having a look at the Bullock Gully line, we find Robbin’s Jubilee claim, which, as before stated, takes in both lines. They have 300 yards on the Chrystof line and 400 or 500 yards on the Bullock Gully line. They are at present repairing the workings of an old shaft, which is down 218 feet. They are opening out at 110 feet and expect shortly to be in full swing. They have some nice spurs running into the
main reef. This claim is said to have been rich when worked 28 years ago, but
the water proved too strong for the horses then employed.
Next south is the “Little Nell”. They recently cut some spurs showing gold near
the surface. They dipped north and west and consequently they started to sink
another shaft to catch them deeper, and see what they make into. They are
now meeting with promising looking spurs. The claim is held under miner’s right.
The next claim is held under miner’s right by C. Robbins and Company and a
new shaft is being sunk.
There is then a blank on this line for some distance, until the Dauntless claim
almost abreast of the Salvation Army. They are sinking a shaft, and meeting
with a few spurs.
All the quartz crushed in this locality is taken to the Virginia crushing machine at
Eaglehawk. However, there is to be erected shortly a crushing machine a mile
and a half or two miles north, which will be much nearer. This Elliott’s Reef, by
the way, is supposed to be a continuation of the Chrystoff Reef. There are
several claim at work on the Elliott’s Reef.
Mr W. H. Grainger, inspector of mines, recently inspected the mines about
Chrystof Reef, and ordered all the claimholders to place ladders in their shafts.
This caused some commotion among the mine owners, who consider it a
restriction upon prospecting, as the ladders, they say, cost as much as sinking
almost. However, the inspector is only carrying out the law. [18]

09.1887 Prospectus of the Nil Desperandum Company, Christoph Reef,
Whipstick.
This claim is situated on the Christoph Reef, Whipstick, about 3 miles north east
of the Borough of Eaglehawk, and in the early days of the diggings was
celebrated for its rich alluvial deposits, and latterly has every appearance of
opening out a rich field of quartz reefs.
The proprietors of the above claim have held it for many years. About 2 years
ago, they applied for some assistance from the Eaglehawk Prospecting
Committee, which was granted long enough to enable them to complete the
sinking of their shaft - then down a considerable depth. After the shaft was
finished to the required depth, they drove an eastern crosscut, where they
passed through a small reef showing gold.
While this work was being done, Siler and Company (to the north) struck the
reef shallower which induced Bachyths and Company to also go to a higher
level and try for the reef, where at 70 feet they were successful in getting it. The
first crushing from this stone of 30 small loads yielded 460zs 13dwt of gold.
They have since broken about 20 tons more, which looks better than the first lot,
and are now raising stone for a much larger crushing. Prior to this reef being
found, the present proprietors had crushed from other surface runs a large
quantity of stone, some of which was very rich.
Siler and Company, on their north boundary, put through a crushing lately of 70
tons for a yield of 235ozs 16dwts of gold; thus in all, since they cut the reef,
have crushed 412 tons for a yield of 511ozs of gold.
It will therefore be seen that as Bachyths and Company are working at least 160
feet from their north boundary, in addition to the full length of the lease south,
which is 200 yards along the line of reef, there is a large quantity of good ground
to work, and taking what has been crushed from the two mines up to the present
as a test of the quality of the stone, it is fair to suppose that very good yields
may be expected from their mine.
The proprietors therefore (some of whom intend to visit the old country), have,
with a view of working the mine to better advantage, determined to put it into a
Registered Company..... [19]
09.1887 Lease No.5656 for 3 acres 0 roods and 17 perches and 2 men
granted on 19 September to William F. Siler and Company in the Whipstick. [2]
09.1887 Siler and Company, Christoph Reef: 295ozs 19dwt obtained from
120 tons of stone at between the surface and 120 feet. [20]
09.1887 One of the most important events of the quarter has been the
opening up of a lot of payable stone on the Chrystof Reef, from which Siler and
Company and Bachyths and Company have obtained excellent yields. This reef
lies in the Whipstick Scrub, three or four miles from Eaglehawk. A lot of leases
have been taken up, and should the yields continue the result will be the opening up of a large tract of hitherto undeveloped country. [8.22-23]

17.12.1887 - A report reached town last evening that E. Siler and Company (whose claim lies north of Siler and Crameri, and also of Bachyths and Company - both of which latter have been getting fair yields lately) have cut stone showing fair gold. This makes four claims at the Christoph Reef, Whipstick, getting gold. [21]

- 12.1887 - Lease No.5687 for 7 acres 0 roods and 32 perches and 4 men granted on 12 December to George Bachyths and others on Christoph Reef. [2]
- 12.1887 - Siler and Company, Christoph Reef: 840zs 2dwt obtained from 84 tons of stone at 118 feet. [20]
- 12.1887 - At the Christoph Reef good payable yields have been obtained by Siler and Company, and Bachyths and Company, and several other claims are on gold. [8.21-22]
- 12.1887 - Bachyths and Company, Whipstick: 1760zs obtained from 171 tons of stone at 66 feet. [20]
- 06.1888 - Bachyths and Company, Whipstick: 640zs 15dwt obtained from 101 tons of stone at 70 feet. [20]
- 06.1888 - At Whipsticks, payable yields are still being obtained in one or two claims, notably that of Bachyths and Company. [8.19]
- 09.1888 - Bachyths and Company, Christoph Reef: 1480zs 19dwt obtained from 165 tons of stone at 70 feet. [20]
- 12.1888 - Bachyths and Company, Christoph Reef: 1560zs 14dwt obtained from 295 tons of stone at 70 feet. [20]
- 12.1888 - At the Whipsticks, Bachyths and Company are still working on payable stone. [8.21]
- 02.1889 - Lease No.5877 for 3 acres 1 rood and 13 perches and 2 men granted on 11 February to Edward Siler on Christoph Reef. [2]
- 03.1889 - Bachyths and Company, Christoph Reef: 720zs 16dwt obtained from 109 tons of stone at 70 feet. [20]
- 13.02.1895 - At the present time Messrs A. Harkness and Company of the Victoria Foundry, are engaged in constructing a small 5 head battery plant (which, if occasion requires, could be easily enlarged) to the order of Messrs Lowe and Company, who for some time past have been working the Christopher Reef in the Whipstick with payable results; the returns averaging 3 and 4dwt to the load, while it is believed that the stone below the water level will go considerably higher. Messrs Lowe and Company have a winding engine on the ground with which they will also drive their battery. At present all the stone has to be carted a distance of several miles to the nearest crushing machine at Eaglehawk. From present prospects, the party is confident that the venture will prove a success. [22]
- 29.04.1895 - At the Christoff Reef, Whipstick, Mr A. Harkness has just erected a crushing battery of 5 heads of stamps for Messrs Backhaus and Bermuda, who are now awaiting rain to fill the dam, when crushing operations will be commenced. There is a large quantity of quartz in readiness for the mill. The adjacent claim, formerly owned by Mr Siler and party, is at present being worked by Mr. Lewis and party, who have raised a quantity of stone, in which gold is visible, for crushing in a few days. This claim turned out a good deal of gold when held by Mr Siler and party. Several claims in the locality have been taken up by Eaglehawk people, namely Mr R. Marshall and party, and Mr R. White and party, and others. [23]
- 08.1896 - Christoph Reef - The Half-yearly Meeting was held . . .there were 10 shareholders present, representing 27,000 shares . . . Mining manager's report - I took charge on the 23rd day of April 1896, and since then the 160 foot level has been driven north 16 feet; total 24 feet. I believe it would not be long before we pick up the reef worked on your northern boundary by the tribute company, which averaged 2½ozs to the ton your directors instructed me to arrange for an engine as I found that the water and the hauling were quite as much as your engine could do in the eight hours. We now have the engine in position, and I am quite satisfied that it will be a great saving to the company, as the boiler is a great deal larger than the company's, and it is no trouble to steam for the winder
and the battery at the same time, and by having this engine the battery can be kept going by one driver. [24]

28.12.1896... among those whose returns are notable is the Chrystophe Reef. [25]

15.02.1897... Christoph Reef see fair gold in a stone cut above the slide at 124 feet. [26]

25.12.1897... The Christoph Reef Company, though they averaged over an ounce to the ton in the first half, did not go to anything payable. [27]

02.01.1898... Mr. W. E. Brown, Eaglehawk, ... bought the Christoph Reef property has ... stone, but, at present, its value is not ... [28]
COLES’ EUCALYPTUS DISTILLERY

Description
A standing iron chimney stack measures approximately 6 metres high and rests on a 5½ foot square brick chimney base, 4 feet high. A 3 metre-long flue depression leads to an in-situ Cornish boiler, 6½ feet in diameter and 28 feet long. Engraved on the boiler is the name of its maker - Roberts and Son, Bendigo - and the date of its last inspection - 1946. The boiler is housed in the remains of a rectangular shed with a bush timber frame and galvanised iron. North of the boiler is an intact wooden crane, positioned above two circular brick-lined vats (7 foot diameter) with concrete covers. Near the end of the boiler is a galvanised iron tank on a wooden stand.

History
Period of activity: A boiler inspectors’ stamps on the boiler suggests that the distillery was operating in 1940.

Thematic Context
Rural Industry

Comparative Examples
There are six other eucalyptus distillery sites identified within the study area: Blandford Road (c.1900-1920+), Pierce’s (1911-1998+), Flett’s (1921-1980), Hartland’s Loeser Road (c.1930-1940+), Hartland’s Neilborough East Road (c.1930-1940+) and Black Rock Road (c.1939). These sites display a range of intactness from Pierce’s, which is operational, and Flett’s, which is disused but essentially intact, to Blandford Road and Hartland’s Neilborough East Road where all the plant, machinery and equipment has been removed. Coles’ site displays a representative range of equipment in some disarray.

Statement of Significance
The site has little integrity and no significance.

Level of Significance
None

Recommendation
None

Heritage Boundaries
None

References

Notes
At the time of the last inspection in October 1998 the property was for sale.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June and October 1998.
Chronology
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

DEEBLES/EDWARDS PYRITES WORKS

Other Names  United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company; Joel James Deeble and Thomas Edwards (Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Location  Former West Bendigo Speedway,
Parcel No. P128037, Crown Land, on
south side of Marong Road,
Specimen Hill

Map Reference  Campaspe 2.2, 1:10,000 - BV534.283

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description  Remnant of pyrites dump (calcined sand), covered with spiny rish. At the south-west corner of the site there are a number of broken concrete foundations. A portion of the pyrites sand has been used in the construction of the mound surrounding the now abandoned speedway course.

History  Period of activity: 1872-1921+
Maximum recorded annual production: 5540ozs in 1874

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  There are two other pyrites works extant within the study area. These two are: Spargo's (1872) and Liddell's (1876). This site, although probably the earliest of the three constructed and probably the most important economically for mining on Bendigo in the latter quarter of the nineteenth century, is the worst preserved. This is unfortunate, for of the three such sites in the study area this is the only one which appears to have employed the three main processes for tailings treatment: roasting/amalgamation, chlorination and cyaniding.

Statement of Significance  The site's integrity has been so diminished as to leave it with very little significance.

Level of Significance  None

Recommendation  None

Heritage Boundaries  None

References  1. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, No.1 or Kangaroo Flat division.
3. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
4. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
5. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 10 November 1870, p2, col.5.
6. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
12. “Pyrites.” Report of the Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to report on the methods of treating pyrites and pyritous vein-stuffs as practised on the goldfields, and generally to report and make recommendations as to the best and most economical means of extracting gold from auriferous pyrites; together with minutes of evidence, plans, sections and appendices.” Victoria, Papers presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of His Excellency the Governor, Session 1874, Volume III, No.96, 1874, 82pp, four plans.

Notes
After September 1884 gold production from pyrites was recorded by mining company rather than by pyrites works.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998.

Chronology
06.1872 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 254ozs obtained from 102 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra.
09.1872 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company: 227ozs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra.
03.1873 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 900ozs 9dwt obtained from 180 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
03.1874 — United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1784ozs obtained from 238 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
09.1874 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 1405ozs 7dwt obtained from 259 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
12.1874 — United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 2351ozs 9dwt 6 grains obtained from 357 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
03.1875 — United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1165ozs 11dwt obtained from 303 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
06.1875 — United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1226ozs 15dwt obtained from 380 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
09.1875 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 891ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 410 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
03.1876 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1147ozs obtained from 378 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
06.1876 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1283ozs 18dwt obtained from 368 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
09.1876 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1796ozs 15dwt 5 grains obtained from 582 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
03.1877 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 421ozs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 211 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings.
06.1877 — United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 955ozs 19dwt 8 grains obtained from 322 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
The United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 490ozs 13dwt 18 grains obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

The United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company have adopted the chlorine process for treating pyrites. The question "Which process is best?" is exciting considerable interest. [3]

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 674ozs 17dwt 10 grains obtained from 349 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 953ozs obtained from 144 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1082ozs 1dwt 22 grains obtained from 283 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1048ozs 4dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1049ozs obtained from 528 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

The following information respecting the United Pyrites Company's Chlorination and Amalgamation Works, Sandhurst, has been kindly supplied by C. W. Chapman, Esq., secretary to the company. These works up to about twelve months ago were simply for washing, grinding, and amalgamating with mercury, and for which there were three reverberatory furnaces, two of J. Edward's patent grinding machines, and sixteen arastras and separators, driven by a 20 horse-power engine, which also drove a plunger pump. The works were capable of treating 45 tons per week, and gave employment to eighteen men and boys. Seven of these arastras and separators were taken out, and a large addition to the building made for a chlorination plant, the rest of the old plant remaining the same, so as to treat the sulphides by either process, to suit the requirements of customers.

The chlorination plant consists of four vats, to contain four tons each - one vat for three tons, and one for two tons; a considerable number of earthenware gas generators, heated by live steam, and a large number of earthenware vessels to hold the auriferous solution and solution of sulphate of won. Attached to the chlorination establishment is room for storage, a drying oven, and three melting furnaces. The chlorination plant is capable of treating forty-five tons per week, and the amalgamating or old process about thirty tons per week.

Attached to the establishment is a four-stamp battery for crushing quartz for filter beds or any other hard material, and the water supply is obtained from three large dams belonging to the same proprietary. The works employ twenty-one men and boys, two men and drays carting pyrites, and three men and drays carting firewood. A very large quantity of sulphuric, nitric, and hydrochloric acid, mercury, soda, meal, peroxide of manganese, sulphate of iron, firewood, coke, charcoal, crucibles, bores, nitre, sulphide of iron, pitch, tar, lead pipe, india rubber sheet and pipe, and glass and pottery ware, is used up.

The raw pyrites as it is brought from the crushing machines is charged into the reverberatory furnaces, and roasted until all the volatile matters are driven off and the sulphates converted into oxides; it is then ground, moistened, and placed in the vats, which are hermetically closed; the chlorine gas is then turned on for a sufficient time to attach the gold and convert it into chloride. The covers are then lifted, and the vat filled with cold water, which, after having dissolved the auriferous chloride, is run through lead pipes into earthenware vessels. In these the gold is precipitated from the mother liquor by sulphate of iron; the waste liquor is syphoned off, and the cement gold caught on filter papers placed within earthenware funnels, dried in the oven, and smelted in Hessian crucibles in a wind furnace. The gold produced in this way realizes from £4 2s 6d to £4 3s 0d per ounce. The value of the plant, machinery, dams, stores, &c, is about £5,000, and about from £500 to £700 more is generally employed in purchasing pyrites. The sulphides from St Arnaud, Burke's Flat, and other places which resist ordinary processes, yield their gold readily to this method.

Pyrites tailings from the amalgamation process when re-worked by chlorination
always yield a profit. These works have never been stopped since starling except for overhaul at Christmas.

Railway freight is a heavy charge upon this industry, especially in the case of acids, on which, although the rate has been reduced by one-half, it is still very heavy - £2 19s per ton for full truck loads. [3]

- 09.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 884ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 412 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 12.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 480ozs 2dwt obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings by chlorination and 432ozs 16dwt obtained from 208 tons of pyrites and blanketings by roasting and grinding.
- 03.1880: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 906ozs 11dwt obtained from 505 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 06.1880: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 773ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 339 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 09.1880: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 350ozs 18dwt obtained from 165 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 12.1880: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 751ozs 14dwt obtained from 381 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 03.1881: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 280ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 06.1881: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 416ozs obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 09.1881: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 556ozs 9dwt obtained from 274 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 03.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1040ozs obtained from 425 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 06.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 992ozs 12dwt obtained from 410 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 09.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 960ozs 8dwt obtained from 420 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 03.1884: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1304ozs 12dwt obtained from 512 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 06.1884: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1050ozs 12dwt obtained from 420 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
- 09.1884: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1468ozs 12dwt obtained from 456 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

16. 09.1896: Cyaniding in Bendigo. At Mr. J. Deeble's United Pyrites Works, the plant is being extended so as to provide for the use of cyanide and kindred solutions. In order to get over the difficulty experienced in South Africa of making the slimes, which form a large portion of the refuse from the crushing machines, amenable to treatment by the solutions, Mr. Deeble has invented a mechanical appliance which is claimed to achieve this object, and it has been patented all over the world, and it is probable that the system may be taken up by British capitalists. The works and the vicinity are now lighted during the night...
by two large electric arc lights.
The cyanide process will probably cater more prominently in the future history of Bendigo mining should initiatory experiments prove profitable. Mr. A. Hamann is now erecting buildings, etc, for a cyanide plant at the Great Britain mine to work the old tailings.

In Africa experiments are being made in submitting to cyaniding the quartz directly after being broken by a rock crusher and without being crushed or rolled. The quartz, however, is very friable and crumbles easily. The recent leading article in the Indigo Advertiser on the subject of cyaniding has been the subject of considerable discussion. In connection with this matter an exchange very practically says: "It will not do to suppose that the possession of a few hundred-weight of cyanide, and a heap of tailings, is necessarily the groundwork of a fortune. In the first place there may not be sufficient gold in the tailings to pay for extraction. In the next place the gold may be there in satisfactory quantities, but it may be allied with other metals which also are greedy for cyanide, and thus cause too great a consumption of the wonder-working solvent to be profitable." [9]

The Mining Exhibition (Melbourne) - A cyanide plant, exhibited by Mr Deeble, of Bendigo, is attracting great attention. [10]

Annual Report: Re cyaniding...During the year a large number of samples of tailings have been sent into to be experimented on as to their suitability for treatment by the cyaniding process, and in nearly every case it has been demonstrated that the gold can be extracted by means of that solvent, though frequently the gold contents are too low to make it profitable. A large number of plants are now in existence in the principal mining areas. At Stawell 200 tons and more a day are put through, but with one or two notable exceptions the plants are all working on old tailing heaps. It would be a great advantage to this colony if more of the working batteries had cyanide plants attached to their existing appliances, as by that means the gold could be extracted profitably, and which is now going to waste; but often if the tailings be run into a heap the cost of getting them in motion again is too great to leave a margin of profit. The South Star mine at Ballarat, and the South German at Maldon, are both cyaniding their tailings...One of the difficulties of the treatment of tailings by cyanides is caused by the slimes which are always produced during crushing and are usually the richest in gold; if they be not removed they settle so densely in the vats that the percolation of the liquor is stopped; this is usually overcome by running the tailings through Butter's distributors, by which means the great bulk of the slimes are removed...Two different systems have been devised by local inventors, one by Mr J. J. Deeble, of Bendigo, which consists of a circular vat with agitating blades capable of being raised or lowered, and keeping the whole thoroughly stirred; the vat is provided with a single side gate which can be gradually lowered to allow the clear liquor carrying the gold in solution to overflow after stoppage of the arms and the settlement of the slimes. This method is adopted in the South German Mine...[where] the vats are 18 feet diameter and 4 feet deep, and require 3 horsepower. They hold about 20 tons each, and to get a complete extraction the slimes need 30 hours' agitation, the whole operation of agitation, settling and decanting takes 48 hours, the consumption of cyanide being about 1½ lbs. per ton of slimes. Several parcels of pyrites have been treated without calcining by this method with over 95 per cent of extraction of gold content. [8]

Pyrites treatment on Bendigo

Mr Shiress, the chemist, of Sandhurst, is analyzing and making experiments upon the conglomerate found within Noble and Company's claim, and gives satisfactory accounts thereof. He is making use of the furnaces built by Mr Carpenter for that purpose within the claim. [1]

The Catherine Reef United Claimholders erected a reverberatory furnace for the treatment of pyrites. This was the first such furnace erected at Bendigo. [2]

The Comet Company, Redan Hill, are down 533 feet, and are cross-cutting at 500 feet to strike the Hustlers line, which they expect to meet in a few
days; they employ over 50 men in their mine. A buddle has been erected for the purpose of working their tailings, but the pyrites have not proved payable. [3]

06.1869: H. Koch, Pioneer Works: 530ozs obtained from 15 tons of pyrites by a Brown and Stansfield concentrator, Koch reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pan. [4]

The Hustler's Reef Company are having the pyrites separated from their tailings, by means of troughs, each about 12 feet in length, with an incline of half an inch to the foot. A stream of water running through carries away the light sand. The tailings are gradually dropped in with a shovel at the head of the trough, where the water enters. The pyrites separated in this way were perfectly clean. The manager of this company and Mr Carr, of the Extended Hustler's Reef Company, speak very highly of Faull's 'patent lubricator', which they believe effects a saving in fuel. [3]


There has been great excitement and speculation in the share market, which has subsided considerably within the last month, in consequence of speculators now having to contribute towards the expense of opening up new ground, of which more has been taken up for mining purposes than I have ever known before in the same time.

Considerably more quartz has been raised than could be crushed, partly because we have not sufficient wood. The bad state of the roads has rendered it impossible for the carters to keep up the supply, as they have now to travel a great distance to procure timber. Some have fortunately had enough fuel on hand to carry them through the wet season; but it is generally urged by the proprietors of mines that the scarcity of timber for firewood and underground workings is becoming a matter for serious consideration, and that a substitute for firewood must be obtained. The reckless cutting down of saplings is causing great complaint. A considerable quantity of coke, coal, and gas tar has been used by machine owners for firing, but coal is far too expensive at the present cost. Referring to this subject, Mr Koch, the proprietor of the Pioneer works in Long Gully, reports that 'the quantity of pyrites operated on is much smaller than usual, in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining firewood, and the cost of coal being too great to make the process remunerative.' [3]

11.1870: A visit to Mr Koch's crushing works at Long Gully will reveal to the visitor the enterprise which is that gentleman's distinguishing characteristic. These works are daily being added to, preparatory to the great addition of some 90 stamps, which will make these crushing works the most complete and extensive, we believe, in the colony. Already a new boiler has been fitted up. The furnaces and apparatus for reducing pyrites have been very successful, and as the chimney for them was found insufficient a large new one has been built, which is a fine stack. This will enable a very strong flow of water in the condensing chamber. A new buddle, much larger, and of more elaborate construction than the one at present in use, is being erected. The centrifugal tailings pump has been placed in position, and is now in work, to the great saving of time and power. It is found to work very well. [5]

06.1871: Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 760ozs 5dwt obtained from 209 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's
Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 911ozs 16dwt obtained from 350 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]
12.1871
Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1161ozs 5dwt obtained from 346 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1872
Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1062ozs 18dwt obtained from 321 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

Two additional reverberatory furnaces, with Wheeler’s amalgamating pans, have also been erected. [3]

06.1872
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 254ozs obtained from 102 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra

Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1160ozs 14dwt obtained from 357 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler’s pans

Spargo and Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 151ozs 8dwt 18 grains obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler’s pans. [4]

Two additional reverberatory furnaces have been erected, and are fully employed in roasting pyrites. Several companies use ties (strakes) for separating pyrites from tailings. [3]

09.1872
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company: 72ozs 15dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company: 227ozs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra

Spargo and Company: 187ozs 1dwt obtained from 87 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler’s pans

Pioneer Crushing Works: 999ozs 3dwt obtained from 311 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler’s pans. [4]

12.1872
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 484ozs 16dwt obtained from 203 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler’s pans

Spargo and Company, Great Western Gully: 521ozs 18dwt obtained from 132 tons of pyrites and blanketings


03.1873
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 208ozs 12dwt obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 900ozs 9dwt obtained from 180 tons of pyrites and blanketings

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 507ozs 17dwt 6 grains obtained from 97 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 693ozs 3dwt obtained from 251 tons of pyrites and blanketings . [4]

06.1873
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 502ozs obtained from 224 tons of pyrites and blanketings

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 386ozs 13dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 1070ozs 18dwt obtained from 210 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

09.1873
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 1082ozs 11dwt obtained from 312 tons of pyrites and blanketings

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 699ozs obtained from 298 tons of pyrites and blanketings


12.1873
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 487ozs 3dwt obtained from 229 tons of pyrites and blanketings

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 613ozs 16dwt obtained from 279 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 463ozs obtained from 188 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 445ozs obtained from 263 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1784ozs obtained from 238 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 1594ozs 15dwt obtained from 250 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 762ozs obtained from 180 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

06.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 410ozs obtained from 239 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 990ozs 12dwt obtained from 241 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 398ozs 6dwt obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

09.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 596ozs 6dwt obtained from 248 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 633ozs 7dwt obtained from 248 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 360ozs obtained from 166 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 1405ozs 7dwt obtained from 259 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

12.1874: Nearly 1100 tons of pyrites have been treated, yielding an average of over 3ozs 15dwts per ton.
13.12.1874: After an investigation, extending over 18 months, the board appointed to inquire into the best method of treating pyrites has submitted its report to the Minister of Mines, by whom it was laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday evening. It has been definitely ascertained that quartz containing pyrites should be crushed in its raw state, but the pyrites must be roasted previous to amalgamation, and it is stated that the process can best be accomplished by means of reverberatory furnaces and inclined hearths. The best method of concentration has been proved to be by the use of Borlace's buddles with Munday's patent scrapers. Wheeler's pans and Chilian mills are pronounced to be very efficient for the purpose of amalgamation, but the board has been unable to determine their comparative saving values.

03.1875: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 454ozs 9dwt obtained from 213 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1165ozs 11dwt obtained from 303 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 200ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 129 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 246ozs 17dwt obtained from 73 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 794ozs 5dwt obtained from 297 tons of...
pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

The average yield from the quartz is very good, 76,000 tons yielding over 13½dwt, and 1,000 tons of pyrites 2ozs 15dwt per ton. [3]

06.1875: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 459ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1226ozs 15dwt obtained from 380 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 190ozs 19dwt obtained from 140 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 198ozs 16dwt obtained from 64 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Great Western Pyrites Works, Specimen Hill: 874ozs 15dwt obtained from 447 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

The richest quartz and pyrites have come from the Catherine and St Mungo Reefs at Eaglehawk, but the Pandora Company, on the Garden Gully Reef, have a very large body of stone averaging nearly 1½ozs to the ton. [3]

09.1875: Sandhurst Pyrites Company, New Chum Gully: 310ozs 5dwt obtained from 144 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 725ozs 1dwt obtained from 376 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 891ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 410 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 1125ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 137ozs 5dwt obtained from 115 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

09.1875: Sandhurst Division [N G Stephens] - Two or three companies are endeavouring to erect effectual but less expensive machinery for saving pyrites, and also for beating raw quartz so as to reduce the cost of crushing. [11] [11]


United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1712ozs 15dwt obtained from 506 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 730ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 243 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 78ozs 2dwt obtained from 97 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 947ozs 12dwt obtained from 453 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

03.1876: Sandhurst Pyrites, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 234ozs 15dwt obtained from 118 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 7028ozs 15dwt obtained from 379 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1147ozs obtained from 378 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 662ozs 11dwt 18 grains obtained from 340 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 78ozs 7dwt obtained from 90 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

06.1876: Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 140ozs 7dwt obtained from 78 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 902ozs 15dwt obtained from 401 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1283ozs 18dwt obtained from 368 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 551ozs 11dwt obtained from 549 tons of pyrites and blanketings.
Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 171ozs 18dwt obtained from 88 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

Mining affairs in this division are in a prosperous condition - 90,000 tons raised, yielding an average of 12dwt 8 grains, and by including the gold from the pyrites taken from the same quartz, the average is nearly 13dwt. [3]

09.1876: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 576ozs 5dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1796ozs 15dwt 5 grains obtained from 582 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 664ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 347 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 133ozs 8dwt obtained from 123 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Liddell Brothers, Derwent Gully: 163ozs 4dwt obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

12.1876: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 438ozs 2dwt 3 grains obtained from 229 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 113ozs 13dwt obtained from 135 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 1104ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 468 tons of pyrites and blanketings


Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 368ozs 15dwt obtained from 110 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 91ozs 12dwt obtained from 111 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 955ozs 19dwt 8 grains obtained from 322 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 467ozs 10dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings


The Morning Light Company, in Golden Gully, last week obtained 336ozs of gold from 10 tons of dressed pyrites. [3]

03.1877: Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 447ozs obtained from 307 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 421ozs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 211 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 270ozs 2dwt obtained from 147 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 72ozs 8dwt obtained from 29 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 857ozs 4dwt 13 grains obtained from 354 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 407ozs 4dwt 13 grains obtained from 354 tons of pyrites and blanketings


12.1877: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 432ozs 7dwt obtained from 260 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch’s Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 36ozs 12dwt obtained from 40 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 291ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 137 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 257ozs obtained from 142 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 107ozs 5dwt obtained from 82 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1878: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 212ozs 19dwt obtained from 121 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 490ozs 13dwt 18 grains obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 10dwt obtained from 134 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 141ozs 19dwt 9 grains obtained from 60 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
06.1878: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 347ozs 18dwt obtained from 173 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 674ozs 17dwt 10 grains obtained from 349 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 237ozs obtained from 115 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1878: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 953ozs obtained from 144 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 505ozs 10dwt 12 grains obtained from 158 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 395ozs 16dwt obtained from 198 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 15dwt obtained from 191 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
12.1878: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1082ozs 1dwt 22 grains obtained from 283 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 255ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 120 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 475ozs 19dwt obtained from 269 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1048ozs 4dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 204ozs 6dwt obtained from 84 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 286ozs 12dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 415ozs 11dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
06.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1049ozs obtained from 528 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 457ozs 5dwt obtained from 232 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 432ozs 4dwt obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
09.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 884ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 412 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 244ozs 4dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 281ozs 7dwt 12 grains obtained from 181 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
12.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 480ozs 2dwt obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings by chlorination and 432ozs 16dwt obtained from 208 tons of pyrites and blanketings by roasting and grinding
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 906ozs 11dw t obtained from 505 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 527ozs 5dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 168ozs 8dwt obtained from 108 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 364ozs 2dwt obtained from 121 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 773ozs 11dw t 12 grains obtained from 339 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 427ozs 11dwt obtained from 230 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 274ozs 10dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 595ozs 1dwt obtained from 174 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 350ozs 18dw t obtained from 165 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 473ozs 13dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 316ozs 9dwt obtained from 225 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 609ozs 19dwt 18 grains obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

The deepest shafts in Sandhurst are not being further sunk, but may be shortly, as the Carlisle, North Garden Gully, and Passby United Company, on the Garden Gully Reef, have obtained 340 tons of quartz, averaging 12 dwts to the ton, at their 1,320-foot level. In addition to this, the quartz contained a large percentage of pyrites, which has not yet been treated. [3]

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 280ozs 12dw t 12 grains obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 287ozs 9dwt obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 152ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 63 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 416ozs obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 419ozs obtained from 195 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 464ozs 2dwt obtained from 265 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 403ozs 18dwt 12 grains obtained from 143 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 556ozs 9dwt obtained from 274 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 431ozs 16dwt obtained from 224 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 431ozs 16dwt obtained from 224 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 491ozs 16dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
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from 492 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 2740zs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 4350zs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 6230zs 15dwt obtained from 388 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1884: 31500zs 6dwt obtained from 1363.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 18740zs 17dwt 12 grains obtained from 774.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 12750zs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 589 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 13040zs 12dwt obtained from 512 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 1530zs obtained from 73 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 4170zs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 189 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 6230zs 15dwt obtained from 318 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
06.1884: 29300zs 19dwt obtained from 1234 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 18290zs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 708.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 11010zs 11dwt grains obtained from 525.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 14680zs 12dwt obtained from 456 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 4810zs 13dwt obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 2070zs 11dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
09.1884: 29150zs 15dwt obtained from 1113.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 22570zs 5dwt obtained from 802 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 6580zs 10dwt obtained from 311 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division.
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 10500zs 12dwt obtained from 420 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 5710zs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 193 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 2070zs 11dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1885: 14540zs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 552.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 4180zs 17dwt obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 10350zs 17dwt obtained from 467.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
06.1885: 19900zs 5dwt 18 grains obtained from 875.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 10120zs 14dwt obtained from 408 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 9770zs 11dwt 18 grains obtained from 467.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
09.1885: 14370zs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 558.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 3350zs 3dwt 18 grains obtained from 215.25 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 12010zs 14dwt obtained from 343.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
12.1885: 13680zs 1dwt 3 grains obtained from 591 tons of pyrites and
blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 576ozs 7dwt obtained from 241 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 791ozs 14dwt obtained from 350 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

03.1886 • 992ozs 17dwt 13 grains obtained from 522 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 344ozs 10dwt obtained from 195 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 648ozs 13dwt obtained from 327 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

06.1886 • 1398ozs 15dwt 5 grains obtained from 585.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 544ozs 10dwt obtained from 191 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 853ozs 16dwt 17 grains obtained from 394.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

03.1887 • 1041ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 776.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 135ozs obtained from 65 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district and 878ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 369.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division. [4]

12.1887 • 1225ozs 16dwt 8 grains obtained from 489.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 391ozs 11dwt obtained from 154 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 303ozs 10dwt 8 grains obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

03.1887 • 1256ozs 8dwt obtained from 461 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 424ozs 11dwt obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 592ozs 18dwt obtained from 259 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

06.1887 • Sandhurst Division - A plant for the treatment of pyrites, by the Newbery-Vautin process, has been erected here, and the results will be awaited with interest. [6]

09.1887 • 827ozs 3dwt obtained from 415 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 234ozs 18dwt obtained from 156 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 592ozs 18dwt obtained from 259 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

09.1887 • 1350ozs 13dwt obtained from 559.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 503ozs 4dwt obtained from 217.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 847ozs 9dwt obtained from 342 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

12.1887 • 1151ozs 15dwt 20 grains obtained from 262.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 524ozs 7dwt 2 grains obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 627ozs 8dwt obtained from 276 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

03.1888 • 1498ozs 12dwt 6 grains obtained from 509.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 480ozs 8dwt obtained from 154 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1018ozs 4dwt 6 grains obtained from 355.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

06.1888 • 1187ozs 11dwt obtained from 429 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 660ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from 217.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 527ozs 4dwt 12 grains obtained from 217.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

09.1888 • 1298ozs 10dwt 12 grains obtained from 913 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 614ozs 15dwt obtained from 211 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 778ozs 15dwt 12 grains obtained from 302 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division. [4]

12.1888 • 1240ozs 4dwt obtained from 507 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 952ozs 2dwt obtained from 295.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 588ozs 2dwt obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

03.1889 • 985ozs 6dwt obtained from 426 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 369ozs obtained from 170 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 616ozs 6dwt obtained from 256 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

06.1889 • 1183ozs 6dwt obtained from 514 tons of pyrites and blanketings in
the Sandhurst district with 688ozs 19dwt obtained from 321 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 494ozs 7dwt obtained from 193 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

1889

9.1889  844ozs 19dwt obtained from 407 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 598ozs 6dwt obtained from 319 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 246ozs 13dwt obtained from 88 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

12.1889  1270ozs 3dwt 18 grains obtained from 545 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 598ozs 6dwt obtained from 319.25 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 246ozs 13dwt obtained from 88 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

1890

3901ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 1776.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district during the year. [7.11]

1891

3461ozs 5dwt 22 grains obtained from 1526 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.106]

1892

15,274ozs obtained from 6717 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.12]

1893

14,314ozs 11dwt 4 grains obtained from 5507 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.12]

1894

14,356ozs 17dwt 14 grains obtained from 5865 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.14]

1895

12,497ozs 14dwt 10 grains obtained from 5181 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.10]

1896

13,978ozs 8dwt obtained from 4977.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.11]

1897

18,196ozs obtained from 7088 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.10]

1898

16,930ozs 9dwt obtained from 6534 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.11]

1899

15,948ozs 7dwt obtained from 6105 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.10]

1900

15,484ozs obtained from 6061 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.11]

1901

20,812ozs obtained from 7020 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.14]

1902

18,967ozs obtained from 6658 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.16]

1903

16,926ozs obtained from 6246 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.18]

1904

19,990ozs obtained from 7456 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.20]

1905

25,832ozs obtained from 10,388 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.18]

1906

18,564ozs obtained from 7839 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.17]

1907

31,474ozs obtained from 15,210 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.15]

1908

36,448ozs obtained from 18,505 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.18]

1909

25,832ozs obtained from 10,388 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.18]

1910

18,564ozs obtained from 7839 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.17]

1911

27,704ozs obtained from 16,271 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.20]

1912

25,482ozs obtained from 14,229 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.18]

1913

14,180ozs obtained from 10,453 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.17]

1914

18,155ozs obtained from 9936 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.16]
1915 15,892 ozs obtained from 11,402 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.12]
1916 12,371 ozs obtained from 9231 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.5]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

DEVONSHIRE TAILINGS DUMP

Other Names

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Eaglehawk Municipal Dump, Parcel No. P128077, State Forest, north of Maiden Gully Road, Lancashire Reef, Eaglehawk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Eaglehawk 1:10,000 - BV537.312</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description
On the western side of the Eaglehawk municipal tip are four sludge dams. The two closest to the tip appear to be the more modern, their banks appearing to be relatively freshly-cut. Whatever features there may have been on the site have either been substantially altered in order to make the site suitable for municipal waste or are in the process of being completely buried by that waste.

History
Period of activity: 1937-1951. The dams postdate the operations of the Gold Dumps Company in this period.

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
There are five other cyanide works sites within the study area. These are: Gold Dumps (Moon Reef), Frederick the Great, Old Tom Reef, Shamrock and Wilson's Hill. All are from the 1930's period of mining on Bendigo and therefore relate to the second phase of cyaniding in Victoria. There are no sites on Bendigo which belong to the first phase of cyaniding prior to 1914.

Statement of Significance
The site has no significance which would warrant its protection at this time.

Level of Significance
None

Recommendation
None

Heritage Boundaries
None

References
2. The Bendigo Advertiser, ? 1937 [Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records].
5. “Cyanide yield.” The Bendigo Advertiser, ?/?/1938, [Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records].
1930s Gold production in the thirties was appreciably supplemented by local alluvial mining and cyaniding. A great many hydraulic sluices were working in the Bendigo district by the mid-thirties and some 1,500 men found employment in alluvial mining. The mountains of tailings or battery sand that rose about the valley and filled houses in summer with a gritty dust, were a cyanider’s dream, and in the 1930s some thirty plants, employing 300 men, were operating about Bendigo. The largest company, the Adelaide-based Devonshire Sands, paid out £3,700 in dividends in 1935. [1.222]

1936 (Summary): Cyanide Yield - Further Increase - One of the most valuable adjuncts to the mining industry on this field is the cyaniding treatment plants, which this year produced close on 10,000ozs of gold and gave employment to about 300 men. It is only in the past three years that this industry has boomed, and on present results it is apparent that there remains several years of work for many parties. Little cyaniding treatment of battery tailings was undertaken in years gone by owing to the low price ruling for gold, but at present values the small gold content, which varies on this field from 8 grains to 18 grains gives a good profit, but the organisation behind the plant must be most exacting. Only two companies are operating the dumps in a big way, namely Devonshire Sands (Bendigo) Ltd and New Red White and Blue Consolidated Company. The first named company which is an Adelaide-capitalised venture, paid £3700 in dividends last year, and followed this with the payment of £1826 to shareholders. This company treated 94,286 tons for a return of 2562 oz of gold, while New Blue Consolidated treated 44,950 tons for 825.112 oz of gold. The latter company has only been in operation a year and recent returns show a considerable increase. In addition to the two main companies there are about 18 private parties treating sands on venous parts of the field.

The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won for the year ending December, 16 1936 (including):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>tons</th>
<th>ozs</th>
<th>dwt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Devonshire Sands -</td>
<td>10,308</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The ores mined on Bendigo and Eaglehawk goldfields are of a type from which valuable constituents can be liberated from the gangue by a comparatively coarse comminution of the ore. Stamp milling followed by plate amalgamation (a comparatively simple method of treatment), when coupled with gravity concentration of the sulphides which are of paragenic origin, has given a sufficiently high percentage recovery to permit a continuance of mining operations with outstanding success. This method of treatment, however, has not been 100 per cent. efficacious, and has resulted in the accumulation of millions of tons of low grade residues (or tailings as they are more commonly known), the gold content of which was considered as irrecoverable prior to the discovery that gold was soluble in alkaline cyanide solutions, and that it could be precipitated from these solutions by chemical reaction with zinc. With this discovery as a beginning, methods for the recovery of gold from tailings were evolved, and the cyanidation of tailings eventually grew into the present-day commercial enterprise capable of producing profits on a moderate capital outlay. Most plants with small throughput were erected by parties ofcyaniders and the better grade of re-leaching sandy materials treated with success. These parties made use of the leaching vat and relics almost entirely upon natural percolation of solutions through the material being treated, followed by the precipitation of the gold from the pregnant solutions by reaction on zinc shavings. Precipitation by using charcoal was attempted with doubtful success. The treatment of the lower grade tailings was of necessity left to the company or party possessing sufficient capital to install the machinery necessary to ensure a satisfactory throughput.

Gold Dumps Pty. Ltd. which was formed in 1937, with a capital of £100,000 divided into 100,000 shares of £1 has operated continuously in Victoria for 14 years, and has pioneered the large-scale treatment of the lower grade tailings. With the experience gained in the treatment of alluvial slum at Rutherglen, Carisbrook, etc, operations at Bendigo were commenced with a specific knowledge of tried and proven flowsheets for the different classes of materials, and of the machinery required to ensure a steady, maximum plant throughout. Three plants were erected by this company in the Bendigo and Eaglehawk districts:-

1) On the Red, White and Blue dumps at Golden Square;
2) On the dumps produced by the Devonshire group of mines at California Gully, Eaglehawk; and
3) On the New Moon Mine dumps at Sailors Gully, Eaglehawk.

the erection of the plant at Golden Square, the plant being centrally placed to allow of the treatment of the Red, White and Blue Mine dumps, the Great Southern Mine dumps, and the current tailings produced by the North Deborah Mine No.1 treatment plant. After operating this plant for a number of years, operations were suspended early in 1949 because of low grade values and low slum content.

Prior to the cessation of operations at the Golden Square plant, a similar plant was in the course of erection at the New Moon dumps, and a still large plant at the dumps of the Devonshire group of mines, the operations which will be briefly described. As in the case of the Golden Square plant, the additional plants were centrally placed to enable the treatment of other dumps in the locality.

Process:
Breaking down the dumps - dumps sluiced and material collected in a sump, which is then lifted by four class J.M.S 4-inch Thompson pumps and conveyed by pipeline to the hydro-separator. A hydro-separator of the Dorr pattern is used, the material delivered to the unit being subjected to separation into a coarser material consisting chiefly of sandy particles, and a finer material which
overflows with the solutions and passes to the pumping circuit for delivery to the mill section of the plant.

Settling Areas - With a view to obtaining sufficient room for initial operations the free sand removed by the classifier was stacked to a height of approximately 20 feet on the east side of an elevated area to the north-west of the site of the dumps. The sands, together with all sands classified from the circuit in the future, will be placed on the areas from which the original dump materials have been removed.

Treatment Plant - at the mill the pulp is fed into the first of six agitation tanks, each of which is 25 feet in diameter and 12 feet deep, and constructed of 5/8-inch welded mild steel plate.

Filtering - The pulp on leaving the last of the agitation tanks is pumped to a Moore-type vacuum filter in which the solid content is separated from the solutions, and the latter allowed to pass to a Merrill-Crow precipitating unit.

Precipitation and smelting. Not described.

. . . Water used in the plant is obtained by pumping from the South Devonshire mine shaft . . . At this plant an average of 33 men are permanently employed on shift work. The operations at the New Moon plant are similar to those carried out at the Devonshire plant, and differ only in connection with the unit of plant used to classify the pregnant solutions, and the positioning of the classifier for removal of sands. At this plant the whole of the dump materials are transferred to the mill where the sands are classified from the circuit and passed to settling dumps. Separation of the solids from the solutions is obtained by the use of two Oliver drum-type filters, each being 12 feet in diameter and capable of removing an average of 450 tons of solids every 24 hours. [3]

1937? - Many thousands of tons of battery tailings were treated by cyanide parties during the year, and this important branch of the mining industry has become one of the stable influences for the gold production of the field. For these heaps dotted around Bendigo had been considered worthless, but with the increase in the price of gold they immediately became areas of wealth, and the present activity is the greatest that has ever occurred in cyaniding in Victoria.

There are now nearly 30 plants in operation on the field, and even at the present rate of treatment there is ample sand available for few years more work. Attention has been directed principally to the older dumps raised by batteries which were not so efficient as the stamp mills of a later day. This new industry has been of great assistance in relieving unemployment, as each plant requires a fair staffing. Many of the parties who entered into the treatment of the heaps had little previous experience, but they have profited by their work, and the results being obtained today are satisfactory.

Devonshire Sands (Bendigo Ltd) is the only cyaniding company tackling the heap treatment in a big way, and the results during the past year speak for themselves. The company treated 100,498 tons for a return of 3253ozs. This company, financed largely by Adelaide investors, have been operating for more than two years, and this was its most successful year. The company has paid two 3d dividends, absorbing £3700. Biggest production was obtained from Koch's Pioneer heap which treated 58,138 tons for 1927ozs. The Johnson's plant treated 23,050 tons for a return of 721ozs, while at the Devonshire plant 19,310 tons were treated for 603ozs.

The profitable returns being obtained by private parties induced the New Blue Consolidated Company to install a plant on its own dumps, capable of treating 1000 tons per week. O'Halloran Brothers, who have commenced cyaniding at the New Moon dump about four years ago, were the first to realise the value of the heaps and their returns from the same dump continue to be profitable. The party is now operating the Moon dump and Clarke's dump, and last year recovered 940ozs. The Great Extended Hustler's dump is returning splendid returns to the members of the Woods family, who have considerably increased their plant in the last 18 months. Following table shows principal heaps -

Devonshire Sands Ltd; Deeble and party (Rae's dump); P. Goldsmith (Virginia dump); Hibernia dump; H. May (New Chum Railway); O'Halloran and party (New Moon); O'Halloran and Hicks (Gatherine); Ruedin and Timewell (Hustler's and Redan); J. Stanley (Golden Gully heap); W. Bussey (Victoria Consol); W.
Evidence of the importance of the cyanide industry in Bendigo's gold production was revealed in the fine yield from this source estimated at 10,000ozs. The principal producer was Devonshire Sands Pty Ltd which treated 104,533 tons for a return of 2684ozs. The company principally financed by Adelaide capital, operated on the Koch's, Johnsons Reef and Devonshire heaps. The New Blue Consolidated Company was in active production throughout the year in treating its own dumps, and obtained 692oz from 37,700 tons. In all, about 30 heaps are being operated on the field, many private parties making good profits. Several of the dumps from old workings on the outskirts of the field, such as at Epsom, White Hills and Kangaroo Flat, are receiving attention and have proved payable.

Devonshire Sands (Bendigo) Ltd is mechanizing its large cyanide plants with the object of doubling outputs. It is expected that the new pontoon vats, each holding 112 cubic yards of sand, will be emptied by motor-driven scoops in about two hours. The old 60-ton vats are being cleared with the aid of elevator belts.

Gold Dumps Pty Ltd has operated continuously on the Big Blue dump. The company has erected extensive plant at Sailors Gully to treat the large dumps of the old New Moon, South New Moon and Virginia mines. This plant is treating 500 tons daily, and a similar plant is soon to be erected at Devonshire Gully. Other cyanide plants have been operating almost continuously, the largest being that of Messrs Nation and Bussey on the old Victoria Consols dump.
period, and the third will commence operations shortly. [15]

1949: The large scale agitation cyanidation plant erected by the Gold Dumps Company at Devonshire Gully commenced operations and is working satisfactorily. [16]

1951: Cyanidation of low-grade stamp-battery residues by the Gold Dumps Company at Eaglehawk was continuous. The throughput was increased towards the close of the year by the installation of new plant. Some difficulties was experienced because of the varying percentage of sand and slime. [17]

1952: At the beginning of the year five companies and two syndicates were actively engaged in mining, but at the end of the year only three companies were operating. The North Nell Gwynne Company suspended operations because of unfavourable prospects, and the Gold Dumps Company, which was engaged in the cyanidation of stamp-battery residues, had to close down because of faring off in slum content and gold values. [18]

Tailings treatment, principally by cyaniding, in Victoria

1893: 5291ozs 2dwt 2 grains of gold obtained from 43,521 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [20.12]
1894: 2097ozs 14dwt 6 grains of gold obtained from 53,849 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [20.14]
1895: 5380ozs 8dwt 14 grains of gold obtained from 62,319 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [21.10]
1896: 8822ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 115,702.5 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes, but with cyaniding now on the increase. [21.11]

09.07.1897: From the Herald we learn that the Minister of Mines has received from Mr Stone, the departmental assayer, a report on 2 tons of tailings sent to him from Axedale for cyanide experiment. Mr Stone says the lot was treated in four half ton parcels, and the results showed that the best results were secured in each successive parcel, the causes of the loss of gold and consumption being gradually found out and overcome, until in the final parcel an extraction of 74.6 per cent of the gold was obtained for a consumption of 0.53 pounds of cyanide per ton; or a cost of one shilling 4 pence for chemicals, including caustic soda. The value of the gold recovered being 7 shillings 9 pence per ton, the profit was then 6 shillings 5 pence per ton to cover cost and handling and depreciation of plant. ... Some interesting hints are added by Mr Stone, as well as a table, and the whole report is to be printed for the information of the mining community. [26]
1897: 15,717ozs 4dwt of gold obtained from 161,723 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [21.10]
1898: 17,845ozs 1dwt of gold obtained from 351,067 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [21.11]
1899: 17,412ozs 13dwt of gold obtained from 359,848 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.11]
1900: 28,741ozs 16dwt of gold obtained from 283,532 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.10]
1901: 41,990ozs 10dwt of gold obtained from 482,278 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.11]
1902: 43,302ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 504,212 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.14]
1903: 35,839ozs of gold obtained from 444,897 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.18]
1904: 48,035ozs 16dwt of gold obtained from 644,925 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.18]
1905: 45,221ozs 4dwt of gold obtained from 626,745 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.20]
1906: 44,495ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 665,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [21.18]
1907: 65,961ozs of gold obtained from 983,034 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [20.17]
1908: 77,245ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,768 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [20.15]
1909  275,429 ozs of gold obtained from 1,257,338 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1910  268,583 ozs of gold obtained from 1,177,232 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1911  259,986 ozs of gold obtained from 1,102,956 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1912  255,740 ozs of gold obtained from 881,306 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1913  245,397 ozs of gold obtained from 692,256 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1914  239,920 ozs of gold obtained from 607,260 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1915  215,110 ozs of gold obtained from 317,636 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1916  14,635 ozs of gold obtained from 203,016 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1917  14,635 ozs of gold obtained from 127,012 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1918  4420 ozs of gold obtained from 45,600 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1919  4198 ozs of gold obtained from 43,000 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1920  4226 ozs of gold obtained from 37,596 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1921  5326 ozs of gold obtained from 39,937 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1922  5847 ozs of gold obtained from 41,163 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1923  3415 ozs of gold obtained from 18,644 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1924  2052 ozs of gold obtained from 12,108 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1925  971 ozs of gold obtained from 8344 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1926  1323 ozs of gold obtained from 7748 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1927  1672 ozs of gold obtained from 11,060 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1928  1199 ozs of gold obtained from 6397 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1929  772 ozs of gold obtained from 4047 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1930  There were no reports of gold being obtained from tailings by cyaniding during the year. There were no reports of cyanide plants in operation during the year.
1931  807 ozs of gold obtained from 8933 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1932  2060 ozs of gold obtained from 39,317 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1933  3550 ozs of gold obtained from 63,565 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1934  14,842 ozs of gold obtained from 321,104 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1935  22,460 ozs of gold obtained from 630,318 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1936  28,565 ozs of gold obtained from 794,640 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
Government plants. [23.29]

1937: 41,923 ozs of gold obtained from 1,233,914 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 157 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [23.29]

1938: 40,384 ozs of gold obtained from 1,202,623 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 132 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [24.32]

1939: 43,458 ozs of gold obtained from 1,358,304 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 150 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [24.25]

1939: Cyanide plants at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Ironbark, Hulty, Sebastian, Fosterville and Marong are giving in most cases payable results. [6]

1940: 38,759 ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,301 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 188 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [24.25]

1941: 37,050 ozs of gold obtained from 1,176,936 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 165 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 4 Government plants. [24.23]

1942: 19,869 ozs of gold obtained from 626,643 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 85 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [24.20]

1943: 6626 ozs of gold obtained from 78,716 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 36 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [24.19]

1944: 2936 ozs of gold obtained from 59,045 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 19 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [24.19]

1945: 2442 ozs of gold obtained from 47,197 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [24.19]

1946: 8694 ozs of gold obtained from 262,810 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 40 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [24.22]

1947: 9977 ozs of gold obtained from 268,893 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 39 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [24.22]

1948: 10,746 ozs of gold obtained from 376,143 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 30 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [24.26]

1949: 10,312 ozs of gold obtained from 359,577 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 24 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [23.34]

1950: 10,834 ozs of gold obtained from 468,758 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 27 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.31]

1951: 5093 ozs of gold obtained from 220,625 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [25]

1952: 1453 ozs of gold obtained from 60,466 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 9 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.27]

1953: 1025 ozs of gold obtained from 15,807 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.24]

1954: 789 ozs of gold obtained from 14,677 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.21]

1955: 764 ozs of gold obtained from 13,805 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.23]

1956: 476 ozs of gold obtained from 10,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 6 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.23]

1957: 523 ozs of gold obtained from 11,861 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.23]

1958: 569 ozs of gold obtained from 11,150 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 5 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [25.31]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

ELLIOTT’S REEF MINE

Other Names

Location Parcel No. P127167, State Forest, along Elliot Track, Elliott Reef, Whipstick

Map Reference Epsom 1:25,000 - BV570.390

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description Machinery site
North of Elliot Track is a small, partially quarried mullock heap, approximately 15 metres in diameter and 5 metres high. The heap has two dumping lines radiating from a collapsed shaft. 20 metres east of the shaft is a scatter of building stone, hand-made brick, and mortar. A line of reef workings runs south, downhill towards Elliot Track.

Battery site
On the south edge of Elliot Track is a large dam, with a large stopcock valve on its outlet. On the opposite side of the track to the dam is a battery site. A section of a stone boiler setting survives, associated with a scatter of hand-made red bricks. East of the boiler setting is a mound of earth and building rubble, from which runs a line of protruding iron bolts, probably all that survives of a battery's wooden framework. The length of the line of bolts indicates the site of a 20-head battery. Traces of battery sand lie in the gully below the battery site.

History Period of activity: 1858-1859, 1885–1889. Dams erected by 1887 and battery erected in 1888.
Line of reef: Elliott Reef
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: 260 feet
Deepest shaft: 260 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context Mining

Comparative Examples The site is one of a number of representative shallow-level low-production mines in the study area, namely: Christoff (1856-1898), Wallace (1856-1906), Black Rock (1857-1879), Sandfly (1857-1890), Barkly (1857-1951), Unfortunate Bolle's (1862-1865), Shamrock (1862-1881), and Apollo Hill (1864-1887).

Statement of Significance The site is representative of small-scale mining in the Whipstick area undertaken with assistance from the prospecting vote during the 1880s and contains relatively undisturbed early quartz mining relics from that period which has potential for education and interpretation (criterion A and criterion C).

Level of Significance Local

Recommendation The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in
accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

**Heritage Boundaries**
The site is approximately rectangular, about 150 metres wide from east to west and 300 metres from north to south, located about 400 metres west of Loeser Road on both sides of Elliot Road and includes all open cuts, shafts, mullock heaps, dams and battery and other machinery sites.

**References**
2. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
5. “Eaglehawk Prospecting Committee.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 18 September 1885, p3, col.3.
6. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
8. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 9 April 1886, p3, col.3.
12. “Eaglehawk Prospecting Vote.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 9 October 1886, p6, col.2.
37. The Bendigo Advertiser, 21 May 1889.

Notes
The reef workings in the 1880s appear to have been undertaken principally by Italians.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
12.1858: At the Old Whipstick things are much as usual, with the exception that reefing is now the whole go, and surface gold has been got in various localities from the head of Scotchman's Gully and within the 'triangle running from that point and Brandy Gully Reef and the Flagstaff Hill, and simple by cracking quartz boulders and surface placers with a hammer. A new kiln of stone is almost ready for the mill at the Pilot Hole, at Elliott's Reef, and I have been informed that two of the adjoining claims have struck the reef, at considerably deeper sinking. ...

11.1859: I have the honor to lay before the Board of Science a description and plans of the Wallace Reef. The reef is situate about six miles from Sandhurst, and may be considered, perhaps, the most extensive of the detached reefs now being worked, of which, as I have remarked, there are several in this division. The Wallace Reef has now been opened about three years, and has been more or less worked during the whole time. [Here follows a minute description of the workings on the reef, the underlay of the veins etc.] The portion of the reef that I have been able to examine bears N 11 degrees 34 minutes west, and has no perceptible dip in that direction, and in thickness varies between 8 feet and 10 feet throughout. At a distance of nearly half a mile from the Wallace, in a line bearing north-east, lies the Elliot Reef which, although of less importance at present than the former, has been opened for some time. It is now nearly abandoned, only two men being employed on it. The depths of the shafts, the distances between them, their relative positions, together with the height of the ground close to Bally's shaft, above the level of the sea, are correctly given on the plan.

08.05.1885: Eaglehawk Prospecting Association: Our Melbourne correspondent writes: In answer to departmental enquiries, the Minister of Mines has received a report from the Government mining surveyor in reference to the Eaglehawk Prospecting Association. This association has set two parties to work, one at Elliott's Reef, and one at Jacob's Reef, and proposed visiting them on the 29th, ... at Elliott's Reef, there had been two men working on the ground for 3 weeks; that they had sunk a shaft 5 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 9 inches, to a depth of 45 feet. [3]

29.05.1885: Mr Hay Kirkwood and Mr William Wood (town clerk) and Mr O'Dwyer, surveyor, made their usual monthly inspection of the mines being worked under the prospecting vote in the Whipstick yesterday. The following is a report of the work done in the respective mines:-
Elliott’s Reef - this reef at 50 foot level has been driven west 31 feet. They have also driven a crosscut east 14 feet without finding anything payable. A blacksmith’s shop has also been erected. At a distance of 10 feet in the east crosscut the stone has been cut, and they are now 4 feet in the reef, but no gold has been seen. [4]

18.09.1885: Elliott Reef: The crosscut west has been driven 4 feet, total 14 feet, and driven south 5 feet on stone which is on the west side of the reef. They have also sunk a winze on the back of the reef 10 feet. At the bottom a little stone was broken out of the reef, which showed several nice rough specks of gold. To work this lower down they have again commenced to sink the shaft a further depth of 50 feet, and then open out on the stone. 10 tons of stone have been crushed from the west side of the reef, yielding 5½dwt to the ton. 10 ton have also been crushed from the reef in the shaft, yielding a little over 3dwt to the ton, total 5ozs 4dwt. [5]

Prospecting claims subsidized by Eaglehawk Prospecting Committee.

09.1885: Elliott’s Reef Company have cut a reef 8 feet wide at 100 feet from the surface, with a lava of 9 to 15 inches on each side of the reef. On the west side of the reef as quantity of spurs were gone through, showing gold, 10 tons of which yielded 5½dwt per ton and 10 tons from the reef yielded 3dwts to the ton. [6.20-21]

02.1886: The Elliott Reef Company at Whipstick, one of the claims subsidized by the Eaglehawk Prospecting Association, have a fair yield from a reef 8 to 10 feet thick, which is thought will prove payable. [7]

09.04.1886: Our Melbourne correspondent writes - The Mining Department has received from Mining Surveyor O’Dwyer a report for the month of the operations of the Eaglehawk Prospecting Association. ... Carter and Company, Elliott’s Reef, ... were engaged in taking out stone found to be payable. ... [8]

07.1886: The Borough Prospecting Committee ... paid their usual monthly visit to the claims in the vicinity of the Whipstick today. ... The Elliott’s Reef Company at 130 feet have extended the east crosscut 21 feet several spurs have been passed through showing a little gold, and they expect to get the reef in about 30 feet further driving east. In the western crosscut the north level has been driven 23 feet. Several small spurs have been cut. [9]

08.1886: ... members of the Prospecting Committee visited the various claims at the Whipstick today. ... In the Elliott’s Company reef the east drive has been extended 28 feet through a number of spurs at the 130 foot level. They have not yet cut through the eastern reef. On the western wall the level north has been extended 27 feet, total 68 feet; it is nice soft country with spurs, occasionally dipping north. [10]

09.1886: The Eaglehawk Prospecting Committee ... paid their usual monthly visit of inspection to the Whipstick yesterday. ... The Elliott’s Reef Company have driven the east crosscut 17 feet through slate country principally with small spurs, but they have not yet cut the reef. The total distance from the shaft is 113 feet. In the western crosscut they have driven north with the wall 19 feet, total depth 96 feet from the crosscut. They have come across several small spurs, but nothing of any consequence. [11]

10.1886: Elliott’s Reef, Ballisim and Carter. The company commenced operations on 1 April 1885, sunk shaft 130 feet. At 50 feet down drove crosscut east 31 feet and west 40 feet. At 103 feet drove crosscut to the west 14 feet and drove on the stone at the end of the crosscut 24 feet. At 130 foot drove crosscut west 20 feet, and drove south of stone at the end of the crosscut 18 feet. Sunk winze from level at 103 feet to level at 130 feet, 27 feet; took out 75 loads of quartz, which yielded 850zs of gold. This was sufficient to pay all expenses, and the subsidy ceased for a time, but subsequently they were again placed on the assistance list when they drove 100 foot level 90 feet to get to the east leg of the reef, and drove south on west reef, 95 feet; saw a little gold on reef. They have been subsidized to the amount of £117 11 shillings and 4 pence. [12]

01.1887: Two miles further on was Elliott’s Reef claim for which Bellizini and party ask £400 to further prospect the ground. They had received £90 as
subsidy from the Eaglehawk Board last year. The shaft was down 136 feet. At 100 feet the reef showed a little gold, and crushings averaged 3 to 7 dwt. They now propose to sink to water level - 170 feet - and if they get any encouragement to put on machinery and sink further. [13]

03.1888: Elliott's Reef Company - a month ago a mine manager was appointed and during the last fortnight has been making preparations to commence work in the main shaft at an early date. We would recommend that immediately the water out of the shaft it is to be sunk 80 feet at least deeper. When this is done we have no doubt that their will be an excellent prospect in opening out the reef on payable stone. The crushing machine will be erected during the ensuing six months. Believe will be on payable stone in 3 months time. [14]

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03.1888: Elliott's Reef Company - The first half-yearly meeting of this company was held ... yesterday. Directors' report - At the date of our last meeting we were engaged prospecting in the south shaft. On the shareholders deciding that machinery be erected, work on this part of the mine was stopped. We then purchased a winding plant, and called for tenders to erect same. Since which the whole plant has been erected at a cost of £294. The machinery was purchased at £350 on fair terms, two payments of which have been made, the balance to be paid in due course.
A month ago Mr William Vinton was appointed mine manager, and has been at work on the mine during the last fortnight has been making preparations to commence work in the main shaft at an early date. We would recommend that immediately the water out of the shaft it be sunk 80 feet at least deeper. When this is done we have no doubt that their will be an excellent prospect in opening out the reef on payable stone. Since the above was written the mining manager, Mr Vinton, reports having on Friday started the engine which works satisfactorily. Mr Kirkwood complimented the directors who, he thought, had carried on the work well. Some shareholders were complaining they had not erected a crushing machine, but he thought it was best to erect the winding plant first. However, the crushing machine would be erected during the next six months. He believed they would be on payable stone in 3 months’ time. He moved that the formal opening of the plant take place on Tuesday next at 10 o'clock. ... 

03.1888: Elliott’s Reef Company - The formal opening of the Elliott’s Reef Company took place yesterday at the mine, Whipstick. Before proceeding further it may not be out of place to give a few particulars of the mine. The company’s ground is situated on the Elliott’s Reef close to the Adelaide Hill lead, and about a mile north of the Christoff Reef, where there are two claims, viz. Bachyths and Company and Siler and Company’s several crushings, from which have yielded very satisfactory returns. Elliott’s Reef was worked from the surface about 20 years ago, and very good results were obtained. At water level from half to two ounces were obtained, but as the water became too heavy and the appliances on the ground were not able to cope with it, the mine had to be abandoned. It is the intention of the company to erect a crushing machine as there are two dams on the lease, and it would cost very little to put them in order. The shareholders think that if sufficient quartz cannot be obtained from the mine at first to keep the machine going, that reefs close by would provide plenty of public crushings, as the plant would be centrally situated. The shaft is at present 200 feet and it is the intention of the company to sink another 80 feet and then drive a crosscut. In 1875 several tributers obtained £305 worth of gold, and in 1876 the total amount of gold was £336 one shilling. The present company purchased the plant of the New Union Jack Company for £350 and had it erected by Mr. Emmett under the supervision of Mr. J. Delbridge, engineer. Everything worked well yesterday and the engineer thinks the machinery is capable of hauling dirt down to 1000 feet. Mr Sciattero, chairman of directors, opened the proceedings by stating that they had gathered there for the purpose of christening the engine and formally opening the plant. He suggested that they should call the engine “Success” and hoped that they would meet with the success they deserved. He had much pleasure in calling upon Miss Crameri to christen the engine. That young lady stepped forward and said: ‘I have much pleasure in christening this engine “Success”.’ She then broke a bottle of champagne over the flywheel amid loud cheering. The company then adjourned to the side of the engine house, where a first rate luncheon was provided by Mrs Crameri. ... 

03.1888: The Whipstick mines have not been turning out much gold lately, but the Elliott’s Reef Company have erected machinery in order to prospect the locality to better advantage. [6.17-18] 

04.1888: Elliott’s Reef - During the past fortnight the water in shaft has been lowered 23 feet, and drained over 100 feet of crosscut, have also taken out 200 feet of runners in the shaft. The water drained every day is about 10,000 gallons. Water is now only one foot above the lower plat. [25] 

06.1888: Elliott’s Reef - During the fortnight the shaft has been sunk and timbered 22 feet, total 273 feet. At 260 feet a plat set has been put in. It is intended to sink another 8 feet, when plat will be cut. [26] 

06.1888: The Elliott’s Reef Company, having got their machinery completed, has now resumed active prospecting. [6.9] 

07.1888: Elliott’s Reef - Since last report the shaft has been sunk and timbered 10 feet, total from plat 83 feet, and from surface 283 feet. A plat has been cut, 10 feet by 9 feet, the timbering of which will be finished on Monday
9th. instant, when crosscutting will be commenced. There is nothing further to report. [27]

07.1888 - Elliott’s Reef - during the fortnight the timbering of plat has been finished; and crosscut driven east 25 feet; the last 20 feet through lava and quartz, with water making much stronger. [28]

08.1888 - Elliott’s Reef - during the fortnight the crosscut has been driven 23 feet; total from plat, 48 feet; also put in 600 feet of skids in the west shaft, and put on a new rope. [29]

08.1888 - Elliott’s Reef - the crosscut at bottom has been driven 33 feet, total from shaft 81 feet; ground slate. A slide has been cut at 50 feet from the shaft, which has drained the water in top crosscut, where 20 feet of timber has been pout in, and the hanging wall of the reef at top crosscut reached 55 feet from the shaft. [30]

09.1888 - Elliott’s Reef - The manager, Mr R. McNair, reports:- during the past fortnight the 200 foot crosscut has been extended 10 feet, total east, 91 feet. At the 200 foot level south have repaired 20 feet of level. The reef here is about 15 feet wide. Have not broken much stone, but have seen a few specks of gold, in sinking. Will commence sinking winze next week, as well as continuing the crosscut. [31]

09.1888 - Elliott’s Reef - the winze from the 200 foot level has been sunk 22 feet; the first 5 feet all in quartz, in which we see a little gold. In the lower crosscut we have cut another body of stone, which I think must be the same as in winze, but the water being so heavy we do not know what it is yet, have also timbered 12 feet of winze. [32]

09.1888 - Elliott’s Reef Company - The half-yearly meeting of this company was held yesterday …

Mining manager’s report:- during the past six months the following work has been done. I started the engine and commenced baling the water, the week after your last meeting; got the water out of the bottom, 200 feet. Repaired the shaft and centred the same. Commenced to sink on the 12th of May, sunk 88 feet. Cut a plat at 60 feet; driven a crosscut east 91 feet; the first 30 feet in quartz and lava. Cleaned out and repaired the 200 foot crosscut. Now engaged sinking a winze on the reef which the last company worked, 15 feet wide. When I started the winze saw a little gold. 7 feet down a slide cut the reef and heaved the same, which way I cannot tell until the winze is through to the bottom crosscut. Now down 42 feet. I would recommend the shaft to be sunk as soon as convenient. [33]

10.1888 - Elliott’s Reef - below 200 foot level winze has been sunk 20 feet; total 48 feet. When winze is through the lower crosscut will take out a crushing from the reef below the 200 foot level. [34]

10.1888 - Elliott’s Reef - during the fortnight a rise has been extended 12 feet from the bottom level, and holed through to winze; have also timbered 20 feet, and are now engaged opening out levels from winze. [35]

11.1888 - During the past fortnight drive south at 220 foot level has been extended 10 feet, total 20 feet; stone about 4 feet thick; are now taking out a crushing. [36]

05.1889 - Elliott’s Reef Company - The manager reports that during the fortnight the drive at the 200 foot level has been extended 9 feet; total 42 feet from winze. Have timbered same. The ground is very hard with the stone looking better in the face. The drive at the 260 foot has been extended 12 feet, total 33 feet. Ground full of spurs carrying a little gold. [37]

13.04.1894 - Many mining investors will remember the Elliott’s Reef Company, which some years was at work on the reef known by the name. Want of capital however caused a suspension of operations. ... [38]
ELYSIAN LEAD I

Other Names  Elysian Flat, Neilborough, Deep Sinkings
Location  East of the township of Neilborough
Map Reference  Raywood 1:25,000 - BV538.494

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description  Shallow sinkings with mullock heaps between one and two metres in height spread across a width of about 100 metres and extending across Rayners Road in a north-north-westerly direction for over a kilometre. The heaps on the north side of the road are better formed and less disturbed than those on the south side. The heaps are well-rounded and weathered, but the workings remain well-defined.

History  Period of activity: 1857-1904
Deepest shaft: 147 feet (at water level)

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  This site is probably the best of four deep alluvial workings identified within the study area. The other three sites are: Myers Creek (1852), Wilson’s Reef (1867) and Elysian Lead II.

Statement of Significance  The deep alluvial workings along the lead define the location of the first mining on the Neilborough gold field (criterion A).

Level of Significance  Regional

Recommendation  The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Elysian Flat Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries  The Elysian Flat Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south-west by Weaver Road, on the south-east by Aldridge Road, on the north-west by Rayners Road, on the north-east by Rayners Road and its extension along property boundaries for a distance of about 400 metres, then west and finally south to Elysian Flat Creek, south along the Creek to Rayners Road and then east to its junction with Weaver Road.

36. “Mining intelligence. The Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 28 May 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 June 1858.
37. “Whipstick and Elysian Flat Water Company.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 June 1858.
42. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, Thursday, 17 July 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 22 July 1858.
43. “Mining intelligence. Another Whipstick nugget.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 17 August 1858.
44. “Whipstick.” From our own Correspondent, 27 August 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 22 August 1858.
46. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, 8 September 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 10 September 1858.
49. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From our own Correspondent, 26 October 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 29 October 1858.
52. “Elysian Flat.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 22 December 1858.
53. “Elysian Flat as it is.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 23 December 1858.
60. “Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 30 May 1859.
61. “Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From a Correspondent, 29 June 1859; The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 2 July 1859.
65. Mining Surveyors' Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Elysian Flat division.
66. “Mining intelligence. The Elysian Flat not worked out yet.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 17 September 1859.
67. “Mining intelligence. New rush at Elysian Flat.” From our own
Correspondent, Wednesday, 9 November 1859; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 10 November 1859.


69. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.


71. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk and Huntly division.

72. “Mining memoranda. The Whipstick.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 16 November 1861, p2, col.3.


74. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood subdivision.

75. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.

76. “The Whipstick.” From a Correspondent, Saturday, 30 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 1 August 1864, p2, col.6-p3, col.1.

77. “The rush at Elysian Flat.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 1 September 1864, p2, col.3.

78. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.


81. “Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company (Registered).” The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 13 May 1868.

82. “Elysian Flat Mining Company (Registered).” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 10 July 1868.

83. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.


85. “List of nuggets found in Victoria from 1st October 1877 to 30th June 1879.” Progress Report, Geological Survey of Victoria, No.VI, 35.

86. “A 75ozs nugget.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 January 1878, p2, col.3.

87. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.


89. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 1 August 1898, p4, col.1.


Notes

Elysian Flat is reported to have been so named by the original prospectors “from the floral beauty of the scene which presented itself to them as they first emerged upon it from the Whipstick”.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

03.06.1857 I visited yesterday the new rush or what is commonly called Dead Man's Gully. It is situate in the scrub, about eight miles from the Whipstick Diggings, and is reached by going along the new line of road from Moorehead's
Reef for about five miles, and then diverging off the road into the bush to the right in an east by north direction, for about three miles. There are about 70 miners at work on the ground, and some of the claims are paying well, others are running from one and a half to 3dwts to the tub, while others are scarcely getting the colour. The sinking is shallow with pipe clay bottoms, and the diggings are on a water-worn track or gully, in the centre of a somewhat spacious flat, presenting slightly auriferous indications, and hemmed in on either side by an impenetrable scrub with outlets of open timber ground at either end. There is one small branch store on the ground, and as the road becomes better known, doubtless others will follow. There is no direct path or beaten track from the 5 mile post on the main road to where the diggers are at work, and in consequence some difficulty is presented to strangers and others in reaching the ground, and there is considerable danger to new chums or persons unacquainted with bush travelling in attempting it. It is said by some of the "knowing ones" and very generally believed that this rush is a mere "decoy bait" from the rich incognito diggings already chronicled and alluded to in former despatches...

There are said to be parties working in adjacent gullies, who have not yet been found out. Most of the diggers I met were of opinion that Phillips was playing a double game with them, and that he was nearly staying in the place, and applying for an extended claim in order to blind them, while his mates were working in a much richer gully. This I heard more than one of them say to his face. I do not pretend to express an opinion in the matter. I merely give the facts as I have seen and heard them. Several parties left while I was there, declaring that it was not worth their while to work in such ground.

[We beg to call the attention of our correspondent to the fact, that the gully designated by him "Dead Man's" has been named by the Resident Warden after its discoverer, Phillip's Gully, in order to distinguish it from another locality in the neighbourhood known as Dead Man's. Editor]

07.1857 - The Whipstick Prospecting Association. By July 1857, many prospectors and residents of the Whipstick realised the necessity for combined effort to promote a more thorough search of the scrub for mining purposes. Little was heard concerning the Association until on 31 August 1857, a Bendigo newspaper The Courier of the Mines and Bendigo Daily Mail reported the Association's activities. "We are glad to find that the Whipstick party have lately succeeded in obtaining some assistance (to a very small extent, however) in the town, have set to work in earnest. Four men are at work under a manager". The committee are opening an entirely new country about 5 miles to the westward of the Flagstaff. The party have been at work only a week, but they have got two shafts down - one to the depth of 22 feet and the other 25 feet; neither of them yet bottomed ... The new ground now being opened up has been christened the Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser made no mention of operations on Elysian Flat until November 1857, when it announced, "A prospecting party consisting of Messrs. Ross, Mason, Jamieson, Smith and Glover, have struck gold in payable quantities close to the Deadman's Hut, on the other side of the Whipstick, near the road from Picaninny Creek to Myer's Flat. The results are about one ounce to the load. " By November, some dozen shafts were being sunk, and the greatest rush ever in the Whipstick had commenced. The Victorian Government made rewards available for the discovery of new and payable goldfields. On 15 June 1864, the sum of £350 was recommended as payments to discoverers of the Elysian Flat Goldfield. [2.38-41]

10.1857 - Whipstick ...In October 1857 a party consisting of P. G. Emmett, Eugene Ross, Alexander Lovell, Christopher D. Smith, Robert Jamieson and W T Glover, discovered a new gold field north of Flagstaff Hill in the Whipstick, which became known as Elysian Flat, which was surveyed soon after as Neilborough. This party applied for and were paid a reward of £350 by the Rewards Board in 1864. By May 1858 there were 5585 diggers working in the Whipstick. The bulk of these were at Elysian Flat, but soon after this lead was lost and not re-discovered until 1862. [3.247]

09.11.1857 - In Friday's issue notice was taken of the discovery of a new gold field the other side of the Whipstick. We are now in a position to give more
positive information on the subject. To find the site of the present rush, the road to the Flagstaff Hill must be taken. On arriving there, you proceed along the new road for nearly two miles and a half to an open flat, where dray tracks turn off to the right. You follow these tracks for three miles along the Box Forest, and at last you come upon the tents and the diggings. The gold obtained is rough and free from iron, and evidently very pure. There is an extent of ground sufficient to employ thousands; in fact it is equal to Epsom in extent.

The prospecting party, likewise mentioned on Friday, washed out about half an ounce to a bag of stuff. One shaft has been sunk 30 feet and driven about 25 feet and the washdirt yields about 10dwts to the load. Another shaft is being sunk on a line with the dip, which they expect to bottom tomorrow. Sutton and mate bottomed a shaft at the depth of 29 feet and came on the top of a reef with boulders of quartz weighing as much as a hundredweight, lying directly on the washdirt. They tested some of the dirt, and it yielded a pennyweight to the tub. There are about 10 or 12 holes going down; there is plenty of water. [4]  

13.11.1857: Several parties who returned at a late hour last evening from a visit to the late rush report very favorably of the prospects of the diggers. The population at the lowest estimate is not less than 600 and hundreds are wending their way thitherward. The goldfield is described as being of immediate extent, a vast plain between Myers Flat, the Loddon River, and the lower end of Bendigo Creek. The site of present operations is on Mouat’s run, outside of the scrub, and near the Dead Man’s Hut, about four miles and a half below and to the right of Flagstaff Hill. Lovel and Morrison, who for upwards of two years have been prospecting about the Whipstick, are said to have first struck gold in this locality and the name which has been conferred upon the flat, “Elysian”, is significant of its returns. In such an immense extent of ground, it is not surprising that many holes have proved differs; but our information is that where gold has been struck, the amount was considerable. The depth of the holes which have been bottomed varies from 30 to 38 feet; the sinking is similar to that at Epsom and the White Hills. There is no scarcity of water at present, and at a distance of three and a half miles, abundance may be had at Myer’s Creek throughout the summer.

With one exception, all the stores in Scotchman’s Gully, have been removed or are in course of removal to the new diggings, and the Camp Hotel is left alone in its glory. ... [5]  

19.11.1857: Some parties who returned from the new diggings last night, report in most favorable terms of the prospects of the diggers in that locality. A great many blanks were sunk last week. A large crowd of diggers surrounded the prospecting hole, and insisted upon two of their number being allowed to prospect it. Their request was acceded to and the average of several dishfuls washed therefrom was 1dwt. Renewed energy resulted and the direction of the sinking was slightly altered, with what success may be judged by the fact that nearly all the holes which have been bottomed this week have paid moderately well. The population yesterday exceeded a thousand, and the enthusiasm of some of the diggers may be estimated by their working day and night. [6]  

20.11.1857: Rush Oh! The Whipstick is once more the cry and scores of swagged diggers and stores, and storekeepers ad infinitum may be seen at this moment thronging the road to Elysian Flat, the new Whipstick diggings. When I wrote my despatch of last week there were not more than a score of diggers on the ground, including the prospectors, and on visiting the ground yesterday (Thursday) I find a population of not less than 500 men, exclusive of women and children, tents and stores going up, claims marking off, newcomers arriving in quick succession, and all the usual bustle and confusion of a new rush. The information contained in one or two recent issues of the Advertiser is substantially correct, with one exception, namely, in describing the route to the new diggings, instead of turning off the main road (from Moorehead’s Reef) to the right, as stated in one of the paragraphs alluded to, the turn off should be to the left. By turning off to the right you would go in the direction of Phillip’s Gully, whereas Elysian Flat lies precisely the opposite direction. There is no difficulty, however, in finding the ground, a well beaten dray track runs close to the digger’s tents. ...
The country (after taking the turn off to the left) is a flat open country, thinly timbered with box and gum saplings, scarcely any heavy timber is to be seen for miles around. The country in many respects resembles Epsom, only the timber is of larger growth at Epsom. Before approaching the diggings, you come on a chain of water holes, some dry, and some full of excellent water. The chain of water holes runs right into the diggings, or rather they run themselves out into a sort of blind gully lying in a south-westerly direction and of a semi-circular form. It is in this blind gully, or land scarp, the diggings are situate, and where the miners are now at work. The tents on the ground extend over a space of half a mile, and 3 or 4 stores are already on the ground.

The Elysian Flat gold is water-worn, which may be accounted for from the fact of there being no quartz reefs, or even detached quartz surface debris, in its immediate neighbourhood, although some beautiful igneous specimens have been got intermixed with a small percentage of ironstone and quartz. The gold is coarse and shotty, and in thick, heavy button-like and triangular pieces of quartz, and whole pennyweights and upwards.

I had intended my visit to the new rush for Friday or Saturday, in order that as many holes as possible in the interim might have been bottomed; but hearing that there were upwards of a thousand men on the ground, I deemed it advisable to have a look in the meantime.

The sinking runs from 30 to 42 feet. 42 feet is the deepest hole yet sunk, and the washdirt is a sort of white quartz debris, cement and gravel, not unlike many parts of Epsom, only that the quartz is more angular, not round or pebbly, and the washdirt is on a beautiful soft greasy pipeclay, and comparatively level bottom. The driving is all done in the bottom; and as much as 4 feet deep of washdirt has been knocked down in the prospecting claims, which averages 1dwt to ever four buckets of stuff.

Smyth and Company had just bottomed a 42 “footer” a short time previous to my arrival, but not with the same successful results as in the prospecting and adjoining claims. They merely got the color; but no way daunted at this, they are determined on driving the hole and seeing what it is made of.

If one or two sets of the Epsom Long Toms could be conveniently spared from that locality they would not only be a great convenience to the miners of Elysian Flat but, at the same time, remunerate the proprietors as well for the cost of drainage and hire.

25.11.1857: The latest intelligence from the Whipstick is that the holes which have been bottomed in an easterly direction from the prospectors’ shaft are doing well. A north easterly line has also been adopted and out of numerous holes being sunk, our informant states that 9dwt was the yield from 11 buckets which he saw washed. The extension of the rush is easterly, with a nearly equal determination to the north east. A few parties are trying to the south west, but the sinking is particularly hard - a conglomerate ironstone cement to a depth of 7 feet - but none have been bottomed. Population is said to be 1500.

26.11.1857: We are given to understand by a gentleman who visited the new diggings at the flat yesterday, that the ground is being worked for a quarter of a mile in length in the direction of the Whipstick. The line of diggings is about eight claims in width and the claims yield from one to 5ozs to the load. Several claims are spoken of as averaging one ounce and a half to the load.

01.12.1857: The Elysian Flat rush is rapidly assuming all the dimensions and mammoth proportions of a first class rush, and may be fairly pronounced the greatest rush that has ever taken place at the Whipstick. There are men daily arriving and pitching their tents from every part of Bendigo.

09.12.1857: The Elysian Flat rush is still the attraction and although the influx of population is not so great as it was 10 days ago, still new arrivals continue to pour in daily on considerable numbers, and the cut-up state of the road the whole distance from Sandhurst to Elysian Flat, but especially on the Whipstick new line of road from Moorehead’s Reef, is significant enough. This road is, in some places 9 and 12 inches deep in sand and road dust, and, in the event of rain, will be in a pretty mess.

On Tuesday one or two holes in the vicinity of the prospecting claims hit upon it “pretty snug”, none of the washdirt averaging less than a pennyweight to the tub,
with from 2 to 4 feet of washdirt is not uncommon in many of the claims. On the other hand there are scores of blanks. [11]

10.12.1857: From a recent visitor to the Elysian Flat diggings in the Whipstick, we learn that things are going on much the same as by our last report. ... New diggings have been discovered about 2½ to 3 miles further on, to the north-west, and a large number have left for them. Rumour speaks very highly of its richness. [12]

14.12.1857: We hear from several reliable sources, that gold in remunerative quantities is being procured at these diggings. ... one storekeeper in this township has informed us that for the last three weeks his average receipts of gold from Elysian Flat have been upwards of 1000ozs per week. A party of Maoris, it is well known, got from 17 to 20ozs from three loads of washdirt. Water is acknowledged to be scarce on the ground. Numbers are piling their stuff, which is indicative of some belief on their part of its being remunerative. [13]

15.12.1857: A correspondent who returned from Elysian Flat last evening states that more persons are leaving that locality than are arriving, a state of things owing solely, in his opinion, to the scarcity of water. ... Our correspondent expresses himself as entirely concurring with the substance of the intelligence from Elysian Flat which appeared in our columns yesterday, and states that the successful parties are not confined to Maoris, but that Cornishmen, Epsomites and others have been equally lucky. ... Last week some rich looking cement, equal to the best samples from Epsom, was discovered, and there can be but little doubt that the more extensively this large field is worked, the better satisfied will the diggers be with their returns. ... Yesterday afternoon we inspected a large parcel of gold brought in for sale from Elysian Flat. [14]

1857-1902: Greatest rush in the Whipstick was to Elysian Flat in November 1857. It was rich nugget country and from 1858 to 1904, 21 nuggets ranging from 22 to 240ozs were recovered. 16 of this number were found during 1858, the boom year at Elysian Flat. [2.172]

1857-1902: Elysian Flat Goldfield: The lead on this flat was to prove a lengthy one, and where mining first commenced, the shafts were down from 20 to 40 feet. As the lead was traced in a north-westerly direction the sinking increased, finally reaching depths of 100 to 120 feet, forming a deep lead. The lead was also followed south where it gradually shallowed, trailing off into the scrub where it was known as the Shallow Diggings. Eventually the bed of this ancient, buried stream was followed along its tortuous path for over 3 miles. ... A visitor to the new rush in mid-November 1857, estimated the population at no less than 600. He observed that with one exception all the stores on the Whipstick Diggings had been moved or were in the process of removal to Elysian Flat. ... Towards the close of November the population had risen to 1500, some 700 of them miners. Many miners were coming from Sandhurst and Epsom. The Epsom diggers were renowned for their skill in sinking deep shafts in alluvial ground. Each day, newcomers arrived at Elysian Flat, but because of water shortage, many also left. Washdirt had to be carted to a creek three quarters of a mile to be treated, the cartage costing 15 shillings per load. During December, down on the flat were between 50 and 60 stores. They had formed a street some 120 yards long. Many miners were now bringing their families. As the first month of 1858 came to a close, the population on the diggings was estimated at 2000. The first hotel was under construction. Sometimes the run of the lead was lost, only to be found again by some miner who chanced to sink in the right place. Early mining on Elysian Flat became a series of minor rushes. The first school at Elysian Flat was opened on 26 April 1858.

By the close of 1858 the Elysian Flat Rush was past its peak, the population considerably reduced, to dwindle further over the years. Series of rushes: Worked out by July 1858, known as The Shallow Rush. [2.38-41]

29.01.1858: The brilliant prospects held out by the new goldfield promises to far exceed everything which has been written and hitherto foretold of it; and the impression exists very generally that the ensuring winter will see a rival
population here to Ararat itself. [15]

09.02.1858: The population is receiving daily and nightly additions (many persons preferring to travel at night during the prevalence of this hot weather) both of diggers and stores, as well as restaurants. ... Piling up is still the order of the day, while of sinking and driving there is no lack. Seeing the “tack” in the washdirt, and occasional pennyweight, half and quarter ounce specks being picked out is no infrequent occurrence. ...

Drinking water is selling at Elysian Flat at 8 shillings a cask. ... [16]

17.02.1858: Sir, I have seen and handled a nugget of gold from Elysian Flat last evening, which was obtained from a hole, wherein several persons had previously worked, about 30 feet deep, sinking very hard. The said nugget was obtained by a party who drove but a few inches. The nugget was about the length of my hand, and has been sold for about £155. [17]

20.02.1858: A new rush to the northwards of Hyde and Carter’s store took place here a few days ago, which shows every prospect of turning out well. The claim sunk here lately by the prospecting party at the desire of the miners, was examined by an experienced miner from the White Hills, who pronounced it to be a first rate claim. Several pans of washing stuff were tried, from which a fair prospect was obtained. About 250 claims are in course of sinking, the results of which will be known in most cases in a few days. The average depth is expected to run about 40 feet the sinking for the most part is easy, though in a few instances a layer of cement, of the thickness of 6 feet, has to be gone through. [18]

24.02.1858: The copious showers of rain which fell during the whole of last night have infused new life and vigour into everything in the mining way in this district. Full dams for the puddlers, and a plentiful supply of water (for the time being) for the tub-and-cradle men is the result of this timely visitation. Carting and washing has already commenced, and as long as the water holds out, will be continued with a will. ...

The news of the week at the Whipstick is otherwise barren of interest. ... The Chinese, it would appear, purpose mustering strong at Elysian Flat during the ensuing winter. [19]

08.03.1858: Water is again the cry here - everything as dry as possible. ... Elysian Flat is now an established goldfield of almost boundless dimensions. [20]

20.03.1858: Thousands of loads of piled up washed dirt now await the final process here. ... [21]

26.03.1858: Slowly, but steadily the population of this new and promising goldfield is being augmented. ... The new rush there is every reason to believe is progressing most favourably. ... This rush, which is situated on the left hand side of the road, about half a mile before entering the old diggings, is rapidly increasing in point of number etc, and although not more than two days had elapsed from the period of my former visit to my last (yesterday) a marked change had taken place in its appearance, so much so as to be scarcely recognizable. New stores, refreshment, as well as a large additional number of diggers’ tents, in the short interim sprung up. ... I was informed by a person yesterday that a 3ozs nugget was taken out of a hole in the shallow sinking, and I was also informed by a Bendigonian acquaintance who had been sinking a shaft on the original rush (deep sinking about 30 feet) for some time past, that in order to test his wash-stuff he had the load carted to some water near the Camp Hotel, and the satisfactory result turned out to be 33ozs. I learnt from another party that a digger with whom he was acquainted informed him that out of a hole he had sunk on the Flat, old sinking nearly opposite the Advertiser office, in the main street, he had expected to realise £1000 a man. The long looked-for rain has at length descended. ... [22]

29.03.1858: The rain of Wednesday last is the first of the Autumnal rains of the season. ... Hundreds of diggers and scores of drays laden with swags and all the paraphernalia of pick-and-shovel men have, since Thursday, been wending their way Elysian-wards. ...[23]

01.04.1858: I started yesterday morning in light marching order on a pedestrian excursion to our new El Dorado in the Whipstick. I took the old fashioned, and, in my opinion, all things considered, the best road - through
ironbark, Long Gully, Eaglehawk and by the head of Sailor’s Gully. ... by the time I had picked my way across the Long Gully gridiron, I was, despite the beauty of the morning, in a state of such feverish indignation (over the state of the Marong road) that it was not until I had found Beelzebub that I had begun to recover my equanimity. Further on in one of those patches of digging unnamed (like the county) which lie perdu in all directions in the country between Sailor’s Gully and the Whipstick, I was agreeably surprised by the vision of a fair saint of a female hatter, armed with pick and shovel, and digging, as Sam Weller would say, like “winking”.

From the Sandhurst post office through the now all but deserted Scotchman’s Gully, to dear Mrs. Deening’s Camp Hotel, in three hours, is no bad walking on a tolerably warm day, and on arriving at that excellent house, a man may be fairly considered to have earned his beer. I though so, at all events, and I took mine ease at mine inn for a quarter of an hour, not unprofitably spent in that cool, spacious, comfortable English looking parlor, decorated with many a quaint engraving of the time of George the Fourth, with short-waisted beauties and gentlemen with high coat collars, and much neckcloth, and great specimens of pastorals in worsted work, perplexing the mind with woolly doubts as to which is the sheep and which the shepherdess. This pleasant parlour has books also, a history of Derbyshire, in quarto, and a dignified folio in the window, which should be a baker’s chronicle, but isn’t. One cannot help admiring the enterprise, the prescience, and the faith of the good lady (generally known as the Queen of the Whipstick): who so long ago as 12 months ago, brought her household gods into this new country.

From the Flagstaff Hill the smoke of the fires at Elysian Flat is distinctly visible, at a distance, as the crow flies, of about four miles. The present track is, however, considerably longer. It follows the road cut last year for about a mile, and then turns sharp off to the left. There are no features of interest about the intervening space, except that it may be noted that the country falls gradually but regularly towards the north and west. ... The track does not, however, in any part approach the once-dreaded, impervious, matted Whipstick thickets. About four miles from the Flagstaff Hill a track again strikes off to the left of the main road, and leads to the shallow diggings lately opened. Here is a busy and a thriving population of at least 500 souls. At first I thought that I had arrived at the deep sinkings, for almost every shaft has a windlass, and around the mouths of many of the shafts are mounds of headings in height and size almost worthy of Epsom. The sinking, however, is only about 5 feet deep, and the driving is under the wash stuff, briefly through a stratum of reddish sandy pipeclay. It may be reasonably doubted whether the true bottom has been reached in these workings; but that at it may, these shallow diggings are on the average paying well. The gold is very bright and clear, even and shotty, and the dirt washes high up, yielding from a pennyweight and a half to 2 pennyweights per tub; indeed if water were abundant, the ground would pay handsomely to wash from top to bottom. I saw many “old familiar faces” at these shallow diggings, and found all in good spirits and satisfied with the ground, but all more or less anxious about water; but about this more by and by. These diggings at present follow the course of what may be called a scarcely discernible gully, but really on this side of the Whipstick the surface characteristics are so indistinct and undefined that one is at a loss to conceive what kind of instinct it was which had led to the opening up of these shallow workings. ... Grog is plentiful, of course, though water is not.

02.04.1858: From the shallow diggings to the Elysian Flat is about a mile - the ground still gradually descending; and here is a self-formed township, which is fast assuming a substantial and permanent appearance. Here blacksmiths abound, and the pleasant music of the anvil rings out incessantly, and tells of busy times. Here are no end of butchers - a bakery, a chemist, and a “legally-authorised”, under the well-known firm of Drs Boyd and Dow, who have erected a spacious and well-built dispensary. Here are long lines of excellent stores, with many of the good old Bendigo names over the doors; and here are two hotels - the inevitable Shamrock, and the new sign, a la mode, the Sir Henry Barkly. Behind, and beside the main street, ...here and there rise the shafts of
the deep sinkings, like Epsom of old. From this point the diggings extend for two miles at the least. At that distance heavy gold was found on Monday, and some hundreds of claims were consequently marked out further ahead on Tuesday. Although where a hole strikes, marking is certain to go on ahead, it does not appear that anything like a lead exists here, or has been traced at present. The gold seems to be generally distributed right and left, and in all directions for miles, and although every claim cannot, in the nature of things, be equally rich there can be no doubt that the great majority will pay handsomely. But little progress has yet been made in the washing of the large accumulations of washing-stuff; indeed the owners of some of the best claims have not at present commenced washing at all. A good many towns are, however, at work, and the first installment of the Elysian deep sinkings may be looked for in the gold offices in the course of another week. I was shown some capital samples in the hands of miners, from 6 to 12 ounces; but I did not learn that any more large nuggets had come to light. The general expectation seemed to be, that the washing up would average at least 2 ounces to the load; and that the aggregate quantity would be very large. Indeed. I was told by parties resident on the spot, that after the last rain many of the heaps of wash dirt were literally blazing with gold in the regular “jeweller’s shop” style.

As to the extent of the new field it is almost illimitable. ... I was informed by our well-known townsman, Mr James Iron, who has a party working on the shallow diggings, and who is ever in the van of mining enterprise, that he had ridden out the day of my visit 15 miles north of the present workings, and found the same surface characteristics, and the same auriferous indications everywhere existing. It would thus appear that the Whipstick Ranges are but the edge of a great basin lying to the north and west, and that as the diggings approach the Plains deeper sinkings and richer deposits will be discovered, with every reasonable prospect of a succession of shallow diggings being struck along the edge of the scrub all trending to a deep basin beyond. A new city, and a new and vast population will soon take the place of what has been so long the wilderness of the district. The present population at the deep sinking is about 3000 and large arrivals are daily pouring in. That there is gold, and abundance of gold, sufficient to support twice the present population of the Bendigo, is no longer a matter of doubt, the one great want is water. [25]

06.04.1858: Almost every second man you meet is bound for Elysian Flat. ... Since the discovery of the leviathan 71-pounder everybody is on the qui vive in the vicinity of deserted holes, and during the past week a good deal of rummaging and fossicking has been going on among the deserted holes. ... P.S. The following memorandum from an Elysian Flat mining acquaintance with regard to the large 71 pound nugget of the preceding week was left in with me a short time subsequent to my leaving made up and forwarded last week’s report. ... I saw a nugget 71 pounds 10ozs on Elysian Flat, yesterday. It was sold to Mr Mann, of Sailor’s Gully, for £3 16 shillings per ounce, got out of a hole abandoned by two different parties. Half a foot driving brought it out. [26]

12.04.1858: The accounts from these diggings still continue encouraging. Gold is daily brought into the market from this locality; a piece, weighing 12ozs 12dwt was sold to Mr. Bannerman on Friday, which was procured in the deep sinking on Elysian Flat by a party who stated that he had been three months on this field previously without getting any gold.

Another nugget. A fortunate miner brought in, and sold to the Bank of New South Wales, a nugget of 20ozs, which was got in an old hole, the precise locality of which the lucky finder declined to disclose. [27]

19.04.1858: Already the miners in this locality are beginning to feel the want of water. ... There have been some very good finds in the shallow sinking this week, one party having nuggetted out as much as 4ozs; while another lucky individual fell across a piece weighing 2½ozs. The storekeepers of the district tell me that they buy a great quantity of gold, so that there can be no doubt but that some are doing a rare good stroke. Meanwhile, refreshment tents, bakeries, butcheries and casinos are springing up on every hand. ... [28]

23.04.1858: The continued absence of rain has had a very sensible effect on
the incoming population of the past week, while many are obliged to leave from the same cause, and a general stagnation of washing operations as the result of the long drought. ... The new ground lying between the deep and shallow sinkings is now occupying attention, and a considerable number of holes are going down, and in all probability the deep and shallow sinking will be united. The sinking in this new ground is from 16 to 30 feet, and some good prospects are said to have come off several of the holes now bottomed. Those who are disappointed with the shallow sinking usually set in here. ...In some of my former reports I alluded to the feasibility of the Black Horse Flat turning out a rich goldfield, especially that portion stretching from Adelaide Hill to the Wallace Reef, and thence on to Sydney Flat. When all this country is connected with the Elysian Flat goldfield, which it is not improbable it will be in time, this will be another large slice to Bendigo, of a value impossible to estimate. ... The weather still threatens rain, which cannot come too soon. [29]

26.04.1858: A very important meeting, as will be seen by a report in another column, was held on Thursday last at Elysian Flat, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means for supplying the gold field with water. Two schemes were laid before the meeting, both of which it was considered advisable to entertain; and committees were appointed to inquire into their practicability. The first proposed by Mr Benson ... to raise £4000 in 80 shares of £5 each, which amount he considers sufficient for the excavation of two reservoirs, and the sinking of two shafts for wells, on various parts of the field. ... The second plan, which it appears has been suggested by Mr Duncan, was laid before the meeting by Dr Wall. It proposes to conduct a continuous supply from the Loddon River to the Elysian, by means of a race. [30]

26.04.1858: Supply of water for the Whipstick. A meeting on the above subject was held at the Shamrock on Saturday evening. The attendance was large. ... Mr Benson addressed the meeting on the subject, pointing out the urgent necessity of some measures being carried out at once, and offering some suggestions as to doing so by means of deep shafts and reservoirs. The suggestion was well received. [31]

27.04.1858: ... so far as the incoming population to Elysian Flat is concerned this week, a decided increase over that of last week is perceptible, ... The worst that can be said of Elysian Flat at the present time is, that water is scarce, for every prospect of a speedy supply.

Nugget from Elysian.
A nugget was found yesterday near Taylor’s Store, Elysian Flat. Its weight was 32ozs 15dwt. We have not been able to obtain any further particulars. [32]

30.04.1858: A deputation from Elysian Flat, Bendigo, were on Tuesday honoured with an interview with Captain Pasley, in the absence of the President of the Board of Land and Works. ... The Age. [33]

01.05.1858: Notwithstanding the late heavy fall of rain, the miners at Elysian Flat are, as we understand, very little better off, as regards a supply of water. ... [34]

05.1858: Elysian Flat seems to be a sort of ‘plutonic region’ as it were, at least so far as retaining water is concerned. [149]

31.05.1858: We hear that several parties are doing pretty well at the shallow sinking, about a mile and a half this side of the Whipstick, and near the deep sinking. One party of three took out an 8ozs nugget, and it was rumoured that another party had got a nugget weighing 40ozs. Great complaints have been made for the want of water; but some very heavy showers of rain which fell there on Saturday last - much heavier than we had it here - will give them a supply for some little time. [35]

01.06.1858: Notwithstanding the counter attraction of new rushes elsewhere the influx of population to these diggings still continues steady and unabated, with few or none leaving; and some who left in the last few weeks for the Ironstone Hill Flat rush have returned here again and settled down for the winter. ... Abundance of water is available all over the district, but it is not so plentiful at Elysian Flat, as could be wished. There is little or nothing of importance to communicate in the mining intelligence of this district this week. At Elysian Flat all goes “merry as a marriage bell” with
the single exception of water, which is again getting scarce; while at the Old Whipstick and surrounding gullies a considerable number of newcomers have set in during the week, and all the old hands and Chinese still hold on here. At the water supply meeting at Elysian Flat, on Thursday last, a considerable difference of opinion existed with regard to the respective merits of Mr Benson’s proposal of sinking deep shafts for water supply, and the “reservoir” plan ... although Mr Benson proposes a very likely locality to sink in for underwater, viz The “Dead Man’s Gully”, yet it is doubtful whether he would succeed in striking water in sufficient volume to supply the district; besides there is the expense of raising the water and conveying it to the diggings. ... [36]

10.06.1858: Meeting of the Whipstick and Elysian Flat Water Company to consider implementing Mr Benson’s proposals. [37]

14.06.1858: The great scarcity of water, which for a considerable time past has existed, is being more severely felt every day, so much so, indeed, as to cause a very considerable number of diggers to leave here for Bendigo and elsewhere, it may be to return again under other and more favourable circumstances. Notwithstanding, however, this very serious drawback to the satisfactory working of this goldfield, a large population numbering at a rough computation, perhaps, from 1500 to 2000, still remains, determined, it would seem, to give it a fair trial which it has certainly not received as yet. ... [38]

02.07.1858: 30 June 1858. Another large nugget weighing about 4 pounds was reported yesterday evening to have been taken out of a hole in the deep sinkings behind the stores of Messrs Clarke and Bensted, situate in the main street. [39]

09.07.1858: Mining operations are again beginning to flag and look dull, owing to the growing scarcity of water, which at the present time, in some parts of the flat, perhaps, more than others, is becoming very sensibly felt; the last fall of rain which took place having proved sufficient only to enable the diggers to clean off a portion of their washdirt which for a considerable time past has been lying in accumulated heaps, piled up alongside the creek, as well as in near proximity to their shafts, and now another fall of the essential element is anxiously looked for to provide for all necessary purposes. Messrs Beeby and Telford, it appears, during the past week, purchased about 255ozs of gold, which is somewhat less quantity than that bought by them in the preceding week. Another nugget, weighing nearly 6ozs was picked up off the surface by a digger, forming one of the prospecting party at no great distance from the ground on which the last rush took place, in the scrub at the end of the original shallow sinkings, which caused some little excitement and a considerable rush to the spot. [40]

17.07.1858: The louring and unsettled aspect of the weather, accompanied with light and intermittent showers, with which this neighbourhood has been visited since Saturday last, and which still continue has doubtless had the effect of buoying up the hopes of many with the belief that a fall of rain, now long and anxiously waited for, which would be sufficient to secure an ample supply of water for the necessary requirements of this goldfield for some time to come, was about at length to descend, but these hopeful anticipations, it is to be regretted, yet remain unfulfilled. ... Another rush within the last few days has taken place on ground branching off to the right from the centre of the deep sinking, directly opposite the Sir Henry Barkly Hotel, of which report speak favourably. About 50 shafts have been sunk 30 feet. It has been stated that the yields here on the average, are quarter of an ounce to the load. [41]

22.07.1858: At Elysian Flat matters are decidedly in the ascendant. "Deaf Harry" (of Whipstick notoriety) and party, in all three persons, succeeded in bottoming right on a patch some time ago, that washed up to the tune of £200 sterling, and as that has been all nearly knocked down, by dint of John Barleycorn, the alluvial bank is now being literally drawn upon, and promises to stand a run, if not a rush. The claim wherein this jolly fine bank is situated is in the deep sinking, not a hundred miles off the original prospector’s claims. Without taking baker and butchers, bread and beef statistics as a standard, the
total population of the Elysian Flat district alone cannot be estimated under 2000 souls. ...
The rains of Wednesday and Thursday last still keep up the supply of water at the Old Whipstick, but at Elysian Flat it is scarce enough. ... [42]

17.08.1858: A piece of good fortune has lately fallen to a previously unlucky party of diggers in the shape of a 22ozs 15dwt nugget, besides several smaller ones, in all about 300zs out of six loads of dirt. This good fortune was met with by going into an old deserted hole, at the back of the Union Store, Elysian Flat. The parcel was purchased by Messrs Schlemm and Company, in Pall Mall. The large nugget is a fine clear piece of gold, well water-worn. [43]

26.08.1858: At Elysian Flat everything goes on as briskly as usual in the mining way, although there is a general complaint of dullness among the smaller class of retail storekeepers; a fact not very surprising when it is taken into consideration that their number is legion. ... [44]

08.1858: During August 1858, a survey was commenced for the site of the township of Elysian Flat. The township was to be on rising ground a short distance west of the Elysian Flat Creek. ... The town site was gazetted the township of Neilborough on 3 August 1860. In 1865 Neilborough was included in the Borough of Raywood at its formation. The Borough of Raywood eventually amalgamated with the Shire of Marong in 1915. [2.38-41]

04.09.1858: There has been a rush to Cay's station on the Loddon, and numbers have left Elysian Flat and the Whipstick for the new point of attraction, which is upwards of 30 miles off. ... The diggers are opening up the main street at Elysian Flat. The sinking is about 40 feet. One party has struck payable stuff, and considerable hopes are entertained that the lead will be found. [45]

10.09.1858: At the outside or south-westerly extremity of the deep sinking, some good patches have been struck this week, at 30 feet sinking, and washdirt has been taken out of one hole that will run from three quarters to two ounces to the load, while some of the dish prospects of the other holes just bottomed promise still better. [46]

11.09.1858: The diggings on the main road are still being prosecuted with vigour. At the depth of 22 feet a layer of cement is found so hard that it is necessary to blast it. Some of the claims are paying pretty well, and in one case, we believe, 4ozs to the load has been washed out, though ¾ozs is the usual run. [47]

16.09.1858: The deep sinking still continues to maintain its ground, and some of the pilot holes or outsiders at the extreme end of the deep sinking alluded to in my last, are being worked with a will and a way. The 35ozs of gold, among which was a 200zs nugget, reported to have been taken out of a hole at the back of the ore, some two or three weeks ago, is said to have come out of a hole much lower down, and at that time a pilot hole or outsider. Gold, however, and heavy gold, too, has been taken up out of more than one claim in the vicinity of the Union Store, which claims still continue to be worked with vigour. ... [48]

29.10.1858: Large numbers of diggers and drays loaded with digging and tent paraphernalia gave been leaving Elysian Flat during the whole of the past week for Epsom, and a bit of a new rush has been going on for the last ten days at Fiddler's Green and Red Jacket, and in consequence things are looking unusually flat here, especially in the shallow sinking, which is all but depopulated. ... [49]

03.11.1858: The dry weather has driven away a large number of miners and several storekeepers from Elysian Flat during the past week. ... The mining intelligence of Elysian Flat is exceedingly meagre this week, and may be summed up in a few words. The ground alluded to in my last in the vicinity of the Union Store and Sir Henry Barkly Hotel has attracted a considerable number of miners, some of whom are taking down new holes, while others are jumping into old deserted holes and driving them, but as yet with no definite results. The puddlers are fairly "dried up". ... [50]

08.11.1858: The court house at this place is now finished and fit for use. It is built of wood, painted etc, the internal fittings are of cedar. ... The population is gradually diminishing. ... [51]
... At the present time there may be, in round numbers, about 400 men digging at Elysian Flat, including those at the Shallow Rush; although from the number of tents which meet the view on looking around the Flat one would be led to suppose that the population was much more numerous, but the majority of the tents and a great number of the stores are untenanted. Within the last four months the decrease in population has been very great, more than three quarters of those there in August last have betaken themselves to other diggings. ... The Shallow Rush is almost deserted, and the very few who remain there are barely getting remunerative wages. Of those who are at work on the Flat about one half probably may be getting fair wages, while the others are earning just enough to maintain themselves. Here and there a party may come on a lucky patch, as has been the case since the commencement of these diggings. [52]

23.12.1858: These diggings at present offer a very encouraging spectacle, in consequence of the very opportune supply of water by the late rains. The population is about 1500, according to the veteran "Benson" who is an authority in all matters Elysian, and appears to be on the increase, ... A number of Chinese, apparently about 200, located themselves on the field yesterday at the lower end of the deep sinking. ... [53]

28.12.1858: Mining matters are almost in statu quo at Elysian Flat. ... [54]

Early in 1859 the population of Elysian Flat declined. Occasionally there were minor rushes to various parts of the Flat, but most alluvial mining was confined to the lower end of the flat in deep sinking. The last mining on the deep lead was in 1902. Where Morshed's shaft reached a depth of 121 feet. This was the deepest shaft on the Elysian Flat alluvial, and Morshed's mine was called the Ram's Horn. [2.42-62]

24.02.1859: The population at Elysian Flat has lately fallen off very considerably, but still many persons who know the field well are of opinion that it will yet become a prosperous and populous district. [55]

04.03.1859: We are informed that a considerable rush has taken place at the Elysian Flat, a number of persons left Sandhurst yesterday. The rush is at the deep sinkings, averaging about 13 feet, the sinking is very hard, a majority of the holes already bottomed show encouraging prospects. [56]

28.03.1859: At Elysian Flat and the Whipstick the population has for a long time been decreasing, and is at present very small. This is chiefly owing to the general want of water, and the difficulty of tracing the leads. At the former place the quartz workings are being carried on with very tolerable success. [57]

22.04.1859: In the old alluvial workings M'Lachlan and Hardy have discovered gold in their shaft, opposite the Barkly Hotel in a layer of gravel 3 feet above the bottom, from which gold was before taken. We are informed that they have nuggetted out from 15 to 20dwt a day. A shaft has lately been bottomed at the end of the old lead with very satisfactory results. It is on the same line with the shafts belonging to Scott and Whipstick Bob. [58]

28.04.1859: ... The rush opposite the Sir Henry Barkly Hotel is still going ahead, several claims having struck the lead during the week with very good prospects. In some of them as much as half to three quarters of an ounce a day has been nuggetted. ... On the main lead several shafts are going down, but have not yet been bottomed. [59]

30.05.1859: This place, once the scene of general activity, and residence of many thousands, through the want of water during the summer, and the alluring attraction of Daisy Hill, is now reduced to a few hundreds. ... The two leads of quartz reefs are taken up for a great distance; many claims are registered, and others rapidly going down. The prospecting shaft is producing some splendid stone, in fact after a shower of rain the gold sparkles therein as numerous as the stars in the firmament. 21 buckets of stuff upon being crushed produced 17ozs of gold, thus proving that quartz reefs are to be found on flats as well as on ranges. The stone from this shaft is very peculiar, and more resembles solid blocks of beautiful marble than quartz. A machine and engine of 12 horsepower, are being erected here. ... [60]

02.07.1859: The late rains on these diggings have flooded some few of the old claims situated on the best ground, as well as some of the quartz reef shafts...
which registers are just expired, which are now entirely useless, being filled with water. A new shaft belonging to Attwood and Company is completely filled with water. The prospectors on the same reef - the Sir Henry Barkly - are still drawing good stone to the tune of 5 or 6 ounces per ton. Moore’s party, the prospectors on the Masonic Reef, have just seen gold this week, and already Mr M’Phail, proprietor of the crushing machine, has a shaft going down. The crushing machine will be in working order at the end of the week. It is rumoured that the crushing price is to be £1 one shilling. [61]

11.07.1859: Go ahead Elysian Flat! I had the pleasure on Saturday last of handling some nice stone taken from Stringer’s Reef on the shallow diggings. There is also a quartz shaft going down on the old road from the Camp Hotel to this place, and one of the party, Mr Grierson, informed me that gold has been seen in the casing. There is also a shaft down 100 feet, and now being driven on, on the hill near the Police Camp. There are seven different reefs now being prospected on the Flat. A small rush took place last week behind the Essex Bakery, but it now has the appearance of a shicer. The miners here are about to form themselves into prospecting parties in order to find the continuation of the old lead, and also to prospect the flat near where Goodfellow's dairy used to be. ... [62]

11.08.1859: A correspondent send us the following report:-

Good again. The Messrs Oats and Company, proprietors of a prospecting claim on the Sir Henry Barkly Reef, crushed at Mr M’Phail’s machine, 100 tons of quartz, which to their agreeable surprise, realized 365ozs of the precious metal. The following particulars are from another correspondent:--

The alluvial diggings here at present appear almost deserted, there being very few payable claims. Nearly all the miners that can afford the outlay are turning their attention to quartz mining. ... [63]

20.08.1859: Yesterday Messrs Hay and Bell were granted 150 yards on this reef (Nuggett Reef) at Elysian Flat, which they have prospected for some time. At a depth of 75 feet they have struck the reef, which is about 8 feet thick, and if the value of the stone is to be estimated by the specimens yesterday brought to our office by the lucky prospectors, the reef is likely to turn out one of the best in the district. The reefs runs in a parallel direction to the Sir Henry Barkly Reef, and is situated a few hundred yards near the township. Various other reefs are being prospected for by parties on the Flat, and it is hoped that their discovery may save to restore this place to something like its wanted briskness. [64]

08.1859: Elysian Flat Division (Michael Ryan). The population is as follows:

- European: 810
- Chinese: 480
- Alluvial miners: 1,184
- Quartz miners: 1,994
- 480

The machinery is as follows:

- Alluvial mining: Steam-engines employed in winding, pumping, puddling, etc, 1-12 horsepower; horse puddling machines, 240; whims, 13.
- Quartz mining: Steam engines employed in winding, pumping, and crushing etc, 19-290 horsepower.

Approximate value of all plant in the Division is £56,580.

My division comprises Sandhurst and Elysian Flat. The latter portion is about 16 miles distant from Sandhurst. Up to the present time it has not been well prospected, although an area of about six square miles has been partially worked. Latterly, individual mining has become unremunerative, and most of the miners have abandoned their claims. There are, however, four application for leases, and a very general opinion exists, that the reefs would richly repay a judicious application of capital. [65]

17.09.1859: The Elysian Flat not worked out yet. [66]

10.11.1859: A rush, which if one can judge from present appearances, is likely once more to revive the fast drooping resources of Elysian Flat, has taken place within the last day or two on the Flat, to the eastward of Menders Elysian Flat Hotel. ... [67]

11.11.1859: Once more we have hit on the gold, and the consequence is a rush of some importance. The ground is a little to the east of where the Barkly
Hotel formerly stood, and near to a block of land recently surveyed for a company. The gold was found by a party prospecting for the Barkly Reef. They washed the bottom, and got between 2 and 3 ozs. The washdirt is, I believe, about 3 feet thick, and is supposed by some to yield as high as 6 ozs to the ton, while there are others who estimate its yield at much more moderate figures. ... It is notorious that the flat has not been half prospected. A narrow gutter has, indeed, been followed through the middle of the flat, but the rest of the ground is entirely new. ... The reefs here run through the flat. The workings commenced at each end, and are gradually approaching each other. ... [68]

11.1859: 2580 miners at work within the Elysian Flat division. [65.12]
12.1859: 2474 miners at work within the Elysian Flat division. [65.11]
12.1859: Elysian Flat: Up to the present time it has not been well prospected, although an area of about six square miles has been partially worked. Latterly individual mining has become unremunerative, and most of the miners have abandoned their claims. There are, however, four applications for leases, and a very general opinion exists, that the reefs would richly repay a judicious application of capital. [65.11]

03.1860: 12.1859: 2580 miners at work within the Elysian Flat division. [65.12]
12.1859: 2474 miners at work within the Elysian Flat division. [65.11]
12.1859: Elysian Flat: Up to the present time it has not been well prospected, although an area of about six square miles has been partially worked. Latterly individual mining has become unremunerative, and most of the miners have abandoned their claims. There are, however, four applications for leases, and a very general opinion exists, that the reefs would richly repay a judicious application of capital. [65.11]

03.1860: I regret much to have to state that the alluvial workings at the Elysian Flat hold out very poor prospects at present. Most of the inhabitants have left the place, and it is almost deserted. Perhaps now that the autumnal rains have commenced, better success may attend those still working there. Water has been very scarce in that district, as the country is flat. The great part of the quartz claims are also left unworked. [69.66-67]
14.05.1860: In these days of the scarcity of alluvial gold, nuggets of a size which in former times would only have been termed coarse gold, are now looked on as a great windfalls. On Saturday Mr Bannerman exhibited two splendid nuggets, weighing respectively 4 ozs 18 dwt and 4 ozs 5 dwt; the former found by some Chinamen at Elysian Flat, the latter by a miner in Pennyweight Gully, Pegleg. [70]
05.1860: McPhail, Elysian Flat: 12 head battery driven by a 10 horsepower engine. [69.116-118]
06.1860: The Elysian Flat district is now nearly abandoned, although my impression is that both payable reefs and good alluvial ground will yet be found in that neighbourhood. Within the last week auriferous quartz has, in two instances, been picked upon the surface at a short distance from the township of Neilborough. [69.147-149]
09.1860: One new crushing machine of 6 horsepower has been lately put up on the Wallace Reef and is now at work, but the one at the Elysian Flat has stopped work. [69.258]
12.1860: I have the honour to submit to the Board of Science the foregoing statement as required by the circular of the 1st December. As I am not certain whether it is the area of the ground that is being worked at the present time, or the area of all the ground that has been worked (together with the former) that is required by the circular above mentioned, I have, as far as practicable, forwarded the superficial contents of the whole worked part of the division. It will be observed that I have added to the ascertained number of square miles of surveyed land an approximate estimate of the area of unsurveyed land, which I should say amount to about one mile more. This unsurveyed ground comprises mostly the ground now in possession of the miner, all the gullies lying between Eaglehawk Gully and Sydney Flat, the extensive workings about the township of Neilborough of the Elysian Flat, and the various gullies of the Whipstick Scrub; some of the latter are becoming very important and ought to be laid down on the district map. ... The workings in and about the Whipstick Scrub are extending rapidly, and I am told would be remunerative if water could be retained near them: but owing to the density of the scrub, and the want of means for collecting, the miner may be said to have no water at all. However, as lately many small nuggets have been found, these gullies may be said to be progressing favourably, notwithstanding the difficulties under which the miners labour. The augmentation of the number of puddling mills during the month of November, is due to the good opinion entertained of this locality by the miners. [71.362]
07.1861. The new rush beyond the township of Neilborough has not yet been extended, but a prospecting claim has been taken up, but nothing worth reporting has been the result. The prospectors, however, are still working it, and have still great hopes of success. [69.268-269]

16.11.1861. In our Ultima Thule of the Bendigo goldfield, there have been of late many troublesome scenes, requiring the presence of the Warden to lay oil on the disturbed waters, and the miners are not slow in following up such signs. Several parties have left Epsom and Huntly, and are now at work in taking out cement, which the new firm of Parkin, Lindsay and Company, who are working M’Phail’s machine, give every facility for crushing by greatly reduced charges. Men are actively at work prospecting the search for the lost lead below the township of Neilborough, with every prospect of success. [72]

11.1861. The Elysian Flat miners, few as they are, are making fresh efforts to work the reefs in that neighbourhood. One crushing machine is now being constantly employed. [71.491-492]

02.1862. It is rumoured that the alluvial lead at the Elysian Flat, which was lost about four years ago, has been re-discovered. [59.5]

19.01.1863. The late timorous rain has had the effect of cheering the drooping spirits of the miners of this locality who have for some time been suffering severely from want of water, and gradually affairs have a livelier look. [73]

1863-1867. Raywood. The first known reference to reef mining at Raywood appeared in The Bendigo Advertiser on 7 December 1863, concerning a crushing of five tons which yielded 4ozs 10dwts of gold from a claim aptly named the Pioneer Reef. ... The first quartz miners were greatly inconvenienced by lack of crushing facilities.. Some reefers had their stone carted to Elysian Flat, some three miles distant, with the cost for cartage seriously depleting profits. [2.121-128]

03.1864. While Elysian Flat is again receiving population, caused by new finds to the east of Raywood, ... I cannot refrain from submitting to you my opinion, which is borne out by many intelligent miners, that this portion of the division will, this winter, support a large population. [74.42-43]

06.1864. Elysian Flat: 160 reef miners and 290 alluvial miners at work. [75.48-49]

01.08.1864. The crushing machine erected by Mr M’Phail and now owned by Mr Donald James is fully employed. The stuff is chiefly carted from Raywood. [76]

01.09.1864. The latest rush, about 3 miles from Raywood, towards Elysian Flat, is likely to turn out well. Two loads of washdirt from the second hole bottomed in the 50 foot sinking have yielded 5ozs of gold. [77]

09.1864. Elysian Flat: 250 reef miners and 300 alluvial miners at work. [75.46-47]

09.1864. Alluvial mining: Elysian Flat, Glenlynden and Prussian Gully about a stationary population. The yields from this locality vary considerably, owing to the patchy nature of the ground. [75.46-47]

12.1864. Elysian Flat: 546 miners at work. [75.48-49]

12.1864. Kamarooka. What was probably the first reference to mining at Kamarooka appeared in The Bendigo Advertiser, 20 November 1863, when the Raywood rush was in its early stages. A brief report stated that two prospectors, James Taylor and Henry Scheffer had opened up a new diggings 18 miles from Raywood and 36 from Sandhurst ... Lack of crushing facilities was an expensive inconvenience to the miners early on Kamarooka. During December 1864, quartz was carted some 7 miles to Elysian Flat for crushing. [2.143-147]

03.1865. Elysian Flat: 480 miners at work. [75.46-47]

06.1865. Elysian Flat: 530 miners at work. [75.50-52]

09.1865. Elysian Flat: 400 miners at work. [75.54-55]

12.1865. Elysian Flat: 300 miners at work. [75.53-54]

03.1866. Elysian Flat: 300 miners at work. [75.51-52]
06.1866 - Elysian Flat and Whipstick: 310 miners at work. [75.48-50]

12.1866 - Elysian Flat: 300 miners at work. [78]

03.1867 - Elysian Flat: 300 miners at work. [78]

03.1867 - Everything connected with mining matters is at a standstill, owing to the continued drought. ... The Nil Desperandum Company, Raywood, are at present crushing about 400 tons of their quartz at the Eureka engine, Sebastian, seven miles distant. Shaffer and party, and other good claimholders, who have a large quantity of quartz stacked on the surface, are waiting until the crushing machines in Raywood and Elysian Flat commence operations, which cannot be until a heavy fall of rain comes. [75]

09.1867 - ...mining operations in this division have recently been more promising. A very rich reef, the 'Sir Henry Barkly', has been struck at Elysian Flat, and out of a trial crushing of 27 tons, 243ozs was obtained. ... Nil Desperandum Company had called for tenders for the purchase of a crushing plant to be erected on their own claim, on the Welbourne Reef. I am now pleased to observe that their object has been attained, and its erection will be completed in about four weeks hence. The claim is looking richer than ever, and it is computed that the company have about 1200 tons of stone ready to be put through when their machinery starts working. George Heckle and party are obtaining good returns from their mine on the Christmas Reef. They have a large quantity of good looking stone on the surface, which the unfavourable state of the weather prevented them from sending to Elysian Flat to be crushed. [75]

12.1867 - At Neilborough, the Elysian Flat Quartz Gold Mining Company have struck some richly auriferous stone. No crushing has, however, yet been made from it.

Roberts and Company's claim, on the Barkly Reef, at Elysian Flat, has improved in richness, and is yielding well at present. [75]

30.01.1868 - The half-yearly meeting of the Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company, called for yesterday, lapsed for want of a quorum. [79]

11.05.1868 - Foley and Company crushed 64 tons of stone from their claim on this reef during the week, and obtained 60ozs 7dwt of gold. Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company had a crushing of 14 tons of quartz from the same reef which yielded 11ozs 6dwt. The want of water is beginning to be severely felt on the flat. Mr Roberts’ machine has been idle for a considerable time, waiting for the rain to come. ... [80]

13.05.1868 - Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company (Registered) - The mining manager, under date of the 12th. instant, 14 tons of stone have been crushed from the western spurs, at present being worked, yielding 11ozs 2dwt 9 grains of gold. Stone is still being raised and a crushing will be made as soon as possible. We have not yet been able to get upon the body of stone worked by Foley and Company, the prospects of the mine are very good, the claims both north and south getting out payable stone. [81]

10.07.1868 - Elysian Flat Mining Company (Registered) - Mining manager’s report at a meeting of shareholders: I have examined the mine, and thought it best to commence working at the 140 foot level south of the south shaft. We have, during the past 3 weeks been at work cutting the plat, putting up a whip, cleaning [82]

06.1869 - Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]

09.1869 - Elysian Flat: 80 miners at work. [78]

12.1869 - Elysian Flat: 70 miners at work. [78]

03.1870 - Elysian Flat: 70 miners at work. [78]

06.1870 - Elysian Flat: 170 miners at work. [78]

09.1870 - Elysian Flat: 170 miners at work. [78]

12.1870 - Elysian Flat: 170 miners at work. [78]

03.1871 - Elysian Flat: 160 miners at work. [78]

06.1871 - Elysian Flat: 145 miners at work. [78]

09.1871 - Elysian Flat: 150 miners at work. [78]

12.1871 - Elysian Flat: 70 miners at work. [78]

03.1872 - Elysian Flat: 70 miners at work. [78]

06.1872 - Elysian Flat: 70 miners at work. [78]
09.1872: Elysian Flat: 70 miners at work. [78]
12.1872: Elysian Flat: 65 miners at work. [78]
03.1873: Elysian Flat: 65 miners at work. [78]
06.1873: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
09.1873: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
12.1873: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
03.1874: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
06.1874: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
09.1874: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
12.1874: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
03.1875: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
06.1875: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
09.1875: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
12.1875: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
03.1876: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
06.1876: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
09.1876: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
12.1876: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
03.1877: Elysian Flat: 30 miners at work. [78]
06.1877: Elysian Flat: 30 miners at work. [78]
09.1877: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
12.1877: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
28.12.1877: At Elysian Flat a nugget weighing 75ozs 5dwt nugget (No.520) found in cement at a depth of 40/45 feet in old workings, a few days since, by Mr. James Webster. A model of this nugget was made for the Geological Museum. [83.29, 84.30, 85]
01.01.1878: On Saturday last a very handsome nugget, weighing 75ozs 5dwt, was found by a miner named James Webster, at the Whipstick. The particular locality is nearly opposite the Shamrock Hotel, at Elysian Flat, where a small rush took place some 3 or 4 months back. Webster was stripping cement for crushing at a depth of 40 feet, when he came on the little beauty embedded in it. Mr Webster is an old Bendigo miners, and his friends will rejoice with him in his lucky find. The nugget is one of the purest that has ever been found, having no quartz or any of the baser metals mixed with it. The ground is nearly all old workings and persons should be careful before rushing off to the locality. The nugget was exhibited in the window of the National Bank yesterday. [86]
03.1878: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
06.1878: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
09.1878: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
12.1878: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
03.1879: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
06.1879: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
09.1879: Since my last report alluvial prospecting claims have been taken up as follows:- At Elysian Flat, prospect reported ¼dwt to the dish; 21 feet sinking. [83.30-31]
06.1879: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
09.1879: There is little new to report in quartz mining during the past three months. Since my last report alluvial prospecting claims have been taken up as follows:- At Elysian Flat, prospect reported ¼dwt to the dish; 21 feet sinking. At Pahlow's Gully, Whipstick, 3 or 4 feet sinking, can made from 5s to 10s per day. [83]
03.1879: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
12.1879: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
03.1880: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
06.1880: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
09.1880: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
12.1880: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
03.1881: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
06.1881: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
09.1881: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
12.1881: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
03.1882: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
06.1882: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
09.1882: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
12.1882: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
03.1883: Elysian Flat: 60 miners at work. [78]
06.1883: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
09.1883: Elysian Flat: 50 miners at work. [78]
12.1883: Elysian Flat: 40 miners at work. [78]
03.1884: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 250 miners at work. [78]
06.1884: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 120 miners at work. [87]
09.1884: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 250 miners at work. [87]
12.1884: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 300 miners at work. [87]
03.1885: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 215 miners at work. [87]
06.1885: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
09.1885: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 190 miners at work. [87]
12.1885: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 180 miners at work. [87]
03.1886: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 150 miners at work. [87]
06.1886: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 160 miners at work. [87]
09.1886: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 180 miners at work. [87]
12.1886: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 170 miners at work. [87]
03.1887: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 150 miners at work. [87]
06.1887: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 150 miners at work. [87]
09.1887: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 210 miners at work. [87]
12.1887: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
03.1888: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 170 miners at work. [87]
06.1888: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
09.1888: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 220 miners at work. [87]
12.1888: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
03.1889: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
06.1889: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
01.08.1898: A Ross and Company, working the alluvial at Elysian Flat, at a
depth of 110 feet, have a yield of 53ozs 10dwt. [89]
09.1888: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
12.1888: Elysian Flat, Sebastian and Raywood: 200 miners at work. [87]
02.01.1899: At Elysian Flat the alluvial is receiving ... good turnover right out
to Raywood, and ... highly payable yields are reported. [88]
1899: The Elysian Flat alluvial is still being worked on its northern
extension, Webster and Angel and Crapper and party having each a shaft at the
extreme north end of the lead. Webster and Angel have a lease of 6 acres, and
the shaft at present being worked is 147 feet deep which is also at the water
level. The main gutter a little north of this shaft is about 14 feet wide, but the
alluvial was taken for a total of 106 feet, and averaged 6dwt per load. Crapper
and party have a shaft 106 feet deep, and working a face 35 feet to 40 feet
wide, and from 6 inches to 1 foot thick, averaging about 3dwts per load. Further
south on the lead several parties are still at work on both alluvial and quartz. [90]
01.01.1900: At Elysian Flat the alluvial has provided profitable employment for
a large number of men, and some of the returns reported were highly
encouraging. [91]
18.08.1900: W. Raynor and Company crushed 7 tons from the Elysian Flat
lead for 8ozs 12dwt. The party are operating on wash for a width of ... and the
yield is considered satisfactory. [92]
1904: 70ozs nugget (No.562) found at a depth of between 10 and 20
feet in the Nuggetty shaft. [84.32]
29.08.1931: Northwards (from Flagstaff Hill) at a distance of some 6 miles is
Elysian Flat, so named by the prospectors from the floral beauty of the scene
which presented itself to them as they first emerged upon it from the Whipstick.
On these diggings were was once a large population. It was very rich, but
nuggetty, and it was abandoned for newer fields, and has never been re-rushed. [93]
FIDDLERS GREEN ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Location
Parcel No. P127154, State Forest, 100 metres east of Rifle Range Road, Fiddlers Green, Whipstick

Map Reference
Epsom 1:25,000 - BV543.363

Other Names
Victorian Heritage Register: No
National Estate Register: No
Planning Scheme: No

Description
At the junction of two branches of Fiddlers Green Gully there is an earthen dam with some dry stone walling on the downstream face. At the northern end there are some mounds of puddling wash, but no outline of any puddling machine could be found. Towards the southern end, however, there is a very weathered outline of a puddling machine. It is just possible to distinguish the inner mound. Four medium sized trees grow on this site. Further downstream, on the eastern edge of Rifle Range Road, there is a large earthen dam, partially filled with water. Below this the main gully deepens and there is evidence of shallow alluvial working along the northern edge which intensifies towards the point where the gully tumbles down into Deadman’s Gully, the upper floor of which appears to have been hydraulically sluiced.

History
Period of activity: 1852-1879+
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown
Deepest shaft: unknown

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
Within the study area there are at least seventeen dams constructed to provide water for mining purposes. These are: Peter the Great Dam (right hand branch)(1856), Wallace Reef (1856), Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858), Old Tom Reef (1860), No.7 Reservoir (1861), Frederick the Great (1865), Raywood Reservoir (1865), Frühling Reef (1871), Liddell’s (probably 1876), at least one at Fiddler’s Green (by 1879), Elliott’s Reef (by 1887), Christoff Reef (1895), Wilson’s Hill (by 1896), Lightning Hill (by 1903), on the ridge above the Lancashire Reef workings (by 1908) and New Moon Consolidated (by 1910). Several of these dams are still serviceable and at least three are still in use. These three are Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858) and No.7 Reservoir (by 1861).

This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Flat (1852), One-Eye Gully (1852), Peter the Great (right hand branch)(1856) and Shallow Diggings (1858).

Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron’s Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter’s Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully.

Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance...
cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron's Dam, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter's Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts. In this case it appears likely that the upper dam was constructed by 1879, when it appears on a mining map, so the puddling machine could be no later than this.

Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district.

**Statement of Significance**

The site contains two dams, at least one of which is known to have first been built by 1879, a puddling machine likely to be a rare and relatively intact nineteenth century puddling machine (criterion B and criterion D), traces of shallow alluvial workings and some evidence of hydraulic sluicing; many of the features of early alluvial mining (criterion D).

**Level of Significance**

Local

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, tracks on either side of Rifle Range Road in the immediate vicinity of the site should be closed to vehicles and replanted with species native to the area.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The site is generally defined by the three main branches of Fiddlers Gully for a distance of 300 metres east of Rifle Range Road, by the westward extension of the main gully to its junction with Deadmans Gully and the southern end of that gully for a distance of 250 metres north of the junction between Fiddlers and Deadmans gullies, and extends for a distance of 75 metres on each side of the main lines of each of these gullies.

**References**

2. Commissioners and Wardens' Reports. Plan Bendigo Goldfields by Chief Commissioner W H Wright, 14 June 1852.
7. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, 24 April 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 27 April 1858.
8. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, 15 May 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 18 May 1858.
There appears to have been some form of mining activity in the area from 1852 until at least 1888. Deadman's Gully to the west and for some distance downstream from its junction with Fiddler's Green/Gully has been extensively sluiced. Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district, and there were reports of fossickers in the area.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
07.1852 The Whipstick ... In the winter of 1852 the diggings in the Whipstick at Bendigo began, in the dense forest of low trees and scrub that extended then almost to Eaglehawk. Wright's map showed 'Whipstick Gully' on the verge of the
scrub, which was then being worked. The first places opened were Wellington, Napoleon's and Fiddler's Green in about July 1852. Commissioner Read tells us that Devil's Den, Beetzebub Gully and Sydney Flat were discovered in this area soon after he arrived in 1852. [1,245, 2]

In 1852: Three quarters of a mile north of the site of the Government Camp rose Lightning Hill... The pioneers knew it as White Horse Hill...soon to be gouged and ever scarred. It too, contained golden treasure. By the close of 1852 most of the gullies around Bendigo and as far north as Sailors Gully had been worked, although some were still receiving attention. A few miles north, over the ridges from Sailors Gully, Sydney Flat let and neighbouring gullies were perhaps the northern limit of activity on the Bendigo goldfield at the time. W S Urquhart's map of Bendigo diggings, 1852, shows Wellington and Napoleon Gullies, Fiddler's Green (now Fiddler's Gully) and Sydney Flat as the northern limits of the Bendigo goldfield.

C. Rudston Read, a gold commissioner, established his camp at Myers Creek in 1852. Napoleon Gully was about a mile east of his camp... The extension of mining was in 1852 temporarily halted along a curved line extending some ten miles from Sydney Flat, along the northern side of Lightning Hill to Epsom. The Whipstick had been reached. The scrub and dense forest, together with a shortage of water and a reduction of population were perhaps the main reasons for halting the advance. [3-9]

04.1857: In one of last week's issues of the Melbourne Argus there appears a letter headed “The Truth about the Whipstick” coming from what your contemporary terms “a reliable correspondent”, and the reliable correspondent is made to speak for himself, and certainly in no unsparing terms, either, not only despairingly of the Whipstick diggings, but of everything else in and about the Whipstick... The population has fallen off a good deal, especially about the middle of Scotchman's Gully, and a very considerable space of tent ground, where tents formerly stood in this gully, is now deserted, presenting nothing but the remains of tent frames, cooking places etc. etc. Although the bulk of the population in the late rush was chiefly composed of miners from the neighbouring gullies - namely, Fiddler's Green, One-Eye, White Horse, Jack Ass, California, Eaglehawk, Myers's Flat, Sydney Flat and other places more immediately adjoining, who could pounce down on the Whipstick at any time in a few hours notice, yet a very large proportion of these have not finally quitted the Whipstick.

I can assert from the best authority that since the 370oz nugget was found last week several smaller nuggets have been got, some in the same locality, and others from different parts of the scrub.... There are one or two gullies not a hundred miles from Brandy Gully, said to be paying well, and it is supposed that there is a considerable quantity of gold in nuggets in the hands of miners and others on these diggings. [4]

05.1857: The recent showers have once more supplied the necessary demand for water in this locality, at least for the time being, and limited as the supply is, it has come very apropos,.... Mining operations appear to have already received a fresh impetus from this timely supply of the all-important element, and the neighbouring gullies, namely Blackhorse Flat, Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, White Horse and Sydney Flat etc. all exhibit symptoms of revival.... In some of the above named gullies puddling machines have been to my knowledge standing idle for the last six months, these machines are now in full operation. A considerable number of miners have still continued to leave for the Sydney Flat Rush. When the new road is finished through the scrub, and if the highly laudable endeavours of the gentlemen forming the Whipstick Road Committee to cut another road from east to west... Mr. Panton visited these diggings today and briefly inspected the progress of the new road, which still continues to go ahead. There are no new finds of importance to report in mining matters from any of the established gullies; instead the miners, generally speaking, are somewhat chary about telling their luck, and no one can blame them. The miners working in Brandy Gully, are apparently doing well, and seem settled for the winter. [5]
Puddling mills that have been a long time idle for want of water, are now observed to be at work in the neighbourhood of Fiddler's Green, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, One-Eye, Mosquito, White Horse, bottom of Eaglehawk and California, Jackass and Long gullies. ... [6]

The puddling machines in the neighbouring gullies are all enabled to continue operations. At Fiddler's Green, Beelzebub and One-Eye several machines that have been idle for the last 12 months are now at full work, whilst at White Horse and Eaglehawk Flat puddling is not only going ahead, but very extensive preparations are making for the approaching winter work; the best constructed dams on the Bendigo appear to be here. ... Messrs Whisker and Company's new steam puddling and quartz crushing machine on this flat is well advanced. ... [7]

Considerable numbers of diggers are leaving this for the Ironstone Hill rush, which is now occupying very general attention. Some parties have done very well there during the last week, and the locality will no doubt attract a large population during the winter. Nobody can doubt but there are heavy auriferous deposits in the various gullies and flats lying between Ironstone and Eaglehawk, White Hills, Adelaide Hill, One-Eye and White Horse gullies, and from thence on to Fiddler's Green, Red and Blue Jacket gullies, Sydney and Myer's Flats, Black Horse and the Whipstick - indeed this large extent of auriferous country has never received, and only awaits, a fair prospecting to develop it; but as the sinking is both deep and expensive at the new rush, there are many who would willingly try their luck at it under other circumstances who prefer holding on at Elysian Flat (and wisely too) to see what sort of a turn things may take in the virgin goldfield. ... [8]

Considerable population is observed settling down for the winter in the neighbourhood of Red Jacket, Fiddler's Green and One-Eye. There was a bit of a rush last week to the former of these places and a 2 pound nugget and some coarse gold is reported to have been got there in shallow sinking by a part of Maoris during the week. [9]

From the Whipstick and Elysian Flat we still continue to receive very encouraging reports. ... [10]

Large numbers of diggers and drays loaded with digging and tent paraphernalia have been leaving Elysian Flat during the whole of the past week for Epsom, and a bit of a new rush has been going on for the last ten days at Fiddler's Green and Red Jacket, and in consequence things are looking unusually flat here, especially in the shallow sinking, which is all but depopulated. ... A goodly number of diggers, chiefly old Whipstickians, who know the ground, are settling down at Fiddler's Green, and adjoining gullies, Red and Blue Jacket, and Beelzebub, where “tucker” can at all times be procured, and water is available nearly all the season round. Further particulars in my next of what is doing here. [11]

On visiting Fiddler’s Green, and the Red and Blue Jacket districts, Beelzebub etc, I find a scattered population, and many new arrivals within the last two weeks, and among others a party of Maoris, who have been working here for a considerable time. Indeed the New Zealanders were among the very first to open up these gullies, and some of them will always be found both in Red and Blue Jacket, especially the latter, where more than one Maori has raised a pile. The ground here partakes very much of the Whipstick character, the gold being found patchy, and coarse and nuggetty, while the sinking is shallow and soft, with pipeclay and sandstone bottoms. Most of those at work here, however hard things may go, can manage to knock out tucker. ... The puddlers in this district, many of them of several years’ standing, do not complain, except on the score of water, which at present is hardly equal to the demand. ... [12]

Red Jacket Flat: 80 miners at work. [13.37-40]
Red Jacket Flat: 60 miners at work. [13.39-42]
Red Jacket Flat: 60 miners at work. [13.42-44]
Red Jacket Flat: 50 miners at work. [13.45-46]
03.1866  Red Jacket Flat: 50 miners at work. [13.44-45]
06.1866  Red Jacket Flat: 40 miners at work. [14.41-41]
09.1866  Red Jacket Flat: 30 miners at work. [14.43-45]
12.1866  Red Jacket Flat: 30 miners at work. [15.38-40]
03.1867  Sydney Flat and Red Jacket: 90 miners at work [15.3 2-34]
1879  Only one dam shown on the right branch of Deadman's Gully at Fiddler's Green. [16]
03.1888  Fiddler's Green (James Rae) - shaft 61 feet, cross-cutting at that depth east 15 feet in likely country, but no successful results at present. [17]

Sluicing on Bendigo
16.09.1858  The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so long as the water holds out. "German Harry's" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [18]
06.1874  At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well.[15]
06.1875  A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [15]
12.1877  The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [15]
03.1878  Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [15]
03.1878  Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [15.27]
09.1878  Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...

The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.
To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals
Total: 22,267,000 gals [15]

15.12.1879  The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [26, 27]
22.08.1885  In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the
late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [28]

1890 3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1891 4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1892 5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 2250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 555 alluvial miners in the district, with 160 reported on Eaglehawk and 220 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1893 5576ozs 13dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 700ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 3100ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 459 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 225 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1894 8065ozs 2dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 800ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 4600ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 417 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 165 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [22]

1895 5489ozs 18dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with none obtained on Eaglehawk and 1838ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district, with none reported on Eaglehawk and 175 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [21]

1896 14,784ozs 4dwt 13 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 545ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,964ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 519 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

1897 15,017ozs 17dwt 20 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 900ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 10,874ozs 13dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 598 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

01.10.1898 Arrangements are being made by a syndicate to commence sluicing operations on a large scale in the gullies about Pegleg and Myer’s Flat, and to this end large leases have been taken up. The erection of extensive machinery is contemplated and it is said very small average returns will pay. [29]

1898 15,729ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 12,880ozs 15dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 645 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

1899 12,440ozs 7dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk
and 8896ozs 3dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 615 alluvial miners in the district; no information was available about the numbers at work in either the Eaglehawk or Sandhurst/Bendigo divisions. [21]

- 1900: 12,406ozs 16dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2000ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 9175ozs 14dwt on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 752 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

- 1901: 9692ozs 14dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8076ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 549 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

- 1902: 12,689ozs 8dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,319ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 736 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

- 1903: 9860ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 8268ozs 4dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 641 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

- 1904: 12,745ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 11,481ozs 3dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 640 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

- 1905: 12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

- 1906: 9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district. [21]

Break O’Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [21]

- 1907: 18,696ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

- 1908: 6293ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618ozs 17dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

- 1909: 2926ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

- 1910: 1992ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district. [22]

Bendigo Dredging: 86ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

Green Brothers Dredge: 121ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

- 1911: 2519ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070ozs 15dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district. [22]
Bendigo Dredging: 853ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford’s Dredge: 622ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1912:
2812ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district. [22]
Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford’s Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1913:
3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district. [22]
Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford’s Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
F. W. Miller’s Dredge: 25ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1914:
2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district. [22]
Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford’s Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
Jeffrey’s Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1915:
3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434ozs 1dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district. [22]
Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford’s Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1916:
5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district. [22]
Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
B. Ford’s Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]
Jeffrey’s Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1917:
2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [22]
Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [22]

1918:
705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners.
in the district. [22]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1920: 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1921: 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1922: 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1924: 440ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 145ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1925: 337ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

Knapman and Wingrave: 168ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [23]

1926: 367ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1927: 287ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1928: 573ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1929: 585ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [23]

1930: 688ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

24.08.1931: Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [19]

1931: 3867ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

H. E. Knapman: 174ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1932: 5051ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

H. E. Knapman: 125ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo.
1933: 4429 ozs of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
H. E. Knapman: 119 ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1934: 5395 ozs of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
Day and Mason: 41 ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1935: 4609 ozs of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

1936: 7196 ozs of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district. [24]
Aurum Dredging Development: 1320 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
C. Barton and G. Barton: 14 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Henderson and party: 21 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Knapman and party: 85 ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Meldrum and party: 42 ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
G. Miller: 28 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Noble and party: 20 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]
Stringer and party: 43 ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [24]

1936 (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their work this year and are transferring to another location.

The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo goldfield for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Party</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>DWT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 1937, 2151 ozs of gold were obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year, there were 564 alluvial miners in the district. 

Aurum Dredging Development: 32 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. 

Henderson and Hopgood: 13 ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 48 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

In 1938, 2346 ozs of gold were obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year, there were 428 alluvial miners in the district.

H. R. Hansen: 22 ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 67 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

In 1939, 2671 ozs of gold were obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year, there were 398 alluvial miners in the district.

H. R. Hansen: 38 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 46 ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25 ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

In 1940, 4862 ozs of gold were obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year, there were 379 alluvial miners in the district.

A. Maynard: 67 ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 61 ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

In 1941, 682 ozs of gold were obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year, there were 169 alluvial miners in the district.

G. Barton and party: 4.9 ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

J. N. Day: 62 ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. S. Floyd: 16 ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

R. Lethlean: 60 ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. Lougoon: 110 ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 46 ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

In 1942, 510 ozs of gold were obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year, there were 43 alluvial miners in the district.

J. N. Day: 40 ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

P. Lougoon: 68 ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

D. J. Rigbye: 46 ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

H. L. Rigbye and party: 156 ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo.

In 1943, 527 ozs of gold were obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year.
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1944: 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [25]

1945: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1946: 423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

Styles Brothers: 43ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

1947: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 9ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully. [25]

Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [25]

1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district. [25]

J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [25]

D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [25]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [24]

P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [24]

Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [24]

1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

C. L. Lougoon: 82ozs obtained from 10,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Long Gully. [30]

P. Lougoon: 143ozs obtained from 12,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [30]

Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [30]

G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [30]

1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [30]
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial
miners in the district. [30]
P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer’s Flat. [30]
Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer’s Flat. [30]
1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial
miners in the district. [30]
Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer’s Flat. [30]
1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [30]
Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Myer’s Flat. [30]
1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial
miners in the district. [30]
A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]
1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst
mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial
miners in the district. [30]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of
material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [30]
W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]
W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]
1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [30]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 105ozs obtained from 1980 cubic yards of
material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [30]
W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]
1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [30]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold: 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of
material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [30]
W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]
1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [30]
W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]
1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the
Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no
report of any alluvial miners in the district. [30]
W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]
1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]
1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]
1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]
FLAGSTAFF HILL MINE AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names
Whipstick Hill

Location
Parcel No. P***, Crusoe Gully, Kangaroo Flat

Map Reference
Marong 1:25,000 - BV537.428

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description
Starting at a point just below the summit there is a line of shallow reef workings, with partially filled shafts, open cuttings and mullock heaps 2 metres high, down the southern slope of the hill to the flat below. At the base of the hill there are also some shallow alluvial workings and two small dams. East of the summit there are additional workings on a parallel line of reef with a mullock heap 4 metres high.

History
Period of activity: 1857-1907
Line of reef: Moorhead
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: 110 feet
Deepest shaft: 110 feet (at water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
There are several other shallow-level low-production mine sites elsewhere in the study area, namely: Wallace Reef (1856-1906), Phillips Gully (1857-1931), Black Rock (1857-1870), Sandfly Reef (1857-1890), Elliott Reef (1858-1889), Barkly Reef (1859-1951), Unfortunate Bolle’s Reef (1862-1865), Christoff Reef (1864-1898), Apollo Hill (1864-1887) and Blue Jacket Reef (1878-1887).

Statement of Significance
Flagstaff/Whipstick Hill was a prominent feature in the early mining landscape of the Whipstick and the workings on its southern slopes, even if not particularly payable, were some of the first tangible evidence of the economic importance of the region (Criterion A). The site displays a range of early mining features and has the potential to educate and illustrate aspects of Victoria’s cultural heritage (Criterion C).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, the toilet/washing facilities provided for the Shadbolt Picinic Area, which adjoins the site, should be sensitively relocated away from one of the principal access paths to the site.

Heritage Boundaries
The site is generally bounded on the south by the Raywood Channel water race and by the summit of the hill at the northern end. The eastern and western
boundaries should extend to include all alluvial and reef workings between these two extremities, and the southern boundary should be extended to include the two dams.

References
2. "Mining Intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 15 March 1857.
9. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
14. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 1 March 1907, p2, col.3.
16. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 8 May 1907, p2, col.5.

Notes
The site is contiguous with the Shadbolt Picnic Area. The location of access paths through the site and their general construction should be considered as a model for the development of other historic mining areas identified within the study area.

The reefs on Flagstaff Hill were one of the main sources of alluvia later worked in Nuggetty Gully, Whipsnake Gully and Patchy Flat.

Some consideration should be given to renaming the hill as it was originally.

Assessed by
Peter Milner in July 1998

Chronology
03. 02.1857: The Bendigo correspondent to the Argus has given a very graphic and correct account, in a visit recently made to this district, of the auriferous
appearance of the country, and this gentleman's description of the splendid prospect of bush scenery from Moorehead's Reef is faithful, and not overdrawn. [1]

15. 03.1857: We were shown on Sunday several samples of gold from various gullies in the scrub. They were all of a heavy nuggety description. One lot from some ground in the vicinity of Moorhead's reef weighing 2ozs 1dwt was obtained from a single tub full of stuff. [2]

01. 05.1857: The cutting of the road through the scrub has begun. It commences at the Flagstaff; on the top of the hill on which Moorhead's Reef is situated. [3]

22. 07.1857: A meeting took place at the Shamrock, for the purpose of discussing this very interesting matter... The object, we are informed, at present is to prospect that portion of the country trending from Moorehead's Reef and Scotchman's Gully towards Myers Creek. A large flat exists in this neighbourhood on which it is supposed that diggings resembling those at Epsom will be found. [4]

06. 12.1858: We have received the following communication respecting the Whipstick diggings from a correspondent, signing himself, Henry Knickerbocker. ... I hereby take the liberty of informing you that it is not generally known that within these last few days a reef has been struck at the small depth of 10 feet, upon what is called Elliott's Reef, near Mrs Deeming's Camp Hotel, upon being crushed at the new mills at Epsom realized 1½ozs to the load or 18ozs and 16dwt to 12 tons, and there are several parties near the Flagstaff putting shafts down near Willoughby's puddling machine and have struck a rich spur at a depth of 69 feet upon the Flagstaff Hill, which has caused the reef opposite the Camp Hotel to be taken up for half a mile, and the miners seem determined to give it a good trial, as they are aware that the puddlers in the immediate neighbourhood are now obtaining large gold on the surface close by, and under the Flagstaff Hill, that was prospected by Mr. Moorhead; who obtained gold at a depth of 70 feet. The gold the puddlers are now getting is full of quartz, and must have come from Flagstaff Hill. [5]

28. 12.1858: At the Old Whipstick things are much as usual, with the exception that reefing is now the whole go, and surface gold has been got in various localities from the head of Scotchman's Gully and within the triangle running from that point and Brandy Gully Reef and the Flagstaff Hill, and simple by cracking quartz boulders and surface placers with a hammer. A new kiln of stone is almost ready for the mill at the Pilot Hole, at Elliott's Reef, and I have been informed that two of the adjoining claims have struck the reef, at considerably deeper sinking... [6]

22. 04.1859: We hear that a quartz reef has lately been struck near the Flagstaff Hill by a prospecting party, but as yet no gold has been obtained. [7]

02. 07.1859: A prospecting party, have, we hear, struck the reef heavily on this hill, and have applied for an extended grant. [8]

10.11.1861: Another prospecting claim in the Whipstick Scrub has lately been reported to me as having struck gold; this is the third in the neighbourhood of the Flagstaff Hill within two months. [9.440-441]

16.11.1871: Great Extended Flagstaff Gold Mining Company: A general meeting of shareholders in the ... Company took place at the Camp Hotel, Eaglehawk. ... This company has a very excellent prospect, the reef 3 or 4 feet thick running right across the claim (about 10 acres in all) and they have decided to at once commence operations by sinking a new shaft to cut the reef at about 40 feet. [10]

23.12.1871: Great Extended Flagstaff Company: During the past fortnight the shaft has been sunk a further depth of 18 feet, making total depth from brace 45 feet. The sinking has been through rubbly quartz, intersected with sandstone. We have tried prospects from the several spurs, but have not met with anything payable at present. [11]

19.01.1887: Mr Jabez Robbins, of Eaglehawk, applied for £100 to work a claim on the Venture Reef, north east of Flagstaff Hill. There had been a good deal of gold got 17 years ago. The reef was 3 feet thick, and had averages from 11 to 27dwt to the ton, but at the bottom had fallen off to 5dwt. They expected it
to improve lower down. They are sinking a shaft which was down 35 feet. The
next applicant interviewed was T. Taylor, of Flagstaff Hill, who asked £50 to
prospect what was known as Moorhead’s claim. There was a shaft 110 feet
deep, but he had put in a stage at 50 feet and wished to crosscut further. [12]

09.04.1895: One of the largest nuggets said to have been found in the
Whipstick was discovered on Friday last in the vicinity of Flagstaff Hill by a local
prospector, Mr Charles Kirby. It turned the scales at 26ozs 18dwt. Mr Kirby had
twice abandoned the shaft, and decided to try it a third time. After working a few
minutes he unearthed the welcome stranger. On the same day, Mr J. Thomson
junior, found a 2ozs nugget 10 or 12 feet from Mr Kirby's shaft, besides 2 or
3dwt pieces; the discoveries were made in old workings. Several persons are
now on the spot prospecting. [13]

01.03.1907: Kirby and Company, who have disposed of their prospecting claim
at Whipstick to the Flagstaff Extended Company, cleaned up a crushing of 12
tons yesterday, for the nice return of 46ozs 18dwt. The stone was broken from
a leader 6 to 8 inches in thickness. The collection of specimens on view at the
Beehive Exchange last Saturday was got from this claim, but the management
state that none of the specimens exhibited were included in the crushing. [14]

08.04.1907: Flagstaff - extended north drive from main shaft 18 feet, total 72
feet. Stone coming up from bottom about 18 inches wide, showing fair gold.
South drive extended 12 feet, total 80 feet. Several spurs in face. Underlie
shaft driven north 17 feet and south 5 feet in stone. Are putting through a
crushing from these levels. [15]

08.05.1907: The Flagstaff Extended Company held a meeting yesterday. ... The
company has acquired a large lease at Whipstick, and operations are to be
commenced forthwith. ... [16]

03.06.1907: Flagstaff - during past fortnight north drive been extended 20 feet,
total 129 feet from crosscut. Still a little fine gold in dish prospects. About
another 10 feet will out this drive under Bolle’s shaft. Decided to put up a rise
here to break through to shaft. Have also started an east crosscut and driven
same 8 feet. This is at a point 100 feet north of crosscut. About 5 feet of quartz
here, and last prospects showed fine gold; also crushed 7 loads from open cut
for return of 14dwt. [17]

01.07.1907: Flagstaff - during fortnight been rising at end of north level, or 150
feet from crosscut; putting it up 11 feet in hard quartz, and there is a little fine
gold in it in dish prospects. This is one week’s work, as been 3 days
prospecting on surface. [18]

02.07.1907: Flagstaff Extended - have driven west crosscut from Kirby's blind
shaft 10 feet, total 10 feet; ground sandstone and spurs, underlying east. Have
stopped this crosscut and started to sink shaft, and have sunk since 13 feet,
total from surface 40 feet; ground almost straight composed of slate seams and
sandstone. are meeting with spurs in sinking and have seen a couple of fine
colours of gold. [19]

13.07.1907: Flagstaff Extended - at 71 feet, driven east crosscut 20 feet, total
26 feet; ground sandstone and slate, underlying east, with spurs 2 to 3 inches
wide, underlying west of nice appearance. The last 6 feet of crosscut in clean
country. Expect to meet slide within 50 feet from shaft. [20]

05.11.1907: Flagstaff Extended - sunk on footwall in Kirby’s shaft 25 feet, total
58 feet from surface. At 48 feet got a few fine colours of gold from prospects
taken from south end of winze. Expect to break through to our workings at any
time. Ground in bottom of shaft sandstone and spurs from 1 to 2 inches long, of
nice appearance. [21]

29.08.1931: A short distance from Jacob's Reef, is an eminence known as
Flagstaff Hill, the highest point in the Whipstick from which an extensive view of
the scenery is obtained. It is a vast mass of quartz, with little gullies at its feet,
where diggers and puddlers have worked, and with open cuttings and a shaft or
two on its slopes, from which quartz has been taken, but not hitherto found
payable. Numerous reefs have been traced out in this neighbourhood to the
east. ...

It is curious that at Huntly, only 2 miles to the south east, the gold is fine and
evenly distributed at a depth of from 890 to 100 feet, while all round Flagstaff Hill
the diggings are shallow and patchy, and gold coarse and nuggety. .. [22]

12.09.1931 In order to make a general survey of the Whipstick area, where a good deal of mining prospecting is at present being carried on, Mr H. W. Gepp, Dr Stillwell and Mr W. Baragwanath (Director of Geological Survey) visited that part of the Bendigo goldfields yesterday. They were accompanied by Mr R. V. Keane, M.H.R., the Mayor of Eaglehawk (Cr J. H. Stewart) and Messrs J. Enroe and W. F. Dennis. Among the mines visited were the Flagstaff and the Old Tom. Before returning to Bendigo the experts also inspected the old Black Forest and Lightning Hill, which were worked by the J. R. Exploration Syndicate about 30 years ago. An examination of the records affecting this part of the field was made later in the Bendigo Mines office. [23]
FRÜHLING REEF MINES

**Other Names**

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<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

- Victorian Heritage Register: No
- National Estate Register: No
- Planning Scheme: No

**Description**

A line of seven small mullock heaps, running north-south for a length of about 500 metres. The largest heap lies at the north end of the line and has one dumping line, 30 metres long and 5 metres high. The associated shaft has been filled, and there are no visible machinery foundations.

**History**

Period of activity: 1860-1931. The main period of activity was between 1868 and 1873 when these parties/companies were in operation: Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company (1868-1873), Harvey (1869), Frühling Reef Extended (1871), Great Extended Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company (lease 2216)(1871), Henry Howes (lease 2494)(1871), North Extended Frühling Reef (1871), Carl Haertel (lease 3305)(1871), J. Haertel (lease 3763)(1871), Prussian Gold Mining Company (lease 1196)(1868-1874), Royal Charter Quartz Mining Company (1871), Royal George Quartz Mining Company (1871) and Bavarian Troop Company/South Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company (1871-1873).

Line of reef: Frühling, Summer

Maximum recorded annual production: 103ozs obtained from 164 tons in 1869 (Harvey)

Total production: 729ozs (Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company); 908ozs (all parties)[4]

Deepest working level: 370 feet

Deepest shaft: 370 feet (below water level)

**Thematic Context**

Mining

**Comparative Examples**

The site is one of a number of representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the study area, namely: Lightning Hill (1852-1907), Old Tom Reef (1857-1898), Black Forest (1858-1907), King of Prussia (1871-1885) and Lancashire Reef (1890-1908).

**Statement of Significance**

The site is representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the Whipstick area (criterion D) and has potential to illustrate these activities because it contains some relatively undisturbed quartz mining of the 1870s (criterion C).

**Level of Significance**

Local

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.
Heritage Boundaries

The site is approximately rectangular in area, 500 metres from north to south and 150 metres from east to west and includes all open cuts, shafts, mullock heaps and house and machinery sites.

References
2. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
4. Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records - Files.
29 August 1931, p2, col.2.

Notes  Frühling" is German for “Spring”.
The great majority of the miners on this reef appear to have been Germans.

Assessed by  David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

12.12.1860: The party of men who went out to this gully from Epsom a few days ago have returned. They state that they found Mr Morrice and a number of Germans at work. About 100 holes have been sunk, in many of which payable gold has been obtained, but it is very patchy, and there was a scarcity of water for washing dirt. Every member of the party is satisfied that "if men were residing on the ground, and a few dams were made to retain water, a very good living could be made by the use of the tub and cradle alone". [1]

12.1866: Früling Reef, Whipstick:- The prospectors have discovered a reef about one foot thick, with a fair amount of gold in it. The second claim, north, crushed 14 tons, averaging 22dwt or ton. None of the claims on the south are paying at present. [2.38-40]

09.09.1867: A reef has been discovered about 3 miles from Lower Huntly, towards the Whipstick, to which the prospectors, a party of Germans, have given the name of “The Früling Reef”. There is a large body of stone which shows gold freely, and a recent crushing of 50 tons produced a cake weighing 88ozs. The ground on either side has been taken up, with every prospect of successful results. [3]

12.1867: With regard to quartz mining in this division, I have the honour to report that the yields for the past quarter are very encouraging; the old reefs are turning out well, and some of the new reefs furnish inducements to prospectors. Of the latter, Wilson's Reef at Marong, and the Früling Reef, Whipstick, have been the most attractive. One crushing from Wilson's claim yielded 60zs. per ton, and another crushing from the same claim yielded over 90zs per ton. [2.17-18]

12.1868: Good accounts are also received from Sunday Morning Reef and Pender's Reef, at Marong; Perfect Cure Reef, Crusoe Gully; Diamond Hill Reef; Früling Reef, Whipstick; Christmas Reef, Kangaroo Flat, and many other reefs. [2.18-19]

15.07.1871: Royal George Company: A general half-yearly meeting of this company was held last night .... [5]

14.09.1871: That undiscovered “bourne” the Whipstick country, is evidently likely to become better prospected than it has been for some time. The registration of Ludemann’s claim on Früling Reef, will introduce to the public one of the best properties in the Whipstick. On Tuesday night a very large meeting of shareholders in Ludemann’s claim was held, when it was determined to register in 32,000 shares of £1 each, 10 shillings paid up; the name of the company to be the Früling Reef Company (registered). ... There is a very large extent of auriferous quartz country in the Whipstick, and it is time now that the Sandhurst people paid some attention to the riches so near them instead of going too far to speculate. [6]

19.09.1871: Prussian Company, Früling Reef, Whipstick: The manager (Mr G A. Bernicke) reports - at the general meeting of this company it was (on the suggestion of the inspector of the mine, Mr J Roberts) resolved that the stone in the deep shaft be followed to the south, having yielded at its last crushing, 7dwt to the ton, and that in the same time, 2 men should begin a new shaft, to be sunk on the underlay on a body of stone to the south of the deep shaft, which cropped out on the surface, and which Mr Roberts has traced to the adjoining (Mr Hardell’s) claim, who had crushed a short time ago 2ozs to the ton, and had now about 20 tons on the grass, from which he expected the same results. [7]

05.10.1871: The Früling Reef Company (private, not the registered company) struck stone at 80 feet deep that shows gold well. It is 3 feet thick, and gold is seen right through it. [8]

07.10.1871: Prussian Company, Früling Reef, Whipstick: The manager (Mr G A. Bernicke) reports - We have sunk 14 feet on the underlay during the last
fortnight on a spur about 5 inches thick, in which fine gold has frequently been seen. The men have been instructed to sink 24 feet deeper, when we expect to strike the main reef. [9]

12.10.1871 The Royal Charter is the name of two amalgamated claims by the side of the Frühling Reef Company, and holding 120 yards along the line. A shaft has been sunk 80 feet down already, and as gold is being got on each side, the company anticipate that they will soon be on gold. [10]

14.10.1871 The first meeting of shareholders in the Royal Charter Quartz Mining Company was held ... on Friday October 13th ... The company's ground consists of 100 yards along the line of Ludiman's claim, Frühling Reef. The shaft is at present down 40 feet, and operations will commence at once. [11]

30.10.1871 Royal Charter Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: A very good prospect has been obtained in sinking the shaft - a small body of stone about 18 inches wide has been struck, showing gold freely. Depth of shaft 12 feet. [12]

Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The directors visited the ground, and started two men on wages to sink a shaft for the stone already struck by the Royal Charter Company - this claim joins the Royal Charter Company. [13]

04.10.1871 A meeting of shareholders in the Bavarian Troop Company, Frühling Reef, was held on Friday last ... when it was resolved to register the company ... (as) the South Frühling. [14]

20.11.1871 Royal Charter Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The shaft is down 27 feet, where the reef was struck in the shaft, 12 inches thick, showing good gold. [15]

Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The shaft is down 23 feet. A contract has been accepted to sink a further depth of 80 feet. [16]

28.11.1871 A good prospect was washed out from some stone hauled up from the Royal Charter claim, Whipstick, yesterday. They are raising stone, and if it should at all go like that we saw yesterday they ought to pay expenses at all events. [17]

29.11.1871 Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: Contractors have sunk 10 feet this week, present depth of shaft 35 feet; sinking continues good. [18]

04.12.1871 Frühling Reef Company. We have about 40 loads of stone on the surface, we have seen a little gold in it; we will commence crushing during next fortnight. [19]

05.12.1871 Prussian Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The manager (Mr G A. Bernicke) reports -The shaft has been sunk to the depth of 35 feet. We drove to the west 4 feet, where the reef was 5½ feet wide. Gold is freely seen in it, and it is expected that the stone will yield 15dwt to the ton. [20]

12.12.1871 Royal Charter Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The prospects of this claim are very good, we have been taking out stone which shows very good gold. The leaders are all dipping to the west. We are continuing sinking the shaft down to a depth of 100 feet, the present depth 40 feet. [21]

Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The contractors have sunk 22 feet the last fortnight, good sinking; the present depth of shaft, 45 feet. [22]

29.12.1871 Frühling Reef Company. The contracts for the erection of pumping and winding machinery are progressing rapidly towards completion. The dam is finished. Active operations in the mine will soon be commenced. [23]

South Frühling Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: During the last fortnight we have driven 1206 feet, the ground getting harder and consisting of sandstone intermixed with quartz spurs. [24]

27.02.1872 Frühling Reef Company, Whipstick. The half yearly meeting of the company was held ... last evening. Directors’ report - Soon after our appointment as directors of your company we found that the only way to work your mine, so as to bring about a profitable result, was to erect drainage and winding machinery. The advisability or not of buying a second hand plant was fully discussed, and, after making numerous inquiries, and obtaining the fullest information, we came to the conclusion that the cheapest and best way would be to put up new machinery. Plans and specifications were prepared by Mr William Sutton, who in company with Mr Caldwell, proceeded to Melbourne and
purchased a first class engine, 14½ inch cylinder, 20 horsepower, for the sum of £215, also a boiler, from the Langlands Foundry Company, 26 feet long by 6 feet 6 inches in diameter, fitted with Galloway tubes, and mountings complete for £268. A contract was, at the same time, entered into with Messrs Wright and Edwards, for the pumping and winding gear complete, for the sum of £355. The following contracts were also let for masonry, Mr E. Watson, for the sum of £88, carpenters' and engineers' work, Gibson and Francis, £274 5 shillings for engine house, smithy, and erection of popeheads, O'Meara and Gaffney, £162. A large dam has been made which, when filled, will be of great value to the company. We are glad to say that all the machinery arrived safely on the ground, and that all the various contracts have been most satisfactorily completed, and that we expect to be able to ask you to see the engine started in about 2 weeks from this date. We purpose, as soon as the water is out, proceeding vigorously with the working of the mine, and hope with every confidence of being able in a short time to make a profitable return. A considerable portion of the wages account was expended in opening up the western reef, which will be of great value to the mine when a winding machine is added to our plant. [25]

18.03.1872: Frühling Reef Company. We have sunk 13 feet during the fortnight; total 213 feet. We expect to get the reef in about another 50 feet. [26]

03.1872: Great additions have been made to our machinery, perhaps the most important of which are the erection of the Great Comet Company's pumping and winding engine, on the Comet Reef; the Golden Fleece Company's crushing etc engine, on the Stafford Reef; and the Frühling Reef Company's engine, on the Frühling Reef at the Whipstick. These three machines are a considerable distance from any others, and will materially assist in the speedy development of the reefs in the localities in which they are situated. [2.28]

15.04.1872: Frühling Reef Company. We have sunk 15 feet, total 208 feet. [29]

22.04.1872: Frühling Reef Company. The shaft has been sunk to a further depth of 11 feet 6 inches and timbered, total depth from surface, 260 feet. Tenders have been called for sinking 40 feet deeper. The machinery is all in good working order. We had a slight breakage in the early part of the week with pumps, which was quickly repaired again. [28]

Frühling Reef Company. We have sunk 15 feet, total 208 feet. [29]

22.04.1872: Frühling Reef Company. The water was all got out of the shaft by Tuesday last. Ladder way has been completed, and sinking commenced. The machinery is working satisfactorily. [27]

20.05.1872: Frühling Reef Company. He shaft has been sunk and timbered 35 feet; total depth from surface 248 feet. The water is very heavy and seems to increase. [31]

27.05.1872: Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company. The shaft has been sunk 4 feet; total depth 220 feet, timbered to the bottom. We have cut a strong lava, and a reef in the bottom, but we will not be able to ascertain the quality on account of the influx of water. I have no doubt, as the adjoining engine claim will shortly cut the reef, that we will soon be able to resume sinking. [32]

02.07.1872: Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut has been extended 21 feet, total distance 35 feet; 29 feet from the shaft we cut the western wall, when a very heavy flood of water came in. Expect every day to cut...
the reef. [33] 09.07.1872: Frühlings Reef Gold Mining Company. The manager (Mr Carl Mueller) reports - we sunk 10 feet during the fortnight and slabbed 8 feet, total depth of shaft 238 feet. The shaft is quite dry, no water coming in. [34] 15.07.1872: Frühlings Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at 300 foot level has been extended 20 feet further, making total from shaft 54 feet. We have sunk a winze from 230 feet level, 18 feet; the stone is at present one foot wide, and has ever appearance of widening; the water greatly increasing. The reef was struck on Tuesday, but, owing to the large body of water coming in, we are unable to report on the appearance of the stone. [35] 22.07.1872: Frühlings Reef Company. The shaft has been sunk 8 feet; total depth 240 feet. [36] 26.08.1872: Frühlings Reef Company. The eastern crosscut has been extended 18 feet, making the total distance from the shaft 100 feet. At the distance of 90 feet in we had a change of ground. The necessary work to winze has been completed. The sinking of the shaft will be recommenced at once. [37] 29.08.1872: Frühlings Reef Company. The half-yearly meeting of this company was held at Mr Cole's office. ... The directors' report stated:- in laying before you our financial statement for the past six months, we have to express our regret that so far our efforts have not met with the success which we certainly anticipated before this. Since last meeting the shaft has been sunk 63 feet, and the crosscut at the 300 foot level has been put in 100 feet without striking the reef, which is a much greater distance than we expected to have to drive before getting stone. This, however, is accounted for by the underlie of the reef in the winze, which has gone rapidly to the east; in fact at 30 feet from the 200 foot level the stone lies almost flat, and very small. This being the case we determined to stop the crosscut and open out on the stone at 230 feet in the winze, a trial crushing of which will be taken out. We have called for tenders for sinking from 300 foot level in the shaft, but shall not accept any until after your meeting this day. The machinery still continues to work well, and is all in first class order. The mining manager reports as follows:- in presenting this report, I beg to state that it only extends over a period of 2 3 months, as I was only appointed your mining manager in June last. Since that time the plat has been cut at 300 foot level, and a crosscut driven at 100 feet. Finding but little stone, and that not of a payable character, it was deemed advisable to discontinue driving any further east. We have also sunk a winze from the 270 foot level; to the 300 foot level, knocking through on the back of the crosscut, in sinking the winze we carried the stone down with it to a depth of 30 feet at which distance we cut a slide coming in from the west, varying away the stone with it in a very disordered state. The eastern wall is still going down carrying a lava with it intermixed with a little quartz, when cut in the bottom crosscut it was underlying west, and it has every appearance that when a little deeper it will resume its proper position, and the probability is you will get the second make of the stone that has been worked so profitably above. I have 6 men engaged at present breaking stone in the winze referred to above. The machinery and pumps are all in good working order. It was decided to sink the shaft 60 feet further by wages men. ... [38] 07.10.1872: Frühlings Reef Company. We have been engaged driving on the stone north and south of shaft. A crushing has been taken from the same, which yielded 14ozs 10dwt from 69 loads. A trial crushing will be taken from the 180 foot level. [39] 21.10.1872: Frühlings Reef Company. We have been engaged breaking down stone at the 180 foot level, but have not been able to engage a battery to crush with. The stone is dipping north, and has very much improved in appearance. [40] 03.05.1873: Frühlings Reef Company. The half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held on the 30th, April. ... Directors' report - As you are aware that no work has been done during the past six months, on account of the Frühlings Reef Quartz Mining Company having suspended work, which flooded your mine, there is but little for us to say, but as the said company is in active work again, and your mine drained, we would
strongly recommend to commence sinking your shaft, which is down 256 feet from the surface, and a nice body of stone making in the bottom of shaft, which is showing gold. [41]

12.05.1873: Frühling Reef Quartz Mining Company. The shaft has been sunk 14 feet, timbered up 18 feet, total depth from plat 40 feet, no change of any importance to note. [42]

27.05.1873: Frühling Reef Company. The manager (Mr Carl Mueller) reports:- during the last fortnight we sunk shaft 8 feet and timbered 8 feet; no water, very good sinking ground. Stone is still going down and widening out. [43]

09.06.1873: Frühling Reef Company. During the last fortnight the shaft has been sunk 7 feet and slabbed 7 feet; total depth from brace 278½ feet. [44]

23.06.1873: Frühling Reef Company. Mr Carl Mueller reports:- during the last fortnight we sunk 2 feet, and commenced cutting a plat at the 270 foot level. [45]

21.07.1873: Frühling Reef Company. During the past fortnight the eastern crosscut, at 370 foot level, has been driven 15 feet; total from shaft, 55 feet. Ground composed of hard bars, sandstone and slate. Have finished timbering plat at western crosscut, and driven from thence 4 feet. [46]

04.08.1873: Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at the 370 foot level has been driven --- feet, total distance from shaft 80 feet. The ground is composed of slate and sandstone, intermixed with a large number of spurs. The water is coming in very fast. The western crosscut at the same level has been driven 10 feet, total distance 14 feet; driving all through slate. [47]

18.08.1873: Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at 370 foot level has been driven 39 feet; total: from shaft 119 feet. Cut one spur about 6 inches thick, carrying mundic and galena. The western crosscut has been driven 10 feet, total distance 24 feet. Ground composed of slate. [48]

01.09.1873: Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at 370 foot level has been driven 17 feet; total distance from shaft, 136 feet; ground hard slate. The western crosscut at same level is now in 27 feet; driving through sandstone bars. Water very strong. [49]

Frühling Reef Company. The half-yearly meeting of shareholders in this company was held ... on Monday last. ...

Mining Manager’s report: Since my appointment as mining manager of your mine in March last, work has been pushed on as vigorously as possible. After thoroughly overhauling machinery and pumps, and cleaning out the boiler, I commenced to pump out the water, which was forked in a little over a week. Sinking of shaft was then proceeded with, which has been sunk a further depth of 70 feet, making total depth from surface 380 feet, all of which is well and securely timbered. I then commenced a crosscut to the east and to the west at 370 foot level, in expectation of cutting the same run of stone that has been hitherto worked with such profitable results. The eastern crosscut is now in to the distance of 146 feet; the driving has been through slate and sandstone, intermixed with quartz sours and lava veins, all of them underlying to the east, which I consider a favorable indication. The ground in the western crosscut is composed of slate and sandstone. I regret to say that as yet I have not succeeded in striking a payable reef, but at the same time I would urge upon you the advisability of continuing on both crosscuts, when I believe we shall yet discover stone of a payable character. ... [50]

12.1875: Ground that has for some time been unworked has been taken up by small parties of working miners on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick, and the Lightning Reef, Eaglehawk, and on each reef several adjoining claims have proved payable. [2.31-32]

09.06.1877: It is reported that 7ozs to the ton has been struck on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick. It was found in a body of quartz left by the former workers in the mine. [51]

11.06.1877: It was ... reported that stone which had yielded 7ozs to the ton had been struck on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick, but no details are yet to hand. [52]

06.1877: At the Whipstick, the Frühling Reef and Old Tom Reefs have been yielding better, and payable gold has been found in the Alexander Reef at Lockwood. [2.28-30]
A few claims at the Fruhling and Blue Jacket reefs, at the Whipstick, are yielding well, but are not worked energetically. [2.29]

Some parties are working on the Frühling Reef, and have met with some encouragement. [2]

The next claim visited by (the Sandhurst Prospecting Board) was the Frühling Reef, for which William Thompson asked £1000. The company, which includes several Sandhurst shareholders, intends to resume work will vigor and to further prospect the ground, which was very rich in the early days. They are at present carting machinery. There was a plant here before, but it was removed. They are now about to erect a winding and pumping plant in such a position as to be able to work from two shafts. The old main shaft is down 330 feet, but there is a lot of water to be bailed when the machinery is erected. The other shaft is 100 feet deep. It is intended to sink further. The original claim paid £36,000 near the surface. [53]

A prospecting party, working on the Frühling Reef (Whipstick), are breaking a crushing from the reef at a depth of 50 feet from the surface, where the stone is 18 inches wide, and showing fair gold. The latest crushing taken out early in the month averaged half an ounce per ton. [54]

A party of prospectors (Louie Toma, Tussup and Company), working at the old Summer mine on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick, cleaned off 13 tons for 2ozs 15dwt. The reef is 2 feet wide. [55]

Another party Louie Toma, Tussup and Company, working on the Summer Reef, cleaned off 14 tons for 11ozs 2dwt. The latter has stone 4 feet in thickness, at a depth of 50 feet, and the dirt is easily obtained. [56]

Louie Toma and party crushed 35 tons for 5ozs 10dwt, while a return of 7ozs 5dwt was obtained from the plates. [57]

Louie Toma and Company (Whipstick) have crushed 29 tons for 7ozs 16dwt. The stone was obtained from a small reef 12 inches in thickness at a depth of 980 feet. [58]

Louie Toma and Company (Whipstick) crushed 35 tons for the satisfactory return of 14ozs 3dwt. The stone was obtained from a depth of 90 feet from the Summer Reef, which has already been worked extensively in the locality. [59]

In the scrub to the east and north (of Flagstaff Hill) there are numerous gullies where gold has been found in considerable quantities. Among these are the Whipstick, Beehive, Phillip's and Skylark. All these gullies, however, are being exploited by the fossickers at the present. ... [60]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

FREDERICK THE GREAT CYANIDE WORKS

Other Names

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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Raywood 1:25,000 - BV482.456</td>
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Victorian Heritage Register No: No
National Estate Register No: No
Planning Scheme No: No

Description
Constructed on the southern end of a large tailing dump are two lines of brick cyanide vats. Each line contains 3 vats. Some of the vats still retain the central pillar for the support of agitating devices. The wooden agitating arms (bush timber construction) still survive for some of the vats. There is a tip dray in the vicinity.

History
Period of activity: c1933-1943

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
There are five other cyanide works sites within the study area. These are: Devonshire Sand, Gold Dumps (Moon Reef), Old Tom Reef, Shamrock and Wilson's Hill. All are from the 1930's period of mining on Bendigo and therefore relate to the second phase of cyaniding in Victoria. There are no sites in the study area which belong to the first phase of cyaniding, prior to 1914. The Frederick the Great site is the most intact of these.

Statement of Significance
The sites display relatively intact artefacts for a large scale cyaniding operation (criterion B) which has considerable potential to educate and illustrate the cyaniding process (criterion C). The site represents the last phase of mining at the Frederick the Great mine and was instrumental in maintaining the economy of Sebastian during the 1930s (criterion A).

Level of Significance
National Estate

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with both the Victorian Heritage Council and the Australian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. The site should be purchased by the Victorian Government.

Heritage Boundaries
The site is bounded by Sebastian Road on the south, Three Chain Road on the west, the access road to the north and the pipe track from the Sebastian reservoir on the east.

References
3. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.
6. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
7. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

1937: Approximately 30 cyanide plants, employing in all about 300 men, have been operating at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Huntly, Fosterville, and Sebastian. [1]
   At Sebastian, adjoining the enormous sand heap previously described, is another slum heap with the remains of six huge brick-lined cyanide vats. Each vat has a central pillar and axle on which balanced a long wooden log. Mr Fred Lance of Sebastian, who is now 76 years old, worked there in the 1930's before the central pillars were there. He did not know of their existence. Apparently, the finer slums needed agitation, and this was achieved by a horse being attached to one end of the log and walking around the path provided, while the agitating equipment, attached to the other end of the log, was dragged around in the vat. Judging by the old steel and wooden harrows lying directly nearby, these were the rakes that stirred up the slum in the vats so that the cyanide solution could penetrate and dissolve the gold more rapidly. This second cyaniding operation was carried out by Jimmy Doran round about 1933 to 1937. [2]
   1941: Sebastian Cyaniders Limited: 27ozs obtained from 10 tons of slag at the Government battery, Bendigo [3]
   1942: Sebastian Cyaniders Limited: 1.5ozs obtained from 2 tons of slag at the Government battery, Bendigo [3]
   1943: Sebastian Cyaniders Limited: 11ozs obtained from 4 tons of slag at the Government battery, Bendigo [3]

Tailings treatment, principally by cyaniding, in Victoria
   1893: 5291ozs 2dwt 2 grains of gold obtained from 43,521 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [4.12]
   1894: 2097ozs 14dwt 6 grains of gold obtained from 53,849 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [4.14]
   1895: 5380ozs 8dwt 14 grains of gold obtained from 62,319 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [5.10]
   1896: 8822ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 115,702.5 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes, but with cyaniding now on the increase. [5.11]

09.07.1897: From the Herald we learn that the Minister of Mines has received from Mr Stone, the departmental assayer, a report on 2 tons of tailings sent to him from Axedale for cyanide experiment. Mr Stone says the lot was treated in four half ton parcels, and the results showed that the best results were secured in each successive parcel, the causes of the loss of gold and consumption being gradually found out and overcome, until in the final parcel an extraction of 74.6 per cent of the gold was obtained for a consumption of 0.53 pounds of cyanide per ton; or a cost of one shilling 4 pence for chemicals, including caustic soda. The value of the gold recovered being 7 shillings 9 pence per ton, the profit was then 6 shillings 5 pence per ton to cover cost and handling and depreciation of plant. ... Some interesting hints are added by Mr Stone, as well as a table, and the whole report is to be printed for the information of the mining community. [8]
   1897: 15,717ozs 4dwt of gold obtained from 161,723 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [5.10]
   1898: 17,845ozs 1dwt of gold obtained from 351,067 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [5.11]
   1899: 17,412ozs 13dwt of gold obtained from 359,848 tons of tailings by
cyaniding. [5.11]

1900: 28,741 ozs 16 dwt of gold obtained from 283,532 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.10]
1901: 41,990 ozs 10 dwt of gold obtained from 482,278 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.11]
1902: 43,302 ozs 15 dwt of gold obtained from 504,212 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.14]
1903: 35,839 ozs of gold obtained from 444,897 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.16]
1904: 48,035 ozs 16 dwt of gold obtained from 644,925 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.18]
1905: 45,221 ozs 4 dwt of gold obtained from 626,745 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.20]
1906: 44,495 ozs 15 dwt of gold obtained from 665,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [5.18]
1907: 65,961 ozs of gold obtained from 983,034 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.17]
1908: 77,245 ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,768 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.15]
1909: 75,429 ozs of gold obtained from 1,257,338 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.18]
1910: 68,583 ozs of gold obtained from 1,177,232 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.18]
1911: 59,986 ozs of gold obtained from 1,102,956 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.20]
1912: 55,740 ozs of gold obtained from 881,306 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.18]
1913: 45,397 ozs of gold obtained from 692,256 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.17]
1914: 39,920 ozs of gold obtained from 607,260 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.16]
1915: 21,511 ozs of gold obtained from 317,636 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.12]
1916: 14,635 ozs of gold obtained from 203,016 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [4.5]
1917: 8930 ozs of gold obtained from 127,012 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 34 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [4.3]
1918: 4420 ozs of gold obtained from 45,600 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 12 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1919: 4198 ozs of gold obtained from 43,000 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1920: 4226 ozs of gold obtained from 37,596 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1921: 5326 ozs of gold obtained from 39,937 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1922: 4727 ozs of gold obtained from 41,163 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1923: 5847 ozs of gold obtained from 41,163 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1924: 2052 ozs of gold obtained from 12,108 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1925: 971 ozs of gold obtained from 8344 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1926: 1323 ozs of gold obtained from 7748 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 6 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1927: 1672 ozs of gold obtained from 11,060 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 6 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1928: 1199 ozs of gold obtained from 6397 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 5 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1929: 2772 ozs of gold obtained from 4047 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were no cyanide plants in operation during the year. [6.3]
1930: There were no reports of gold being obtained from tailings by cyaniding during the year. There were no reports of cyanide plants in operation during the year.
1931: 807 ozs of gold obtained from 8,933 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [1.3]
1932: 2,060 ozs of gold obtained from 39,317 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 5 Government plants. [1.5]
1933: 3,550 ozs of gold obtained from 63,565 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 32 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 5 Government plants. [1.5]
1934: 14,842 ozs of gold obtained from 321,104 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 86 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [1.20]
1935: 22,460 ozs of gold obtained from 630,318 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 121 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [1.24]
1936: 28,565 ozs of gold obtained from 794,640 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 141 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [1.29]
1937: 41,923 ozs of gold obtained from 1,233,914 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 157 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [1.21]
1938: 40,384 ozs of gold obtained from 1,202,623 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 132 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [3.32]
1939: 43,458 ozs of gold obtained from 1,358,304 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 150 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [3.25]
1939: Cyanide plants at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Ironbark, Huntly, Sebastian, Fosterville and Marong are giving in most cases payable results. [9]
1940: 38,759 ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,301 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 188 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [3.25]
1941: 37,050 ozs of gold obtained from 1,176,936 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 165 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 4 Government plants. [3.23]
1942: 19,869 ozs of gold obtained from 626,643 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 85 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [3.20]
1943: 6626 ozs of gold obtained from 78,716 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 36 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [3.19]
1944: 29,360 ozs of gold obtained from 59,045 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 19 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [3.19]
1945: 24,420 ozs of gold obtained from 47,197 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [3.19]
1946: 8694 ozs of gold obtained from 262,810 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 40 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [3.22]
1947: 9977 ozs of gold obtained from 268,893 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 39 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [3.22]
1948: 10,746 ozs of gold obtained from 376,143 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 30 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [3.26]
1949: 10,312 ozs of gold obtained from 359,577 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 24 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [1.34]
1950: 10,834 ozs of gold obtained from 468,758 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 27 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.31]
1951 5093 ozs of gold obtained from 220,625 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 9 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.27]
1952 1453 ozs of gold obtained from 60,466 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.24]
1953 1025 ozs of gold obtained from 15,807 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.21]
1954 789 ozs of gold obtained from 14,677 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.23]
1955 764 ozs of gold obtained from 13,805 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.23]
1956 476 ozs of gold obtained from 10,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 6 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.23]
1957 523 ozs of gold obtained from 11,861 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.23]
1958 569 ozs of gold obtained from 11,150 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 5 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [7.31]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

FREDERICK THE GREAT MINE

Other Names

Location 500 metres south of the junction of Three Chain Road/Sebastian Township Road, Frederick the Great/Carshalton Reef, Sebastian

Map Reference Raywood 1:25,000 - BV483.457.

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description

Main shaft
Battery- Two storied, wooden framework of 40-head battery, in front of which is a large wooden water tower. Some fire damage has occurred to the north end of the battery framework; part of the framework at the south end has collapsed; generally the timber has decayed badly and the structure is in a poor state of preservation. On the south side of battery is a large brick engine foundation. Boiler house- Partly exposed brick flues, several boiler sites and the remains of a square brick chimney base.
Winding/pumping engine- An arrangement of large wooden horses
Shaft - May well be open, appears to be covered with sheets of iron. Around the shaft is the remains of a collapsed wooden poppet head.
Mullock - Remnant of large heap.
Tailings - Large dumps of tailings lie to the west of the battery site, stretching for some distance to the south.
South shaft (Bruhn’s shaft)
Located to the south of the tailing dumps, near the southern boundary is an open 3-compartment shaft. The shaft still retains sections of its wooden collar. To the south of the shaft is a square concrete winding engine foundation and a linear depression marking the site of a boiler.

History

Period of activity: 1864-1913. The first battery of 12-heads was erected in 1864. The battery appears to have been added to, or replaced by a 40-head battery in 1870 when the winding and pumping plant was upgraded.
Line of reef: Frederick the Great/Carshalton
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: 73,375ozs (valued at £289,319) obtained from 165,443 tons between 1864 and 1872; £291,750 worth of gold obtained between 1880 and 1887; 170,000ozs obtained between 1887 and 1899.
Dividends: £96,434 between 1864 and 1872; £118,534 between 1880 and 1887; £28,275 between 1887 and 1913.
Deepest working level: unknown
Deepest shaft: 880 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context

Mining

Comparative Examples

The site is the only medium-level high-production mine in the study area. There are a number of medium-level low-production mine sites in the study area, namely: Lightning Hill (1852-1907), Old Tom Reef (1857-1898), Black Forest (1858-1907), Frühling Reef (1860-1931), King of Prussia (1871-1885) and Lancashire Reef (1890-1908); but these are not really comparable. The only
other sites which may be compared with this site are the New Moon and South New Moon sites, although both were deeper and more successful mines.

**Statement of Significance**

The Frederick the Great mine site is of considerable cultural significance for Victoria, given the age of the artefacts, the context in which they are situated and their remarkable state of preservation. The site displays a sequence of uses or functions over time illustrative of several major phases in Bendigo's mining history (criterion C), it was a success as a mine in terms of production levels, yields and as a business enterprise. It was one of Bendigo's premium mines and was responsible for the establishment of the township of Sebastian (criterion A). The site is part of a network of sites including the cyanide works and the South Frederick the Great mine, and has the ability to answer timely and specific archaeological research question, because the superb state of preservation means there are many features which can aid in the interpretation of less well preserved sites. The site also has the possibility of buried remains (criterion C). The site contains probably the most complete set of artefacts surviving in Victoria to illustrate the above-ground operation of a large gold mine.

**Level of Significance**

National Estate

**Recommendation**

The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with both the Victorian Heritage Council and the Australian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. The mine site should be purchased by the Victorian Government. Further historical research should be undertaken to determine in more detail the sequences of plant, machinery and equipment used on the mine and their relationship to extant features on the ground.

**Heritage Boundaries**

The site is bounded by Sebastian Road on the south, Three Chain Road on the west, the access road to the north and the pipe track from the Sebastian reservoir on the east.

**References**

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10. "Raywood." From our Own Correspondent, Monday, 9 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 July 1866.
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35. “Mining intelligence. Frederick the Great.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 30 December 1892, p3, col.4.
42. “Mining intelligence. Frederick the Great.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 8 October 1894, p4, col.4.
43. “Mining intelligence. Frederick the Great.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 5 November 1894, p4, col.5.
44. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 3 December 1894, p4, col.2.
46. “Mining intelligence. Frederick the Great.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 January 1895, p4, col.2.
47. “Mining intelligence. Frederick the Great.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 14 January 1895, p4, cols.4/5.
50. The Bendigo Advertiser 2 February 1897.


60. The Bendigo Advertiser, ? March 1915 [in Department of Mining and Industrial Development records].


63. The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette.

Notes

The description is based upon a quick site inspection by David Bannear. All remains, except the battery, were obscured by pepper trees.

The present threats to the site are: further collapse of the battery structure, fire, site visitors, pepper tree growth cracking brickwork in the battery engine foundation, the brick flues and chimney base, and further rott ing of the collapsed wooden poppet head.

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

29.05.1863... The locality is now no secret, and therefore our aim will be to give a detailed report of what we saw and heard, leaving the public to draw their own conclusions and act accordingly. The field we believe has not yet been named, but we suppose it will come under the category of flats, rather than that of gullies. The ground is nearly level, except in the immediate vicinity of the prospectors’ claim, which is undulating, and lies at the foot of a surface reef - of which more hereafter. There is an abundance of timber, and a creek running within a few hundred yards. The distance from Sandhurst is estimated at from 12 to 15 miles, but having traversed the two ways, we should say that 13 miles is a fair estimate of the nearest route, which is through Eaglehawk, Sailor’s Gully, and along Sydney Flat by way of Boyle’s store, keeping the creek to the left all the way. The other road is by way of Peg Leg Gully and Myer’s Flat, keeping the creek to the right, but this is not so direct a route as the first named. There are, at a fair computation, about 700 diggers on the ground already two-thirds of whom are “shepherding”, but we should suppose that nearly 100 holes are in a fair way for bottoming. Up to the time we left (5 o’clock last evening) 7 holes had been bottomed, three of which had struck gold in paying quantities. The sinking is from 30 to 36 feet, through light soil, clay, reds sand and cement, under which the bed of washdirt lies; the depth of washdirt is from 3 feet 6 inches to 4 feet, and is a conglomerate of white gravel, small quartz and sand. The prospect obtained varies from 1dwt to 2dwt to the tin dish, and the gold if of the quality known as “rough”. The appearance of the ground has been compared by some to the Epsom Diggings, and by others to that of Elysian Flat. Claims are pegged out for about a mile in length and 400 yards in width, and so much faith is placed in the locality that even on both edges of the creek there are the indications of holes being “put down”. As we have before said, about 100 shafts are progressing downwards, but on fully one half of the claims the pick and shovel are lying ready for action. ... There are already temporary stores on the ground, and two or three butcher’s shops; 3 blacksmith’s shops also contribute their musical hammering to the busy scene around. Spring carts are in abundance, from which provisions of various descriptions are dispersed to the tented settlers. The low range which skirts the claim south of the prospectors’, show what may be termed an outcrop from the reef, and in these surface boulders gold is everywhere visible in several shapes, from the finest grain to nuggets of small dimensions. An experienced quartz miner estimated that the quartz would run about 5ozs to the ton, which, notwithstanding the distance it would be necessary
... About 15 miles north from the Post Office, Sandhurst, 5 miles north west from the Flagstaff Hill, Whipstick, and half a mile from Myer’s Creek, on the eastern side the new ground has been opened. A party of men - Burgess, Lucas and Flowers - have been prospecting in these quarters for several months, occasionally varying their labours by cutting bark and slabs for subsistence. On the 4th of May they opened the reef, on the rising ground to the north of the alluvial ground now working, but kept the fact to themselves will they fairly tried the alluvial on the surface, and having secured their 200 yards they made their discovery public. Only 12 men were on the ground on Saturday, when the first payable hole was bottomed, Bailey and Company, being the fortunate party who have secured the prospecting claim. They bottomed at 30 feet, with 4 feet of washdirt, and took half an ounce off the bottom. A second payable hole was bottomed on Monday, and the third yesterday morning yielded 1dwt to the bucket, shotty gold, with quartz intermixed. About four holes have been bottomed without showing indications of gold, but these will be driven and fairly tried. The width of the flat between the reef and the opposite range, which, from the quartz and ironstone on the surface, appears to be auriferous, is about one third of a mile, and the holes are being sunk some 15 claims wide, deepening as they near the centre of the flat from 10 to 40 feet. The deepest ground in the centre has not yet been bottomed. Opinions vary as to the permanence of the rush, some believing it is merely a spurt from a reef, in which gold is seen to a great extent; but others, from the fact that the gold has been got 3 miles to the south, at a depth of 125 feet, through cement, and amid heavy boulders, and about a distance of half a mile to the south of the present rush, believe that a new goldfield has been discovered to the honour of which the Prospecting Association might have been entitled, had they carried out the suggestion of one of their members, to give help of the men working the deep ground there some weeks ago. No stores or shanties are yet on the ground, but a roaring trade has been done by spring carts from various stores from Eaglehawk, Elysian Flat, Epsom and Huntly. Saplings are in abundance, and are falling in all directions, and are being erected as frames for tents, and no doubt a canvas town will be up immediately. About 500 men are on the ground. ... [1]

The Sebastian rush is rather diminished, than otherwise, which may probably be attributed to the principal digging being on purchased land. The yield of gold is not great in most of the claims, though it has been reported that as much as six ounces to the load of washdirt has been obtained. The reef on the purchased land, though proved to be highly auriferous, still remains unworked. Rumours are afloat of many other reefs having been discovered within a radius of three miles from the above mentioned, but only one has been officially reported as payable. [2.5]

Another German digger, Sebastian Schmidt, struck good gold at twelve feet in vicinity of the Seven Mile Hut. Old days were relived even if the rush was brief. The ground was patchy but the following May, Schmidt and his party opened up the main reef there and for many years the mine that eventuated, the Frederick the Great, was regarded as one of the soundest and most competently worked mines in the colony. [3.133]

The prospects of Sebastian Flat are decidedly improving. Several of the claims bottomed at between 30 and 50 feet are, we understand on reliable authority, turning out as much as 6ozs to the load; while down the lead (if such it mat be called) there is renewed activity. ... No further information relative to the reef discovered by Burgess and Company has reached us. [4]

The Sebastian Flat must be progressing, though slowly, as a company is about to erect a crushing machine. [2.6]

At Sebastian, the Frederick the Great Company, upon the private property of Mr Hugh Glass, and taken by the company on tribute (30 per cent of the gross proceeds) for ten years, have given most satisfactory returns. [2]

The Sebastian - The quiet and stillness which has held possession of the Sebastian Goldfield since its desertion by the alluvial miners...
Some nine or ten months since, was yesterday broken by the inauguration of what, it is to be hoped, will prove a new and second era in its existence. The event, which caused some little interest in the place, was the starting of the crushing engine of the Frederick the Great Company, on the reef which is leased by the company. It will be recollected that simultaneously with the Sebastian alluvial diggings being discovered, a party of miners, Burgess and Company - discovered a very rich surface reef, traversing the new goldfield. When the goldfield was ascertained to be the private property of Mr Hugh Glass, the alluvial claims were let at a rental, but the discoverers of the reef were not allowed to work it on any conditions. It was consequently allowed to remain unworked until about five months ago, when an arrangement was made between the company who started their machinery yesterday and Mr Glass. The terms under which they hold the ground, consisting of 400 yards by 150 yards along the reef, with the right of 80 acres for drainage, and two acres for a cart road, are under a lease for ten years, by paying the owner 30 percent on the gross amount of gold yielded. The tribute appears no doubt extremely high, but it seems that such was the offer of the company themselves. They consist of eight working shareholders, all practical men, who have erected their plant themselves, in about three months, at a cost of something like £1,600. Their plan has been not to contract for the erection of the machinery, but by the employment of a working engineer (Mr Pickles, of Sandhurst) to devote their own labour to its erection. And under the supervision of their engineer, they have turned out as complete and compact a crushing engine as it would be possible to find in the district. In consequence of the low level and flat surface of the ground, it was necessary, in order to carry off the tailings from the machine, to erect the stamper beds at an elevation of about ten feet; this is accordingly done by the formation of a platform, supported by immense logs resting on the bed rock, some four or five feet from the surface. This elevation necessitates the hauling of the stone from the cutting of the reef up an inclined tramway of about 150 feet in length. The engine is of 12-horse power driving two six-stamper batteries, hauling the trucks, and working a pump, the well of the latter being supplied by an underground flume connected with the dam. The tailings will be carried into an adjoining dam, so as to allow the water, purified after settlement, to flow over into that for supplying the engine. The stamps, ripple boxes, and feeding boxes have all the latest improvements, and are of a very substantial character. This would lead to the greatest benefits for this district, and would be a favourable contrast to the failures of many large companies on the share system. He would therefore ask those present to join with him in wishing that the company might before Christmas have a Christmas cake of gold that would be the forerunner of many large cakes to come.

About 2 o’clock, steam being got up, the engine was set in motion, and on the first revolution of the flywheel was christened "Frederick the Great". The toast having been duly honoured, Mr Pendlebury, one of the shareholders, returned thanks on behalf of his brother shareholders. He also expressed his gratification for the attendance of visitors from Sandhurst. He remarked that if they deserved the compliment which Mr McIntyre had paid them, it was because they had always followed the old adage, which said, “If you want a thing done well, do it yourself.”

Mr Vallentine next proposed the health of the engineer, Mr Pickles, in a few words expressive of the skill and perseverance he had brought to bear in designing the whole works and carrying them to such a successful termination. Mr Pickles briefly acknowledged the compliment and after a few more of the toasts customary on such occasions the company separated.

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\[5\] 23.12.1864. The Sebastian Reef - The Frederick the Great Company, who commenced work a few days ago, yielded 150 ounces. The company have only been crushing what may be termed mullock out of the new cutting, and expect that their next yield will be much richer, so that, notwithstanding the heavy tribute of 30 per cent, which they have to pay to Mr. Hugh Glass, the proprietor of the land, the speculation is likely to turn out very profitable. [6]

\[6\] 12.1864. At Sebastian, the Frederick the Great Company, upon the private
property of Mr. Hugh Glass, and taken by the company on tribute (30 per cent of the gross proceeds) for ten years, have given most satisfactory returns. Three crushings only have yet been made, giving the following results:-

First week: 150ozs
Second week: 269ozs
Third week: 207ozs

In these cases the quantity of stone reduced was not accurately kept, the weekly result of gold only being taken, but I have averaged it at 100 tons per week. [7.48-49]

- 03.1865: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 520ozs obtained from 250 tons of stone at 8 feet. [7.46-47]
- 06.1865: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 624ozs obtained from 2312 tons of stone at between the surface and 10 feet. [7.50-52]
- 09.1865: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 180ozs obtained from 1200 tons of surface stone and alluvium. [7.54-55]
- 02.10.1865: Sebastian - The alluvial workings at this place appear to be wholly deserted. Quartz reefing, however is still going on. The Frederick the Great Company are working in their open cutting, and trying stone from the east side, about thirty feet from the surface. In this gold has been seen; it is expected to pay. It is very profitable that the spurs further east will be prospected, and should they yield sufficient gold for working, there will be an immense quantity of stone to take out. The spurs in other portions of the cutting have not been yielding so well of late, and in consequence they have been left alone. At the south end of the excavation underfoot several spurs show payable gold from the cutting since the company commenced, about 5000 tons of quartz have been crushed, yielding 2100ozs of gold and on the whole the enterprising shareholders have received satisfactory return from their expenditure, capital and labour. Now, however their operations are in a measure of a prospecting character, and the gold obtained is less than hitherto. The company's dam is full and contains 5 month's water. It is very unlikely now that even in the driest summer the company will be without water to crush as they can draw water by means of pipes from the creek. [8]
- 12.1865: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 153ozs 1dwt 15.1 grains obtained from 1880 tons of surface stone and alluvium. [7.53-54]
- 03.1866: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 70ozs obtained from 150 tons of stone. [7.51-52]
- 28.05.1866: After a stoppage of nearly five months, in consequence of the want of water, this company commenced operations on Wednesday last. From the supply given by the creek adjoining the ground they will be enabled to continue crushing for the next two or three months. [9]
- 06.1866: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 202ozs 3dwt 8 grains obtained from 335 tons of stone at 50 and 90 feet in a reef between 2 and 20 feet thick. Upon visiting the quartz crushing engines and many of the various quartz reefs upon which claims have been taken up, the first visited was the Frederick the Great, Sebastian; I found that the company had just finished crushing for the month. I wished for some specimens for the Intercolonial Exhibition in Melbourne, but the terms upon which this company have the lease from Mr. Hugh Glass precluded any specimens being parted with without his authority. They did not crush during the months of April and May, solely on account of the prolonged drought, and only commenced during the middle of June; they however crushed 335 tons of stone, which yielded 202ozs of gold raised from two levels, 50 and 90 feet; the reef is from two to 20 feet thick. There are many more claims upon Crown lands in the vicinity of Sebastian, but unworked from the want of capital and water. [7.48-50]
- 04.07.1866: The Frederick the Great Company are raising stone from the open cutting which is paying well. They are also sinking a new shaft, nearer the engine, up which the stone from the cutting will be raised by the engine. This will do away with the whip at present in use. The company have abundance of water for all purposes. [10]
- 19.07.1866: At Sebastian, the Frederick the Great Company have obtained 57ozs 12dwt for a fortnight's work. They have begun a new shaft which they
intend to sink to a depth of 100 feet, at an anticipated cost of £120. [11]

12.1866. Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 606ozs obtained from 3136 tons of stone at between 20 and 90 feet. [7.45-46]

Frederick the Great Gold Mining Company (Private): held in 8 shares. This company's ground, which contains an area of 480 acres, is held under a kind of current lease from Hugh Glass, Esquire; the latter receiving 22½ per cent on all yields. There are two shafts, both of which are about 90 feet deep. In No.1 shaft the workings lie 30 feet west of the shaft, and the reef measures from 20 to 25 feet wide. In No.2 shaft the reef has been opened out upon for a distance of 270 feet north and south, and the stopes rise to a considerable height above the 90 feet level. Close to the shaft the rise an extensive cutting, which has been worked to a depth of 80 feet by 60 yards long, from which the reef was traced in the present workings. A new winding engine, 12-horsepower, has just been purchased for £475. There is also a 14-horsepower engine on the ground, which drives two batteries of 6 revolving stamps. Another battery is at present in the course of erection, two being found insufficient for the company's stone. While our reporter was on the ground (Saturday, December 8, about 3.15pm), an accident occurred, which terminated fatally, from a mass of slate, about 4 tons weight, falling upon a man in the drive. The ground, although previously deemed perfectly safe, appears to have adhered, in the form of a wedge, to a soft surface of slate, and came away without warning. Mine Force etc. - from 25 to 30 hands are generally employed. Yield of Gold: for the fortnight ending 7 December, from 337 tons, 134ozs 4dwt. [12.357]

02.1867. Frederick the Great Gold Mining Company (Private): held in 8 shares. This company holds an area of 480 acres under a kind of current lease from Hugh Glass, Esquire; the latter receiving 22½ per cent on all yields, the company having the option of terminating upon giving 3 months' notice. There is one main shaft, the depth of which is 93 feet, timbered and divided into two compartments. There are two levels, led to by a crosscut a few feet west from the shaft; the first level is 78 feet deep, and the second at 90 feet, from both of which stone is being taken. At the 78 feet level the miners are steadily rising on the backs and working northwards. All stuff from this level is sent down by passes to the 90 feet level, the latter being the principal workings in the mine. To give an idea of the large quantity of stone raised from the 90 feet level alone, a width of 24 feet of reef has been crushed 280 feet long and 15 feet high. To the south end the lode has been run down under foot, as it dips in that direction, and now a start has been made to fill in the open ground leading to the north. For a main level the timbering of this ground is most creditable to the manager and all concerned. In a short time it is intended to sink the shaft deeper, to admit of another stope below. Judging by the quality of the stone left under foot, the deeper workings promise even better returns than at the present level. About 100 feet north of the main shaft stands the main cutting, from which the company took their first stone. This excavation is 160 feet long, 60 feet wide, and 80 feet deep. The cutting communicates with the works, and is used as a footway. The machinery consists of two engines, one 20-horsepower, used for crushing only, the other 14-horsepower, for winding, also drives a circular saw, with which all the timber for the mine is prepared. The crushing plant consists of four batteries of 5 revolving stampers each. The mine is in substantial working order, and gives every encouragement to its owners. Yield of Gold: for the fortnight ending 9 February, from 490 tons, 69ozs 17dwt. [13.104]

03.1867. Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 630ozs obtained from 3150 tons of stone at between 20 and 100 feet. [7.37-38]

05.1867. Frederick the Great Gold Mining Company, Sebastian: 412ozs obtained for the month. [13.236]

06.1867. Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 832ozs 8dwts obtained from 924 tons of stone at between 20 and 180 feet. [7.24]

09.1867. Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 932ozs 5dwts obtained from 1210 tons of stone at between 200 and 250 feet. [7.21-22]

12.1867. Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 498ozs 10dwts obtained from 4896 tons of stone at between 93 and 150 feet. I have the honor to report that the low average yield of gold per ton will be found to be caused by the large quantity
(4896 tons) from the Frederick the Great Company's claim averaging only 2dwt 0.87 grains. It is stated that these crushings include all the slate and debris taken in clearing the mine for the purpose of timbering and opening out drives at other levels. [7.20]

03.1868: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1703ozs 16dwt obtained from 4026 tons of stone at 153 feet. The quantity of gold obtained from the Frederick the Great Reef during the quarter is worthy of note, viz. 1703ozs 16dwt. It may be as well to mention that this claim is situate on the private property of Mr. Hugh Glass, and that gentleman receives a percentage upon all the gold raised from the mine. [7.20]

06.1868: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1205ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 3216 tons of stone at 150 feet. [7.23]

09.1868: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 860ozs 13dwt obtained from 3784 tons of stone at 150 feet. [7.23]

12.1868: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 317ozs 8dwt obtained from 1963 tons of stone at 150 feet. [7.21]

03.1869: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1439ozs 3dwt obtained from 2834 tons of stone. [14]

06.1869: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1473ozs obtained from 2834 tons of stone. [14]

05.07.1869: The Frederick the Great Company still keeps on its prosperous way, and the cake of 350ozs sent in on Saturday showed that this wonderful mine has lost none of its vitality. The question will very naturally arise, are there not good reefs close to it? [15]

09.1869: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1279ozs obtained from 2908 tons of stone. [14]

At Sebastian the Frederick the Great Company continues to yield well - 1279ozs in twelve weeks. [7.34-35]

12.1869: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1337ozs 12dwt obtained from 2782 tons of stone at between 150 and 200 feet. [14]

The Frederick the Great Company, at Sebastian, have during the last quarter obtained 1337ozs 12dwt. They are now engaged in the erection of more powerful machinery, the contract price about £4500. [7.30]

21.05.1870: The Frederick the Great Company, Sebastian - A great deal has been written about the power of gold, but we think that so far as this part of the world is concerned it is indeed the wizard that has changed as by enchantment the aspect of a whole country, and settled a population, with all the adjuncts of civilisation, on a tract of country which a few years ago was a desert. Wherever it has outcropped the same effects are visible as around Bendigo; and perhaps in few places are they shown so vividly as in the vicinity of that great reef which for some years past has been worked with such success by the Frederick the Great Company. The fame of this company had so long been known to us by seeing their magnificent yields that we at last resolved to pay them a visit, especially as they have lately been erecting splendid machinery, with a view to sinking to greater depths and obtaining still greater yields from the reef.

The Frederick the Great Company is situated on a small hill, a spur of the range which is almost surrounded with alluvium, the connection with the main range being hardly perceptible. However it is easy to see at a glance that the hill is not a formed one, for it is very different from the surrounding plains. The traveller in journeying out to it passes through a wooded country, box being the prevailing timber, and in the course of the ride the Red Rag and Red Jacket rushes, or rather quondam rushes - for their glory is departed - are passed, and the wood continues until the hill on which is the Frederick the Great appears, which is, as it were, an oasis in the desert of trunks and branches and leaves. After passing through a few miles of bush civilization again appears, and here we discover all the most expensive appliances of modern science called into existence by the magic of gold.

The mine is situated on the private property of Mr. Hugh Glass, and the reef was discovered in 1863 by three men, who found the gold and quartz on the surface, covered with moss. As they did not keep matters so close as they should have done seeing the good thing they had, it was soon discovered that they had gold,
and they were consequently turned out and the reef was let on tribute to a party which are now called the Frederick the Great Company, who have gone to the greatest expense in thoroughly working and developing the mine, and have spared nothing to make it profitable, and very profitable it has been. They have worked the reef, which averages from 6 feet to 40 feet, about a length of 300 feet and a depth of 200 feet. In one place there is a tremendous cutting, out of which they have taken the reef, nearly 100 feet across. To work the reef they put up a winding engine, with eighteen stamps at first, and this has lasted them a long time. However, when they got down 200 feet they found the water getting troublesome, and they determined to sink a new shaft to the east, towards which the reef underlays a little, and put up splendid drainage machinery. They have this shaft down now about 240 feet and expect to have to go down 34 feet more before striking the reef. We obtained some interesting particulars about the expense of working the stone. It appears that the expense of working per ton, has been, reckoning the machinery old and new, &c, which cost about £7000 - about 12 shillings per ton. The stone has averaged about 6 dwt 15 grains, half of the amount of which was profit, as the stone is so easily got. The cost of raising and crushing the stone is 9 shillings per ton.

A visit down the mine revealed to us the peculiarity of this extraordinary reef. It is a large body of friable stone, in many places covered with a black rust, and the surrounding slate and sandstone is very friable and rotten, so that the great cost is the timber. Were it not that there is an unlimited supply of good amber around, the profits would have been considerably less. Indeed the amount of timber used in this mine is very large, and the powerful props and cross-pieces strike the visitor with an impression that they are strong enough to withstand a convulsion of nature. The reef is worked in a most systematic manner. A level having been driven, and props, &c, put in, the back is sloped, and then the vacancy underneath is filled up with mullock, the passes with wood, and the level filled up as the stone is taken out. The system appears to answer excellently, and none other would answer the peculiar nature of the ground. The number of tons crushed by this company since its formation has been 57,000 and the yield of gold has been over 19,000ozs, which gives a total of £76,000 value of gold obtained from the mine.

The new machinery is a real credit to the enterprise of the Frederick the Great Company; the founders, Langlands Foundry Company, Melbourne; the contractors, J. Horwood and Son, Sandhurst; and last, but not least, the company's engineer, Mr Angus Kennedy, under whose superintendence the machinery was put up. The following is a description of the new plant. The engine and boiler was manufactured by Langlands Foundry Company Limited, Melbourne. The engine is a horizontal high pressure of 40 horse-power, the cylinder being 20 inches in diameter with 42 inch stroke. It has been made to order, and is a superior article, highly creditable to the manufacturers. All the parts which require strength are of wrought scrap iron, including the crank shaft and crosshead. The flywheel is cast in segments, and is 17 feet 6 inches in diameter, weighing over four tons. The boiler is 25 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 6 inches, with a flue of 42 inches in diameter and weighs eight and a half tons. The cost of the engine and boiler was £825. Another boiler of the same size is to be added as soon as required. The winding, pumps and pumping gear were manufactured by Messrs Horwood and Sons, Sandhurst, who were also the contractors for the erection of the plant, except the poppet-heads and fixing the pumps which were done by the company, and the contractors are to be congratulated on the most able manner in which they have performed their task; indeed, we question if a stronger plant than that of the Frederick the Great Company is to be found on Bendigo. As this machinery is of peculiar construction, an accurate description may prove interesting. The gearing is what is commonly known as step gear. There [are] two spur wheels and a pinion, which are 16 inches wide on the face with the rim at both ends of the teeth and 8-inch pitch. The pinion is 24 feet in diameter. The pump wheel is 9 feet 4 inches in diameter, and weighs 5 tons. The winding wheel is 4 feet 6 inches diameter, and weighs about 25 cwt. The wrought iron shaft for the pump is 6 inches diameter, and weighs 28 cwt. The pump crank plate weigh [?] cwt and
has 4 bosses for the crank pin for 3 feet, 4 feet, 5 feet, and 6 feet stroke. The plummer blocks in which the shaft works weigh 8¾ cwt without the brasses, which alone weigh over 7 pounds each. The bearings are 14 inches long, and the sole plates on which all the plummer blocks rest are 16 feet long, and weigh over 1 ton each. The sweep rods for the pump (2) are made in two pieces of Oregon timber, 18 inches by 7½ inches at the middle, and tapering to 10 inches. At both ends, the rod ends of wrought iron weigh over 7 cwt each, and each rod complete weighs 21 cwt. The bell crank is made of boxwood and iron, the bottom piece is 31 feet long by 19 inches by 21 inches, the whole complete weighing about 8 tons. The pump rods are 9 inches square, Oregon, in 20 feet lengths. The plunger is 11¾ inch diameter, the pipes of the plunger column are 12 inches diameter, and those for the draw-lift are 12½ inches diameter. The pump will make from 6 to 7 strokes per minute. The shaft and plummer blocks of the winding gear are similar to those for the pump gear. The spider wheels are 9 feet 6 inches diameter, and measure over all 15 feet inches, and wind at the rate of 540 feet per minute - they each weigh about 3 tons. They are made with a three-pronged clutch, the clutch piece is made to engage and disengage at pressure, so that one rope may be stopped, shortened, or lengthened in an instant, or both ropes may be stopped directly without stopping the rest of the machinery - an important improvement in case of an accident such as occurred some time ago at the 'Waterwitch' engine. This arrangement is for the purpose of hauling from different levels. The pumping gear may be stopped when the engine and winding gear are at work, and the winding may be stopped also and the engine kept at work. The poppet-head pulleys are each 10 feet diameter, and weigh about 17 cwt each. They have each 16 wrought iron arms, and are 50 feet high. The brace is 19 feet from the mouth of the shaft. The shaft is only 220 feet deep as yet, and it is timbered with 4 inch by 8 inch sawn stuff. There are sets, or frames, every 20 feet, of 9 feet square. The shaft is 12 feet 8 inches by 5 feet 6 inches in the clear; where the plunger is fixed it is 17 feet 6 inches by 6 feet in the clear. There is not much water as yet. The engine house is of brick, covered with corrugated galvanised iron. It is 17 feet high in the walls, 42½ feet wide, and 43½ feet long. The stack is 69 feet high from the surface. The whole weight of the cast and wrought iron in the job is about 100 tons, and the cost of the new machinery, sinking shaft, etc, is £4400. The engine rests upon a peculiar framework, or diagonal piles of box, so combined that the pressure is broken, and they can support double the weight uprights could. The whole reflects credit upon all concerned, and the Frederick the Great Company are to be congratulated on the boldness and enterprise which they displayed in erecting such machinery. [16]

23.05.1870: In our report of the Frederick the Great Company, in Saturday's issue, an inaccuracy crept into the statement that the pinion was 24 feet in diameter - it should have been 24 inches. The poppet heads are fifty feet high. [18]

06.1870: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 870ozs 1dwt obtained from 3624 tons of stone at between 100 and 150 feet in a reef 6 to 20 feet thick. [18.31-32]

09.1870: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1302ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 3868 tons of stone at between 100 and 150 feet in a reef 15 to 25 feet thick. [18.29-30]

19.12.1870: Some particulars of the changes in the Sebastian reefs, and district, since we noticed them last, may be interesting. This district appears to have received far less attention from quartz miners than it actually deserves. Some very good patches of surface stone have been found from time to time in the Whipstick (as the district is called), but as they soon ran out, or got too poor to be profitable, owing to the heavy expense of carting long distances and crushing, and abandonment soon followed. The only party who have gone to work in a really systematic and intelligent manner is the now famous Frederick the Great Company, consisting only of six or seven shareholders, without too much capital at starting; but with a great deal of perseverance and intelligence they have managed, notwithstanding many drawbacks, to make nice fortunes, and have now property, in point of value second to none in the Bendigo district. Until lately their deepest workings only reached 200 feet. The new shaft which
is really a splendid one, is 375 feet deep. At 300 feet a cross cut has been driven 140 feet west, at the end of which splendid stone was struck on Thursday last; perhaps better than anything hitherto found in the mine. Specimens from it showing splendid gold were exhibited at the Bank of Australasia on Saturday. The thickness of the stone is not as yet known. A winze is being sunk, now down 50 feet, from the 200 foot level, to the 300 foot level. The winze is 7 feet across the reef, and no sign of either wall, the stone going over 1½ozs per ton. The prospect is really good, and will, it is to be hoped, amply reward the energetic proprietors for their lately heavy outlay in erecting machinery and prospecting the mine. This discovery proves, without any doubt, that good payable reefs may be looked for and easily found in the Whipstick district at Sebastian. The only prospecting done outside of the Frederick the Great Company's ground is the sinking of two or three shafts, apparently out of the line of reef, by the Band of Hope Company, whose lease lies to the north, and a shaft is now being sunk on the south of the company's ground. The strata in this shaft is of a similar character to the western back in the Frederick the Great Company's mine. The line of reef southwards can be traced for miles by the numerous outcrops of quartz on the surface; still the ground is open to the miner when the discovery in the company's mine is better known. [62]

12.1870 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 851ozs 15dwts obtained from 3518 tons of stone at between 100 and 170 feet in a reef 10 to 20 feet thick. [18.32]

06.1871 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 2317ozs 4dwts obtained from 2437 tons of stone at 300 feet in a reef 8 feet thick. [18.30-31]

The past yields of the Frederick the Great Company's mine, and the splendid prospects of that company, have caused a rush for claims near it. [18]

01.07.1871 The Frederick the Great Company have 936ozs 10dwts. from 340 tons of stone. The cake will be in today. This splendid yield is likely to be but the first of many larger ones to follow. ... Our Raywood correspondent sends us the following:-

Being on a visit to the thriving town of Sebastian yesterday I encountered Mr. Robert Charlton, one of the shareholders in the widely-celebrated Frederick the Great Company, who with the greatest courtesy invited me to see the splendid cake of gold obtained from 336 tons of quartz crushed within the last 12 days, and which, with the cleaning of the tables, weighed 986ozs 12dwt. With such returns as this fortnightly, no wonder that Sebastian appears a thriving place, and that every one looks cheerful and contented. I observe that great improvements are taking place around the township. Land is being taken up and cultivated, and Mr. Charlton is building what appears to be intended for a permanent building - a large brick house - that will be superior to any building on this side of Eaglehawk. It is to be hoped that this prosperous state of things will continue, and certainly at the present time there is no appearance of anything to the contrary, as I understand that the body of stone from which this cake of gold was obtained is 16 feet thick, and these or similar returns may last, as is sincerely hoped, for many years. [19]

03.07.1871 Our Raywood correspondent fell into error in stating the Frederick the Great Company's reef was only 16 feet thick. The reef is 39 feet thick, and is taken from wall to wall, averaging the same throughout. [20]

31.07.1871 The Frederick the Great Company had a cake of about 600ozs. This would give a dividend of over £2000. This company is about erecting a fourth engine, the manager, Mr Charlton, being at present at Ballarat for the purpose of buying one. [21]

09.1871 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 4279ozs 13dwts obtained from 2649 tons of stone at 300 feet in a reef 45 feet thick. [18.29]

12.1871 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1314ozs 11dwts obtained from 2668 tons of stone at 300 feet in a reef 45 feet thick. [18.29-30]

03.1872 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 3034ozs 11dwts 11 grains obtained from 2305 tons of stone at 300 feet in a reef 40 feet thick. [18.28]

15.06.1872 Put through 2305 tons, the return being 3034ozs 11dwt 11 grains, or 10ozs 6dwt 7.92 grains per ton, the reef being 40 feet wide, and the depth 300 feet. [22]

03.04.1877 The Frederick the Great Company, Sebastian, where rich yields a
few years since, resulted in a long succession of dividends, and subsequently ceased, have, we learn, struck a promising body of stone in the new shaft which they have for some time engaged in sinking, from which good returns are anticipated. [23]

13.05.1879 - The projectors of the scheme to work the Frederick the Great mine at Sebastian have received sufficient encouragement to warrant the supposition that the undertaking will be a success so far as the floating of the new company is concerned. The purchase money is to be £8000 which is made up of as follows: - £4000 for the plant and machinery; £2000 to be expended in purchasing the 400 acres on which the claim stands; and which by the way is freehold property not leasehold; as was previously stated; and £2000 in the development of the mine. [24]

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29.04.1880 - The Frederick the Great Tribute Company, which has been lately formed to work the ground of the old and celebrated Frederick the Great Company at Sebastian, has engaged some little attention from some of the local speculators during the past few days. Yesterday the shares had a slightly upward tendency, the cause being probably that a report was received at the office of the manager (Mr J. G. Weddell) that the men working in the open cutting had found gold in the stone in trial shafts, both at the north and south ends. A special meeting of the shareholders was held in the afternoon, at which the directors were empowered to let tributes south of the main shaft and north of the old cutting. [25]

03.05.1880 - Frederick the Great Tribute Company (Sebastian) - During the past fortnight we commenced crushing with ten heads, the whole of the battery is now ready. The stone in the cutting is about 4 feet thick, of very promising appearance and showing gold. We have found the stone we are now working south of the cutting 4 feet deep and north of the cutting 140 feet deep. The amalgam is 80ozs. [26]

05.05.1880 - There was an average amount of business done in Frederick the Great... during the latter part of the afternoon, owing to a report of an improved prospect having been wet with. [27]

11.05.1880 - Frederick the Great Tribute - This claim has of late occupied prominent attention at the hands of the public, and such a market demand has been made for shares that a few remarks upon the present and future prospects of the company may not be out of place. The mine - situated as it is some 15 miles out of Sandhurst - seems to be comparatively unknown, as regards the present workings, by even the most of those speculators in the market who are supposed to be au fait with all mining ventures. The shares have reached a value in the market which brings the mine more particularly under the public notice, especially on account of the quick rise which has taken place in them. The mine and plant was formerly in the hands of Charlton and Company, consisting altogether of five shareholders, who made very handsome dividends out of it. The present company have tributed the holding of 400 acres, on which is situated the mine and plant, upon very advantageous terms, viz, 10 per cent, 2 per cent for wear and tear of machinery, and another 2 per cent as a guarantee up to £300, with the option of purchasing the machinery in six months at £4,000. The shafts and plant may be said to be situated in the centre of the ground. The other company sank their main shaft to a depth of 600 feet, and four levels altogether have been driven in it to various lengths. The first was at 100 feet, the second at 380 feet, the third at 480 feet, and the fourth at 600 feet, most of the levels being driven north. There is a great quantity of stone which has been met with in this shaft from the 380 foot level to the 500 feet, dipping south; the stone in the face in all the levels is dipping underfoot. It is the intention of the company to pump out the water, and let the lower levels on tribute. The necessary repairs to the machinery and apparatus for this purpose are now being effected, and it is expected that the pumps will be going in the course of a month or thereabouts as soon as the pumping gear is fixed. The shaft, which is a very large one, is 13 feet by 5 feet, and divided into three compartments - a pump shaft and ladder-way, and two winding shafts. The air apparatus for the mine is of the most complete order, connected with the main engine, and the fan, besides supplying air to the underground levels, is also
connected with the smithy and drives the bellows. The pumping gear is of a very superior kind, consisting of a 12-inch lift and plunger, whilst there appears to be a large supply of pipes on hand, both for this and for the air connections. The present workings of the company, which are situated at 300 feet north of the shaft, and about the same distance from the northern boundary, partake most of the nature of a surface cutting, being partly open and partly a tunnel, driven towards the north, and not deeper than 20 feet. This is just south of the old cutting from which the former company gained such good returns, and is separated from it by about 12 to 15 feet of an embankment. The old cutting has a considerable quantity of water in it, but this will be pumped out during the week and operations commenced upon a large body of stone lying to the east, which it is understood was left untouched. In the present cutting at the open end a sort of improvised timbered shaft has been built and a windlass erected, by means of which the stone is hauled up from below. About 20 feet or so in a short level to the west has been driven, and the men are at present rising on the stone met with herewith the intention of breaking through to the surface, when more expeditious means of conveying the stuff to the surface and the battery will be adopted. A tramway will also be laid down, so that the stone may be hauled right up and delivered at the battery, which will save the slow and tedious system of cartage. The company intend to keep this portion of the ground to work on, and also a large area around it. Trenches have been sunk in different portions of the ground, in several of which stone has been met with almost up to the surface, and apparently showing the existence of three lines of reef. Of course, until they have been further prospected there is no saying what their nature may be.

It was decided at a meeting yesterday to let a large portion of ground in blocks of 100 foot square to the number of 5 from the old workings south, these blocks being situated to the west of the main shaft and plant. The first or north block it was decided to let at 57 per cent, the second at 55 per cent, the third at 53 per cent, and the fourth and fifth, or most southerly, at 50 per cent, these being surface tributes extending to a depth of 150 feet, the company undertaking to cart and crush. Other portions of the ground on the east of the present workings will probably be let on tribute, but nothing definite has as yet been determined on. A shaft a short distance from the present workings constitutes a sort of winze from the surface to the 300 feet level of the main shaft, and has been opened out at 70 feet and 150 feet, where the stone has been rich. It is intended to connect the 150 feet level with the surface workings, and to make it into two blocks.

The prospects of the company may certainly be deemed to be very good if the past be taken into account, and also the prospect as far as obtained, although the yield of 110ozs 12dwts on Saturday from 245ozs of amalgam, with 175 loads, has not, apparently, given as great satisfaction as possible. This, however, is a matter of opinion. This return was the result often days “crushing with ten head of stampers on. It is intended to put twenty head of stampers in order this week to enable crushing to be more expeditiously carried on, there being already something like 30 or 40 tons of stuff on the surface. The character of the stone is not what one is accustomed to meet with in gold-bearing quartz. It is of a brownish rubbly description, and the specimens which are kept back for show have gold plentifully distributed throughout them. The cutting from which the stone is taken presented a mullocky-looking appearance, in which the stone could be seen mixed up, but not having gold perceptible when viewed by the light of the candle. There was every probability of any particular portion of the stone which did not give any signs of gold yielding a very good return. It is also pretty hard working, although, when a shot is put in, it brings down a large quantity of stone and mullock, whilst a quantity more can be removed by the [?] of a pick. It is said that the reefs which have been opened up by means of the trenches have all been prospected, and given payable results. The crushing and other plant is of the most extensive order, and is reputed as being the most complete of its kind in the district. The crushing plant consists of eight batteries of five head each, or forty head in all, revolving stampers. There is a separate pump and engine in the battery room for supplying water to the tailing e and the
battery. There are four Cornish boilers, which have a guaranteed test pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch, and are all fixed up in good order, set in brick and cement, and having connections to the various engines. The engine to the crushing plant consisting of a condenser and cylinder 2 feet, with a 4 foot stroke. It may be mentioned that each battery can be disconnected and work alone by means of the sliding clutches whilst the stamper boxes, which are self-feeding, are fitted with loose lining. The winding gear in connection with the shaft consists of a double cylinder engine, each 14½ cylinders, with link motion and double winding gear, 5-inch plat Manilla ropes, about 1500 feet in length, having been used, and at present lying in the engine-house. The winding drums are themselves 10 feet in diameter, fitted with separate brakes. The old company evidently determined to cope with the influx of water in no niggardly spirit, for the pumping plant is about one of the strongest in the colony, consisting of a 22-inch cylinder, with 3 feet 6 inch stroke with the 12-inch lift on all connections underground. The fly-wheel is 18 feet in diameter; a large pumping wheel 9 feet in diameter, 14-inch face, bored, and keyed to 8¾ feet, a pumping shaft, and a strong disc with crank pin, sweep rod, traveller, and pumping bob. The whole of the machinery, crushing, pumping, and winding, together with the boilers, is enclosed in a substantial corrugated iron shed, and also comprises a filter room, with all the necessary appliances. There are also connected with the mine a carpenter's shop and a store room containing a large supply of material. Everything in connection with the mine and machinery has been of the most extensive scale, apparently without regard to cost, and would be far more suitable to some of the companies in the Sandhurst district carrying on operations in the deep levels... There is every convenience afforded in the magnificent machinery for obtaining the best results provided the ground turns out to be payable. The prospects of the company in this respect may be said to be brilliant. What the stone they are at present working on, and the reefs which have been disclosed, will give is a question for future operations to reveal. Those who are interested in the company seem to have great faith, and this feeling is shared by Melbourne purchasers, who during last week bought heavily into the shares. The company have something like 30 or 35 men at work, and when the main shaft has been bailed out, and the whole of the ground it is decided to let been partitioned out, it is said there will be work fore very large number of men. The company has already moved in the matter of one lot for tributing, and, it is expected, will shortly decide upon the other portions. The fact of it being almost surface workings may induce a ready demand for tributing blocks. The locality lately was quite rushed by cager prospectors, and a large number of pegs put into ground surrounding the locality, but the company seized the golden opportunity, and seem to have the cream of the land. [29]

.05.1880: Several specimens from the Frederick the Great mine are on view at the Bath Hotel, and in consequence... the rise in the stock drew several visitors... The quartz is different from what the mining public have been accustomed to see, being of a dirty brownish appearance and of a rubbly character. It was taken from the cutting 20 feet from the surface, and the broken portions exhibit what appears to be a fair distribution of the precious metal throughout the stone in what should certainly be very payable quantities... A meeting of shareholders in the lease next north of the ground now being worked by the Frederick the Great Tribute Company, Sebastian, was held on Tuesday when it was decided to register under the name of the North Frederick the Great Company (No Liability), in 24,000 shares of 10 shillings each. Messrs R. Hailes, Herron, and S. Derbyshire were elected directors; Mr J H McColl legal manager, and Mr W G. Blackman auditor. [63]

.06.1880: At Sebastian, some tributers of the old Frederick the Great Company have found good stone on a continuation of the reef which gave such very rich returns to the company not long since. The discovery caused some excitement, and nearly all the available ground in the neighbourhood has been taken up. [18.29]

.09.1880: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 981ozs 5dwt 6 grains obtained from 4756 tons of stone at between the surface and 100 feet in a reef 6 to 30 feet thick. [18.29]
Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1254ozs 2dwt obtained from 3253 tons of stone at between the surface and 100 feet in a reef between one and 25 feet thick. At Sebastian the Frederick the Great Company have been doing well, with a large reef yielding nearly 8dwt to the ton, taken from the surface to 100 feet only in depth. A considerable amount of cross-cutting is being carried on now. Rock-borers are doing their work satisfactorily, and their success should strongly recommend them as an efficient means of lessening the cost of mining.

28.03.1881 Frederick the Great Tribute, Sebastian: during the fortnight water in shaft lowered 38 feet below the 380 foot level. Water still heavy. Yield of gold for the fortnight is 990zs 17dwt, being from No.3 tribute, 12ozs 10dwt; from Nos.14 and 15, 39ozs 12dwt; from Nos.18 and 19, 20ozs 18dwt, from No.5, 3ozs 3dwt, from Nos.1 and 2, 19ozs 16dwt, from No.12, 2ozs 10dwt, from Barnes, 1ozs 8dwt.

06.1881 Frederick the Great Tribute, Sebastian: 1530ozs 18dwts 22 grains obtained from 2584 tons of stone at 380 feet in a reef between 6 inches and 20 feet thick. Several mining ventures have been started to work the reefs at Sebastian and vicinity, some of which have paid good dividends, and, as will by seen by the (prefixed) returns, have yielded a considerable amount of gold.

09.1881 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1541ozs 13dwts 22 grains obtained from 2629 tons of stone. A considerable amount of attention has been paid to outside places, and at Sebastian especially success has been pronounced. The reef being worked there is situate about seven miles north of Eaglehawk, and is supposed to be on the northern continuation of our main lines. It was very rich in former years, and is now giving splendid returns.

03.1882 Frederick the Great Tribute, Sebastian: 1332ozs 10dwts obtained from 3832 tons of stone. The claims at Sebastian are being steadily worked, and Bruhn's Tribute Company are turning out splendid yields from a very large reef.

09.1882 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1093ozs 3dwts obtained from 2934 tons of stone at between 300 and 400 feet. In the mines off the main line of reef the chief place must be given to the Frederick the Great Company (Sebastian), from which for some weeks splendid yields have been obtained, principally by tributers.

03.1883 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 4038ozs 9dwts obtained from 4470 tons of stone at between the surface and 460 feet. In the mines off the main line of reef the chief place must be given to the Frederick the Great Company (Sebastian), from which for some weeks splendid yields have been obtained, principally by tributers.

09.1883 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 330ozs 3dwts obtained from 2066 tons of stone at between 150 and 380 feet. The claims at Sebastian are being steadily worked, and Bruhn's Tribute Company are turning out splendid yields from a very large reef.

12.1883 Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 330ozs 3dwts obtained from 2066 tons of stone at between 150 and 380 feet. Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 5069ozs 13dwts obtained from 3849 tons of stone at between 150 and 250 feet.

At Sebastian, the leading companies are still meeting with gratifying success.
between 150 and 250 feet. [14]  
The yields from Sebastian have not been quite so good during the quarter, but the total average yield is still very fair. [31.35-36]  
06.1884 : Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 2556ozs obtained from 4909 tons of stone at between 150 and 300 feet. [32]  
Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 3332ozs obtained from 7945 tons of stone at between 150 and 380 feet. [32]  
The present has been even more successful than the past quarter, the dividends being £89,253 14s and the calls £47,428 10s, which is an increase on last quarter's return of dividends over calls of £10,624 4s. The principal contributors to this grand total are the Bruhn's Tribute Company, at Sebastian, its yield being 2556ozs 4dwt for the quarter. [31.15-16]  
The Frederick the Great Tribute Company. During the past quarter this company have been engaged breaking stone at the 327-foot level, taking the eastern side of the reef, which is showing gold. The intermediate level below the reef has been extended 130 feet. The reef is solid and well defined, and shows gold. The reef in the stope over this level is making stronger. The western level at 380 feet has been extended 197 feet. [31.15-16]  
The Bruhn's Tribute. The reef at the 300-foot level of this mine is 19 feet wide, and showing splendid gold. This level has been extended 35 feet during the quarter. The 250-foot cross-cut has been extended 20 feet, and holed through to the wet winze from the 200-foot level. [31.15-16]  
09.1884 : Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 2071ozs 12dwt obtained from 3708 tons of stone at between 150 and 300 feet. [32]  
Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 3895ozs 2dwt obtained from 7945 tons of stone at between 150 and 380 feet. [32]  
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 642ozs 15dwt obtained from 1054 tons of stone at between 150 and 200 feet. [32]  
Frederick the Great Company, Sebastian: £1950 declared in dividends for the quarter. ... At the 320-foot level there is a large body of stone showing splendid gold. The 380-foot level has been extended 218 feet from cross-cut, the stone here being 12 feet wide, and showing gold. The south winze has been sunk 14 feet from 380-foot level. The western side of this level is a fresh make on a sandstone floor, dipping south. [31.19-20]  
Bruhn's Tribute Company, Sebastian: £1350 declared in dividends for the quarter. ... have lately driven a cross-cut from the 200-foot level, a distance of 10 feet, through a strong body of stone. The 300-foot level has been extended 69 feet. The reef is here 15 feet wide, showing fair gold. Have also started a winze at 250-foot level, which is now down 12 feet in a large body of stone, showing gold. [31.19-20]  
No.20 Tribute Company, Sebastian: £600 declared in dividends for the quarter. ... The 150-foot level has been driven 80 feet. Ground slate and spurs. The north winze from the intermediate level has been sunk 45 feet. Stopes at 225 feet showing gold. [31.19-20]  
12.1884 : Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 2119ozs 18dwt obtained from 3987 tons of stone at between 150 and 300 feet. [32]  
Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 3873ozs 11dwt obtained from 7889 tons of stone at between 200 and 380 feet. [32]  
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 837ozs 4dwt obtained from 1690 tons of stone at between 150 and 225 feet. [32]  
At Sebastian the mines are turning out fairly good yields. [33.17-19]  
03.1885 : Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 2622ozs 5dwt obtained from 5193 tons of stone at between 150 and 300 feet. [32]  
Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 2606ozs 1dwt 11 grains obtained from 6237 tons of stone. [32]  
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 476ozs 3dwt obtained from 814 tons of stone at between 150 and 225 feet. [32]  
The mines from Sebastian are still giving satisfactory yields. [33.18-20]  
06.1885 : Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 1311ozs 7dwt obtained from 2676 tons of stone at between 200 and 300 feet. [32]  
Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1945ozs 4dwt obtained from 4788 tons of stone
at between 200 and 460 feet. [32]
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 12ozs obtained from 77 tons of stone at 150 feet. [32]
Frederick the Great Company - the winze from the 580-foot level has been sunk
19 feet. Stone improving in appearance. The 327-foot level has been holed
through to the winze from the 300-foot level. Have extended the cross-cut east
in the rise above the 300-foot level, a total length of 32 feet; ground - slate and
spurs. [33.18-19]
Bruhn's Tribute Company are breaking stone from the second stope north from
the main winze at the 250-foot south level. At the north winze, 18 feet below
the 200-foot level, have opened out on the east stone. The reef is about 5 feet
wide, and showing a little gold. [33.18-19]
09.1885: Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 1509ozs obtained from 3930 tons of
stone. [32]
12.1885: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 2912ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained
from 6102 tons of stone at between 150 and 460 feet. [32]
03.1886: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 582ozs 14dwt obtained from 1486.5
tons of stone at between 150 and 460 feet. [32]
Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 1038ozs 14dwt obtained from 2621 tons of stone at
between 150 and 300 feet. [32]
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 1262ozs 6dwts obtained from 1510.5 tons of stone at
between 225 and 300 feet. [32]
06.1886: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1125ozs 12dwt obtained from 3521
tons of stone at between 120 and 300 feet. [32]
Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 1271ozs 12dwts obtained from 3521 tons of stone at
between 120 and 300 feet. [32]
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 1184ozs 7dwts obtained from 2371 tons of stone at
130 feet. [32]
09.1886: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 2373ozs 12dwt obtained from 6501
tons of stone at between 150 and 400 feet. [32]
Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 747ozs 17dwts obtained from 2825 tons of stone at
between 150 and 300 feet. [32]
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 1169ozs 8dwts obtained from 2134 tons of stone at
between 200 and 300 feet. [32]
12.1886: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1762ozs obtained from 5133 tons of
stone at between 200 and 350 feet. [32]
Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 739ozs 12dwts obtained from 2792 tons of stone at
between 150 and 250 feet. [32]
No.20 Tribute, Sebastian: 293ozs obtained from 225 tons of stone at 200 feet.
[32]
02.1887: Lease obtained on 23 February by the Frederick the Great Tribute
Company under the Mining on Private Property Act for 394 acres 2 roods and 2
perches at Sebastian for 70 men. [34]
03.1887: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 744ozs 9dwts obtained from 1358
tons of stone at 327 feet. [32]
Bruhn's Tribute, Sebastian: 463ozs 8dwts obtained from 1158 tons of stone at
between 200 and 250 feet. [32]
The dividends for the quarter amounted to £19,020, compared with £21,250 for
the December quarter. The difference is more than accounted for by the fact
that the Frederick the Great Company and its tributes at Sebastian have been
doing scarcely any work, pending the settlement of the question as to the
renewal of their lease under the Mining on Private Property Act. The decision of
the Supreme Court is expected daily, and if favourable to the company, work will
be pushed on with vigour.... At Sebastian, preparations are being made to
resume work with the old vigor, as soon as the law case is settled. [33.20-21]
06.1887: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 238ozs 8dwt obtained from 1806
tons of stone at between 150 and 300 feet. [32]
At Sebastian, the Frederick the Great Company has had a very poor quarter, the
yields obtained not paying expenses. Bruhn's Tribute and the No.20 Tribute
Companies, having worked out their tribute blocks, have been wound up, final
dividends being paid. [33.20-21]
09.1887: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 824ozs 4dwt obtained from 4634
At Sebastian, the Frederick the Great have been operating extensively, but latterly the yields have been poor. [33.22-23]

12.1887: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 896ozs 15dwt obtained from 4315 tons of stone at between 100 and 460 feet. [32]

The yields from the Frederick the Great (Sebastian) and ... have been fairly good. [33.21-22]

03.1888: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 950ozs 9dwt obtained from 4704.5 tons of stone at between 150 and 460 feet. [32]

At Sebastian, the Frederick the Great Company and its tributes are yielding moderately. [33.17-18]

06.1888: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 868ozs 10dwt obtained from 4349 tons of stone at between 150 and 300 feet. [32]

At Sebastian, one or two claims, such as the Frederick the Great and South Frederick the Great Companies have somewhat improved prospects. [33.19]

09.1888: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 881ozs 18dwt obtained from 3788 tons of stone at between 150 and 460 feet. [18]

09.1888: At Sebastian, the Frederick the Great Company's yields have been poor, but they have now got a somewhat improved prospect northward. [33.20-21]

12.1888: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 792ozs obtained from 3271 tons of stone at 300 feet. [32]

03.1889: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 779ozs 3dwt obtained from 2504 tons of stone at 300 feet. [32]

At the Whipstick, at Raywood, and at Sebastian, mining has been very quiet, and devoid of development of note. [33.18]

06.1889: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 463ozs 16dwt obtained from 1729 tons of stone at between 300 and 460 feet. [32]

At Sebastian, the yields from the Frederick the Great Company have recently been very moderate. [33.17]

09.1889: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 696ozs 10dwt obtained from 2910 tons of stone at between 300 and 460 feet. [32]

At Sebastian and Raywood mining is just now very dull. [33.19-20]

12.1889: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 459ozs 18dwt obtained from 1937 tons of stone at between 300 and 460 feet. [32]

At Sebastian and Raywood prospects at present are dull. [33.18]

06.1890: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 291ozs 18dwt obtained from 1348 tons of stone at between 250 and 580 feet. [34]

09.1890: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 291ozs 12dwt obtained from 1163 tons of stone at between 300 and 500 feet. [34]

12.1890: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 188ozs 2dwt obtained from 752 tons of stone at between 300 and 580 feet. [34]

03.1891: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 144ozs 5dwt obtained from 5348 tons of stone at 300 and 580 feet. [34]

06.1891: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 254ozs 18dwt obtained from 651 tons of stone at between 460 and 580 feet. [34]

09.1891: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 395ozs 12dwt obtained from 1599 tons of stone at 540 feet. [34]

30.12.1892: Frederick the Great - crushed 50 tons for 18ozs gold. They have a lot of stone in the winze below 400 feet. [35]

17.03.1894: Several months ago Messrs W. W. Eskdale and G. H. Crawford were deputed by the shareholders in the Frederick the Great mine, Sebastian, to visit England with the object of placing the mine on the London market. For a considerable time no news of a definite nature came to hand, and the general impression was likely to prove unsuccessful. Consequently, a cablegram in yesterday's Age regarding the venture aroused considerable interest in mining circles. The message, which is published elsewhere, merely announced that the venture had been put on the market....

In the Advertiser of 29 July last, full particulars regarding the affair were published. The ground held by the company is 394 acres of freehold, with 100 yards along the line. From this area, 352,703 tons crushed had yielded
160,965ozs 5dwt 4 grains, valued at £626,773 11 shillings 8 pence of which £210,090 8 10 shillings had been paid in dividends. £30,000 expended on machinery, and £75,052 6 shillings 11 pence paid in percentage to the freeholders. The latter item ceased when the ground was taken up under the Mining on Private Property Act. The shaft is only 600 feet deep, and the lowest crosscut, in which a large reef was passed through, 580 feet. [36]

09.05.1894: The Frederick the Great mine has now been formally handed over to the English company, and work started under the direction of Mr. T. Parker, formerly of the Shenandoah. The shaft will be sunk at once. [37]

30.07.1894: The main shaft has been sunk 17 feet; total from plat, 40 feet and from the surface 620 feet. Also timbered 16 feet, ground sandstone and slate. Were delayed 27 hours fixing new plunger; also cut a trench across the strata on the surface west of Barnes's shaft a distance of 30 feet, 5 feet deep by 2½ feet wide. [38]

09.05.1894: The main engine shaft has been sunk a further depth of 20 feet; total; from 580 foot plat, 60 feet, and from the surface 640 feet; ground passed through slate and sandstone; water heavy; also timbered 21 feet and fixed a snug penthouse. ... [39]

27.08.1894: The shaft has been sunk 17 feet; total from plat, 77 feet, and from surface 657 feet. At a depth of 612 feet cut a floor coming in from the west with 4 inches of quartz on it, and making a lot of water. [40]

24.09.1894: Shaft sunk 11 feet; total from plat 102 feet, and 682 feet from surface; ground hard sandstone with a foot of slate now coming in from the west, also timbered 13 feet; fixed penthouse and cistern and skidded 80 feet of the shaft. [41]

08.10.1894: The main shaft has been sunk a further depth of 16 feet; total from 580 foot plat, 120 feet, and 700 feet from the surface. Ground sandstone and slate. Water heavy. [42]

05.11.1894: Crosscut west from 680 foot plat driven 8 feet; total from shaft, 24 feet; put down plat sheet, bearers and clayed plat; fixed platsheets and launder to convey water into cistern; also fixed door and penthouse over pump shaft, cleaned out cisterns and put in 4 new clacks; resumed sinking on 24 October and have sunk 15 feet; total from plat 680 feet, 35 feet, and from surface, 715 feet; ground, sandstone and slate. [43]

03.12.1894: Frederick the Great shaft is down 757 feet. [44]

17.12.1894: Main engine shaft sunk 20 feet; total from 680 foot plat, 97 feet, and from surface, 777 feet; ground sandstone and slate; also timbered 19 feet; shaft being sunk 3 feet 6 inches longer this fortnight to make room for plunger workings. [45]

01.01.1895: Shaft sunk 17 feet hand labour; total from plat 680 foot plat, 114 feet, and from surface, 794 feet; ground passed through sandstone and slate. Owing to the breakage of winch, sinking stopped on Monday the 24th. and will be resumed on Wednesday next. Shaft has been lengthened 7 feet, making 20 feet overall, to make room for cistern and plunger workings. [46]

14.01.1895: Repaired and fixed winch and made all necessary repairs to machinery and sunk shaft 5 feet; total from plat 119 feet, and from surface 790 feet. Ground passed, blocky slate. Also timbered 14 feet, placed cistern in position and cut plat back a distance of 9 feet. [47]

28.01.1895: Have completed the 780 foot plat, 17 feet by 16 feet by 10 feet 4 inches. Also cut back east side of pump shaft to make room for swell of H-piece, and driven crosscut west 17 feet. Water heavy at this plat; also fixed plat set, timbered shaft 14 feet, and sunk a further depth of 17 feet; total from plat 26 feet, and 806 feet from surface. [48]

21.05.1895: Mr C. H. Richards has prepared, on behalf of the local management of the Frederick the Great Company, Sebastian, an elaborate plan, some 15 feet in length, on a scale of one inch to 2 feet, showing the work done in the shaft sinking from 580 to 803 feet, with the pumping works, including the plunger workings and drawliffs. The plan will be sent to England, and will show the shareholders there the excellent work which has been done under the management of Mr T. Parker, while a copy kept here will be very useful as a working plan when repairs etc. to the pump are needed. Mr
Richards will be battery manager when crushing operations are commenced, and his well-known scientific qualifications will be of great value. [49]

02.02.1897: The Mining Revival - A Long-neglected District - Bendigo furnishes a marvellous record of productiveness. Last year Victoria's gold yield was 805,000 ozs, of which Bendigo produced one-fourth or eight tons. The same ration has been preserved since the birth of gold-mining in Victoria, the total production of the Bendigo field from 1851 to the end of 1896 being 16,342,310 ozs, of the value of £65,369,240 sterling. In other figures, Bendigo has produced upwards of 650 tons of gold. The great bulk of this enormous wealth has been won from the quartz reefs in a very circumscribed area - a length of nine miles (from the Great Southern to the New Moon mines) by a width of less than two miles. Innumerable other auriferous reefs crust in the district, but they have not yet been prospected systematically. About fifteen miles eastward from Bendigo proper lies the new reefing field of Ellesmere, where some 400 or 500 men are profitably employed dealing with large deposits of low-grade ore, which yields fair profits. Nine miles westward lies Marong, where the mining industry is again reviving. Fifteen miles northward from Bendigo is the Sebastian field; and 15 mile southward are the Sedgwick reefs. It is significant that the outposts of Bendigo's mines, the Frederick the Great, at Sebastian, to the north, and the Great Eastern, at Sedgwick, to the south, are two of the few ventures which are being carried on by the aid of British capital. [50]

25.12.1897: The Frederick the Great has not shown the English shareholders any of its old quality, for though at times some fair returns were obtained at 680 feet, the yields were on the whole not payable. A reconstruction of the company is now taking place, the local shareholders having agreed to the scheme put forward by the English shareholders. [51]

02.01.1898: The Frederick the Great ... prospecting for the most part, the majority ... crushings put through not being payable. [52]

08.1898: The Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 53ozs 4dwt obtained from 195 tons of stone. [53]

09.1898: The Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 105ozs 18dwt obtained from 676 tons of stone. [53]

10.1898: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 165ozs 10dwt obtained from 772 tons of stone. [53]

11.1898: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 38ozs 8dwt obtained from 223 tons of stone. [53]

12.1898: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 120ozs 9dwt obtained from 365 tons of stone. [53]

01.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 141ozs 8dwt obtained from 441 tons of stone. [53]

02.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 104ozs 14dwt obtained from 368 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps. [53]

03.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 113ozs 5dwt obtained from 865 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]

04.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 69ozs 16dwt obtained from 211 tons of stone; 55 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]

07.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 16ozs obtained from 193 tons of stone; 55 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]

08.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 92ozs 9dwt obtained from 193 tons of stone; 55 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]

22.09.1899: Frederick the Great tributers: crushed 84 tons for 25ozs 7dwt. [54]

09.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 68ozs obtained from 164 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]

10.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 107ozs 10dwt obtained from 430 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]

11.1899: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 78ozs 15dwt obtained from 235 tons.
1899. Frederick the Great, Sebastian: The reef being worked by this company traverses the centre of the Myer's Creek Pre-emptive Section, Parish of Yarraberb. It was discovered about the year 1864 by a party of miners (Charlton and party) who took up a ease of about 400 acres, giving a length along the strike of over 3400 feet, erected a costly plant, and worked the reef to 450 feet from the surface. This party, it is stated, in eight years crushed 165,443 tons of quartz, which yielded 73,735 ounces of gold, valued at £289,319, out of which £44,892 was paid the owner of the property - Mr. Hugh Glass. At this level (450 feet) a zone of impoverishment was entered; the reef became brecciated, and, operations proving unpayable, it was, in the year 1874, abandoned. Six years later it was again leased, and an attempt made to pick up the continuation of the previously worked shoot. For two years the company laboured unsuccessfully, the reef proving pockety and the output unsatisfactory. Towards the end of 1882, rather than again close down the mine, it was decided to let blocks 300 feet by 300 feet to parties of tributers. This plan proved successful, and rich gold was struck in what is known as Bruhn's shaft, between 800 and 1000 feet south from the main shaft, and worked to a depth of 300 feet, where the stone again became comparatively unproductive. From this shoot it is said £291,750 worth of gold was obtained, and £118,534 paid in dividends.

In 1887 the company was reformed, an amount of English capital being called in. Up to 1893 operations continued successfully, dividends to the amount of £28,275 being paid. Since that year, however, the reef has proved unpayable to the company, although tributers working in various parts of the mine occasionally strike payable patches. The total amount of gold won to date is put down at over 170,000 ounces.

The reef is a true fissure one, and occupies a line of faulting. It is worked out in the upper levels, but where it can be seen in the lower it dips to the west at an angle of 60° to 70°, cutting transversely the enclosing rocks which dip to the east at about 75°. It carries a fine regular, polished, and occasionally striated western (head) wall, which is sometimes conformable to the line of stratification, but generally trends 3° more to the west. It has no actual eastern wall.

In the upper workings the reef is said to have been taken out in places for a width of over 100 feet; in the lower levels it varies from 2 feet to 50 feet. In structure it is variable, being in some places lamellar, and in others subcrystalline or amorphous. The laminated portions have proved the most productive. In parts the quartz is highly mineralized with chlorite, galena, pyrites - iron, copper and arsenical - felspar, and occasionally mica, the two first-named being looked upon as favorable indications. The decomposition of the sulphides mentioned produces much ferruginous ooze which coats the walls, and forms stalactites on the roof of the drives.

An interesting feature of the mine is the dislocation of the reef between the 460-foot and 580-foot levels. As before stated, the rich shoot was continuous from the surface to the 460-foot level, where the stone became much fractured and the returns from it unprofitable. In the absence of particulars as to the characteristics of the reef in the upper workings, it is impossible to say just what has happened here, but it would appear that the upper portion of the reef has been thrust to the westward a distance of about 60 feet. The cause of this shift is uncertain, but may possibly be a fault which is seen 270 feet west of the shaft at the 460 foot level. The trend of this fault is coincident with that of the strata, the dip is to the south at a low angle, and the underlie (hade is top the east at 45°. To allow of its intersecting the reef between the 460-foot and 580-foot levels its hade would have had to become much flatter. Its continuation after crossing the line of reef is probably that fault shown at 87 feet west of the shaft at the 580-foot level. The cause of the dislocation was not, I think, also the cause of the loss of gold. This I would ascribe to the fact of the reefs truncating the strata and thus perhaps passing out of favorable into unfavorable ground. The pitch of the shoots of gold is to the south at an angle of about 45°, and the
underlie to the east at a high angle. [55]
01.01.1900: The Frederick the Great have been prospecting, while tributors have been engaged at various levels with only moderate results. [56]
02.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 49ozs 5dwt obtained from 306 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
03.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 45ozs 17dwt obtained from 261 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
04.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 106ozs 1dwt obtained from 415 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
05.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 30ozs 8dwt obtained from 53 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
06.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 114ozs obtained from 119 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
07.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 110ozs 17dwt obtained from 300 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
08.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 59ozs obtained from 280 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
09.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 115ozs 9dwt obtained from 224 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
10.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 304ozs 3dwt obtained from 405 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
11.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 145ozs 16dwt obtained from 273 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
12.01.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 120ozs 9dwt obtained from 332 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
01.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 149ozs 7dwt obtained from 309 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
02.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 156ozs 1dwt obtained from 336 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
03.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 190ozs 17dwt obtained from 431 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
04.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 108ozs 19dwt obtained from 488 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
05.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 97ozs 13dwt obtained from 356 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
06.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 74ozs 19dwt obtained from 403 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
07.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 117ozs 17dwt obtained from 340 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
08.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 88ozs 2dwt obtained from 292 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
09.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 64ozs 2dwt obtained from 245 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
10.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 95ozs 9dwt obtained from 264 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
11.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 15ozs obtained; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
12.02.1900: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 17ozs 5dwt obtained from 218 tons of stone; 60 head of stamps; 394 acres. [53]
1902-1912: Today, huge mullock heaps still show at the site of the mines, and the charred remains of a huge battery can also be seen. Nearby are enormous heaps of slum and sand which have been further treated for their remaining gold by the cyanide process. The heap at the north end has huge box trees growing up through it, and was cyanided by John Evans and Arthur H Thomas about the years 1902 to 1911. The circular holes where the vats were, are still visible. Records of the gold assay tests made at the time, were recently discovered in the cellar of the old Whipstick Camp Hotel, which John Evans owned. [57]
1905: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: The Frederick the Great Company was formed in the beginning of the year, and, having acquired the plant of the
old company, commenced operations by opening a shaft north of the old main shaft. It also overhauled and repaired the pumping and winding machinery at the main shaft, and since then has been busily engaged getting the water out. Sixteen men were employed. [58.119]

Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consols: The Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consolidated Company holds a lease south of the Frederick the Great Company, and commenced operations this year by opening a main shaft 12 feet by 5 feet. It then erected a steam winch, poppet heads, boilers etc and sank the shaft 300 feet. Eleven men were employed. [58.119]

1906: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: The Frederick the Great Company, at Sebastian, have a shaft 900 feet deep; 24 men were at work. [58.127]

Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consols: The Bruhn’s Frederick the Great Company, at Sebastian, has sunk a shaft to a depth of 460 feet, and have employed 17 men. [58.127]

1906: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 286ozs 16dwt obtained from 1765 tons of stone; making a total of 319ozs 2dwt from 2005 tons. [59]

Two companies - the Bruhn’s Frederick the Great Consolidated and the Frederick the Great - are working their mines. [59.146]

1908: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 312ozs 10dwt obtained from 1934 tons of stone; making a total of 631ozs 2dwt from 3939 tons. [59]

1909: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 281ozs obtained from 1355 tons of stone; making a total of 912ozs 12dwt from 5394 tons. [59]

Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consols: 1753ozs 16 dwt obtained from 4597 tons of stone; making 3953ozs 5dwt from 11,828 tons and £1000 in dividends. [59]

The Frederick the Great Company is engaged in un-watering the shaft from the 580 feet to the 880 feet level. This work is slow, owing to the difficulties encountered with old skids and ladders that have dropped down the shaft. The water is particularly severe on iron, as the ladder rungs are completely eaten away, and also the nails and dogs to which they were suspended. This company has been granted a loan by the Government. [59.137]

The Bruhn’s Consolidated Company is making preparations to sink the shaft to a greater depth. [59.127]

1910: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 10ozs 18dwt obtained from 50 tons of stone; making a total of 939ozs 2dwt from 5444 tons. [59]

Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consols: 60ozs 18 dwt obtained from 197 tons of stone; making 4014ozs 1dwt from 12,025 tons and £1000 in dividends. [59]

The Frederick the Great Company, at Sebastian, has received Government assistance. Driving on the course of the lode south is being done. There is more indication that payable gold will be met with at this level (880 feet). Some good prospects have already been obtained. At the 680 feet level fair stone has been met with. A rise has been commenced from the 780 feet level, and sinking a winze below the 680 feet level will be commenced to effect a connexion; when this is done stoping can be carried on. [59.134]

The Bruhn’s Consolidated Company has been doing a lot of prospecting during the year; a cross-cut at the 710 feet level is now in progress to cut the lode. [59.134]

1911: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 1035ozs 4dwt obtained from 2815 tons of stone; making a total of 2004ozs 6dwt from 8259 tons. [59]

Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consols: 239ozs 19 dwt obtained from 719 tons of stone; making 4254ozs from 12,744 tons and £1000 in dividends. [59]

The Frederick the Great and Bruhn’s Consolidated Companies are crushing low-grade ore. [59.145]

1912: Frederick the Great, Sebastian: 4630ozs 10dwt obtained from 1739 tons of stone; making a total of 2467ozs 16dwt from 9998 tons. [59]

Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consols: 301ozs 18 dwt obtained from 627 tons of stone; making 4555ozs 18dwt from 13,371 tons and £1000 in dividends. [59]

The Frederick the Great and Bruhn’s Consolidated Companies, at Sebastian, not having succeeded in discovering anything of a payable nature, have suspended operations. [59.121]

1913: Bruhn's Frederick the Great Consols: 13ozs 15 dwt obtained from 94
tons of stone; making 4574ozs 15dwt from 13,477tons and £1000 in dividends. [59]

At Sebastian, in the Bruhn's Consolidated mine, intermittent work has been carried on by tributers but without anything of a satisfactory nature being discovered. [59.118]

03.1915: The Bendigo Goldfield - Chances for Prospectors - Notable Features Described - There are many places worth trying in the large areas north of Eaglehawk, where rich stone has been mined. In the Whistpik and extending onwards to Raywood, Neilborough, Sebastian, Yarraberb, and Kamarooka, innumerable shafts denote former activity.

...Another mine with a great record is the Frederick the Great. Alluvial mining preceded work on the reef which for years made Sebastian a centre of great industrial activity. The reef was opened as far back as 1864. Records for the eight years of the pioneer workers show that 165,443 tons were milled for a gold yield of 73,375ozs, which realized £289,319. Working expenses and machinery accounted for £147,993, and the balance £44,343 divided amongst the members of the party. In 1880 a company was formed, and after two years of unprofitable work, tribute blocks of 300 feet square, were let as an experiment, and the subsidiary companies did well. The parent company received a royalty of 21 per cent on the gold won, and for years enjoyed great prosperity. The company and its tributes won £291,750 worth of gold, and paid in dividends £118,534, besides paying the executors of the Charlton estate a sum of £29,175 in royalty. In 1887 the company was reconstructed, and English capital was brought into it. After calling up £3900, a good start was made by paying in dividends £28,275. It is estimated that altogether 170,000 ozs of gold were won from the ground. [60]

09.1972: The Sebastian Gold Rush: The Frederick the Great lease included about 400 acres, covering 3,450 feet along the length (strike) of the reef. As up to 400 men worked at the Frederick the Great mine, needless to say that numerous hotels had been established, one only of which remains. Now returning to our abandoned Frederick the Great mine. In 1880, a second lease attempt failed to pick up the lost reef, and was given up after two years. In 1882, it was decided to let blocks 300 feet square to tributers. Bruhn's Tribute shaft, situated 1000 feet south of Frederick the Great shaft, worked the reef very successfully to 300 feet deep where the gold again petered out. This rich gold strike of Bruhn's produced £291,750 worth of gold, and paid 118,534 in dividends. In the year 1884, Bruhn's Tribute was the top producer of gold in the Bendigo field. It produced 11,872 ounce of gold, and paid £17,550 in dividends for that year. By 1887, the company had to be reformed with overseas capital, and up to 1893, a further £28,275 in dividends had been paid. After that, the reef became unpayable although it had yielded about 170,000 ounces of gold.

Additional notes...

a) There is a large dam among the sand heaps, and Robert Charlton would row across this "lake" every day from his house, to his Frederick the Great mine.

b) The present owner of the 400 acres on which the ruins of the Frederick the Great mine and the cyaniders' vats now stand, is a Miss B Donnellan.

c) Miss Donnellan now lives in what was once the mining office at the Frederick the Great mine.

d) Robert Charlton's name appears on plans of the land near the Eureka and Little Frederick the Great mines as early as 1869.

g) Robert Charlton worked at the Old Tom Diggings before his Sebastian venture. He came from New Zealand, where he was mining for gold. [57]
FULL MOON MINE

Other Names

Location Freehold land, west of Janaways Road, Garden Gully Reef, Woodvale

Map Reference Marong 1:25,000 - BV522.383

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description Remnant of small mullock heap. No machinery foundations in evidence.

History Period of activity: 1892-1893
Line of reef: Moon/Garden Gully
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: unknown
Deepest working level: 123 feet
Deepest shaft: 150 feet (at water level)

Thematic Context Mining

Comparative Examples The site is one of a number at the northern end of the Garden Gully line of reef which were unproductive and economically insignificant (e.g. Central New Moon and Adelaide New Moon). There are several other earlier, better preserved and more representative medium-level low-production mine sites elsewhere in the study area, namely: Old Tom Reef (1857-1900), Frühlings Reef (1860-1931), Lancashire Reef (1865-1907) and King of Prussia (1871-1885).

Statement of Significance The site has little historical or scientific significance.

Level of Significance None

Recommendation None

Heritage Boundaries None

References 1. “Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 5 July 1892, p4, col.2.
8. “Mining intelligence. Full Moon Company." The Bendigo Advertiser,

Notes
The company commenced operations in an already existing shaft, but the earlier history of the site has not been determined.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
05.07.1892. A meeting of shareholders in the newly formed Full Moon Company was held ... tonight. ...[1]
20.09.1892. The directors of the Full Moon yesterday visited the ground and decided to commence operations in an old shaft, judged to be about 150 feet deep. [2]
03.11.1892. Full Moon - Have finished the cleaning up of the shaft and repairing same, the depth of which is 123 feet. There is a crosscut in east 75 feet with stone in the end. Will now extend this crosscut. [3]
21.11.1892. Full Moon - Have erected whip pole during the past fortnight and finished the cleaning out of the crosscut. Also squared a driven same 3 feet; ground hard sandstone but slate coming in face. [4]
06.12.1892. Full Moon - During the past fortnight the crosscut at the 120 foot east level has been extended 8 feet, ground hard sandstone, total from shaft 85 feet; have also fixed in shaft 56 feet of ladders. [5]
02.01.1893. Full Moon - The eastern crosscut has during the past fortnight, been extended 5 feet; total from shaft, 100 feet. Have also started to drive west, and have driven 3 feet; ground hard at present, but shortly expect to meet with the western lava. [6]
16.01.1893. Full Moon - The west crosscut has during the past fortnight been extended 5 feet, total 8 feet; a change of ground is now coming in mixed with spurs, which indicate larger stone not far off. [7]
29.11.1893. Full Moon - A special meeting of the Full Moon Company was held ... last night to decide on what action shall be taken in regard to about 17,000 shares which have been forfeited and are held by the company. [8]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

GOLD DUMPS PROPRIETARY CYANIDE WORKS

Other Names

Location
Parcel No. P123918, State Forest/Eaglehawk Regional Park; east of the New Moon mine, Garden Gully Reef, Eaglehawk

Map Reference
Eaglehawk 1:10,000 - 535.346

Victorian Heritage Register No
No

National Estate Register No
No

Planning Scheme No
No

Description
25 metres east of the New Moon engine house are the remains of a cyanide works. The site consists of two sets of concrete machinery foundations 5 feet high. Each set is surrounded by partly buried concrete pads, presumably the footings for the galvanised iron sheds which would have enclosed the machinery. Between the two structures is an 8 foot square pit, from which runs a drain that terminates at a tailings dump. The site has less potential for interpretation than is possible at other cyanide sites within the study area.

History
Period of activity: 1937-1951+

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
There are five other cyanide works sites within the study area. These are: Devonshire Sand, Frederick the Great, Old Tom Reef, Shamrock and Wilson’s Hill. All are from the 1930’s period of mining on Bendigo and therefore relate to the second phase of cyaniding in Victoria. There are no sites in the study area which belong to the first phase of cyaniding prior to 1914. This is one of only two associated with Bendigo’s most important groups of mines and the only one of these with extant remains.

Statement of Significance
The site is closely associated with adjoining sites which are highly significant in Bendigo’s mining history (that is, the Moon and South New Moon sites) and represents the final phase of activity at these sites (criterion A). The site has the potential to illustrate this particular activity (criterion C).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries
The Moon Reef Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the west by Lower Beelzebub Gully Road and the Bendigo-Pyramid Road, on the north and south by private property boundaries, and on the east by a line 100 metres east of Beelzebub Gully Road as far as Sandner Road and thence by direct line to intersect the northern boundary at a point 250 metres east of the junction of
Janaways Road and Lower Beelzebub Gully Road.

References
5. H. H. Dunkin, “Dump cyanidation practice at Bendigo. Production 10,000 ounces annually from 400,000 tons. Technical details of percolation and agitation.” Chemical Engineering and Mining Review, 32, 10 May 1940, 313-318.
8. Victoria, Department of Mines, Gold and mineral statistics for the year.
10. Victoria, Department of Mines. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics and boring records for the year.
15. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

Notes
The site is already contained within the area marked L-3 on diagram number 608048 held by the Executive Director (of the Victorian Heritage Council) and including all above-ground structures (sites of concrete and brick engine beds, concrete floor slabs, battery foundations), water ponds, and remnants of mullock paddocks, and all archaeological deposits and artefacts.

Lower Beelzebub Gully Road is the title given to an otherwise unnamed track connecting Janaways Road southwards across Beelzebub Gully to the Bendigo-Pyramid Road and running parallel to, and west of Beelzebub Gully Road.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
1937-1951 Cyanidation of tailings - operations of the Gold Dumps Company
Gold Dumps Pty. Ltd. which was formed in 1937, with a capital of £100,000 divided into 100,000 shares of £1 has operated continuously in Victoria for 14 years Three plants were erected by this company in the Bendigo and Eaglehawk districts: [including]
3) On the New Moon Mine dumps at Sailors Gully, Eaglehawk. [1]

The ores mined on Bendigo and Eaglehawk goldfields are of a type from which valuable constituents can be liberated from the gangue by a comparatively coarse comminution of the ore. Stamp milling followed by plate amalgamation (a comparatively simple method of treatment), when coupled with gravity concentration of the sulphides which are of paragenic origin, has given a sufficiently high percentage recovery to permit a continuance of mining operations with outstanding success. This method of treatment, however, has not been 100 per cent. efficacious, and has resulted in the accumulation of millions of tons of low grade residues (or tailings as they are more commonly known), the gold content of which was considered as irrecoverable prior to the discovery that gold was soluble in alkaline cyanide solutions, and that it could be precipitated from these solutions by chemical reaction with zinc. With this discovery as a beginning, methods for the recovery of gold from tailings were evolved, and the cyanidation of tailings eventually grew into the present-day commercial enterprise capable of producing profits on a moderate capital outlay. Most plants with small throughput were erected by parties of cyaniders and the
better grade of re-leaching sandy materials treated with success. These parties made use of the leaching vat and relies almost entirely upon natural percolation of solutions through the material being treated, followed by the precipitation of the gold from the pregnant solutions by reaction on zinc shavings. Precipitation by using charcoal was attempted with doubtful success. The treatment of the lower grade tailings was of necessity left to the company or party possessing sufficient capital to install the machinery necessary to ensure a satisfactory throughput.

Gold Dumps Pty. Ltd. which was formed in 1937 with a capital of £100,000 divided into 100,000 shares of £1 has operated continuously in Victoria for 14 years, and has pioneered the large-scale treatment of the lower grade tailings. With the experience gained in the treatment of alluvial slum at Rutherglen, Carisbrook, etc, operations at Bendigo were commenced with a specific knowledge of tried and proven flowsheet for the different classes of materials, and of the machinery required to ensure a steady, maximum plant throughput.

Three plants were erected by this company in the Bendigo and Eaglehawk districts:-

1) On the Red, White and Blue dumps at Golden Square;
2) On the dumps produced by the Devonshire group of mines at California Gully, Eaglehawk; and
3) On the New Moon Mine dumps at Sailors Gully, Eaglehawk.

The erection of the plant at Golden Square, the plant being centrally placed to allow of the treatment of the Red, White and Blue Mine dumps, the Great Southern Mine dumps, and the current tailings produced by the North Deborah Mine No 1 treatment plant. After operating this plant for a number of years, operations were suspended early in 1949 because of low grade values and low slum content. Prior to the cessation of operations at the Golden Square plant, a similar plant was in the course of erection at the New Moon dumps, and a still large plant at the dumps of the Devonshire group of mines, the operations which will be briefly described. As in the case of the Golden Square plant, the additional plants were centrally placed to enable the treatment of other dumps in the locality.

Process:

Breaking down the dumps - dumps sluiced and material collected in a sump, which is then lifted by four class J.M.S inch Thompson pumps and conveyed by pipeline to the hydro-separator. A hydro-separator of the Dorr pattern is used, the material delivered to the unit being subjected to separation into a coarser material consisting chiefly of sandy particles, and a finer material which overflows with the solutions and passes to the pumping circuit for delivery to the mill section of the plant.

Settling Areas - With a view to obtaining sufficient room for initial operations the free sand removed by the classifier was stacked to a height of approximately 20 feet on the east side of an elevated area to the north-west of the site of the dumps. The sands, together with all sands classified from the circuit in the future, will be placed on the areas from which the original dump materials have been removed.

Treatment Plant - at the mill the pulp is fed into the first of six agitation tanks, each of which is 25 feet in diameter and 12 feet deep, and constructed of 5/8-inch welded mild steel plate.

Filtering - The pulp on leaving the last of the agitation tanks is pumped to a Moore type vacuum filter in which the solid content is separated from the solutions, and the latter allowed to pass to a Merrill-Crow precipitating unit. Precipitation and smelting. Not described.

Water used in the plant is obtained by pumping from the South Devonshire mine shaft. At this plant an average of 33 men are permanently employed on shift work. The operations at the New Moon plant are similar to those carried out at the Devonshire plant, and differ only in connection with the unit of plant used to classify the pregnant solutions, and the positioning of the classifier for removal of sands. At this plant the whole of the dump materials are transferred to the mill where the sands are classified from the circuit and passed to settling dumps. Separation of the solids from the solutions is obtained by the use of two
Oliver drum-type fitters, each being 12 feet in diameter and capable of removing an average of 450 tons of solids every 24 hours. [2, 5]

1947: Gold Dumps Pty Ltd has operated continuously on the Big Blue dump...The company has erected extensive plant at Sailors Gully to treat the large clumps of the old New Moon, South New Moon and Virginia mines. [3]

03.1948: Gold Dumps Pty Ltd has erected extensive plant at Sailors Gully to treat the large dumps of the old New Moon, South New Moon and Virginia mines. This plant is treating 500 tons daily. [4]

Tailings treatment, principally by cyaniding, in Victoria

1893: 5291 ozs 2dwt 2 grains of gold obtained from 43,521 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [6.12]
1894: 2097 ozs 14dwt 6 grains of gold obtained from 53,849 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [6.14]
1895: 5380 ozs 8dwt 14 grains of gold obtained from 62,319 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes. [7.10]

16. 09.1896: Cyaniding in Bendigo. At Mr. J. Deeble's United Pyrites Works, the plant is being extended so as to provide for the use of cyanide and kindred solutions. In order to get over the difficulty experienced in South Africa of making the slimes, which form a large portion of the refuse from the crushing machines, amenable to treatment by the solutions, Mr. Deeble has invented a mechanical appliance which is claimed to achieve this object, and it has been patented all over the world, and it is probable that the system may be taken up by British capitalists. The works and the vicinity are now lighted during the night by two large electric arc lights.

The cyanide process will probably cater more prominently in the future history of Bendigo mining should initiatory experiments prove profitable. Mr. A. Hamann is now erecting buildings, etc, for a cyanide plant at the Great Britain mine to work the old tailings.

In Africa experiments are being made in submitting to cyaniding the quartz directly after being broken by a rock crusher and without being crushed or rolled. The quartz, however, is very friable and crumbles easily. The recent leading article in the Indigo Advertiser on the subject of cyaniding has been the subject of considerable discussion. In connection with this matter an exchange very practically says: "It will not do to suppose that the possession of a few hundred-weight of cyanide, and a heap of tailings, is necessarily the groundwork of a fortune. In the first place there may not be sufficient gold in the tailings to pay for extraction. In the next place the gold may be there in satisfactory quantities, but it may be allied with other metals which also are greedy for cyanide, and thus cause too great a consumption of the wonder-working solvent to be profitable." [12]

1896: 8822 ozs 15dwt of gold obtained from 115,702.5 tons of tailings by undisclosed processes, but with cyaniding now on the increase. [7.11]

01. 02.1897: The Mining Exhibition [Melbourne]- A cyanide plant, exhibited by Mr Deeble, of Bendigo, is attracting great attention. [13]

09.07.1897: From the Herald we learn that the Minister of Mines has received from Mr Stone, the departmental assayer, a report on 2 tons of tailings sent to him from Axedale for cyanide experiment. Mr Stone says the lot was treated in four half ton parcels, and the results showed that the best results were secured in each successive parcel, the causes of the loss of gold and consumption being gradually found out and overcome, until in the final parcel an extraction of 74.6 per cent of the gold was obtained for a consumption of 0.53 pounds of cyanide per ton; or a cost of one shilling 4 pence for chemicals, including caustic soda. The value of the gold recovered being 7 shillings 9 pence per ton, the profit was then 6 shillings 5 pence per ton to cover cost and handling and depreciation of plant. ... Some interesting hints are added by Mr Stone, as well as a table, and the whole report is to be printed for the information of the mining community. [14]

1897: Re cyaniding...During the year a large number of samples of tailings have been sent into to be experimented on as to their suitability for treatment by the cyaniding process, and in nearly every case it has been demonstrated that
the gold can be extracted by means of that solvent, though frequently the gold contents are too low to make it profitable. A large number of plants are now in existence in the principal mining areas. At Stawell 200 tons and more a day are put through, but with one or two notable exceptions the plants are all working on old tailing heaps. It would be a great advantage to this colony if more of the working batteries had cyanide plants attached to their existing appliances, as by that means the gold could be extracted profitably, and which is now going to waste; but often if the tailings be run into a heap the cost of getting them in motion again is too great to leave a margin of profit. The South Star mine at Ballarat, and the South German at Maldon, are both cyaniding their tailings... One of the difficulties of the treatment of tailings by cyanides is caused by the slimes which are always produced during crushing and are usually the richest in gold: if they be not removed they settle so densely in the vats that the percolation of the liquor is stopped; this is usually overcome by running the tailings through Butter's distributers, by which means the great bulk of the slimes are removed... Two different systems have been devised by local inventors, one by Mr. J. J. Deeble, of Bendigo, which consists of a circular vat with agitating blades capable of being raised or lowered, and keeping the whole thoroughly stirred; the vat is provided with a single side gate which can be gradually lowered to allow the clear liquor carrying the gold in solution to overflow after stoppage of the arms and the settlement of the slimes. This method is adopted in the South German Mine...[where] the vats are 18 feet diameter and 4 feet deep, and require 3 horsepower. They hold about 20 tons each, and to get a complete extraction the slimes need 30 hours' agitation, the whole operation of agitation, settling and decanting takes 48 hours, the consumption of cyanide being about 1½ lb. per ton of slimes. Several parcels of pyrites have been treated without calcining by this method with over 95 per cent of extraction of gold content. [7]

1897 15,717 ozs 4 dwt of gold obtained from 161,723 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [7.10]
1898 17,845 ozs 1 dwt of gold obtained from 351,067 tons of tailings, mostly by cyaniding. [7.11]
1899 17,412 ozs 13 dwt of gold obtained from 359,848 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.11]
1900 28,741 ozs 16 dwt of gold obtained from 283,532 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.10]
1901 41,990 ozs 10 dwt of gold obtained from 482,278 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.11]
1902 43,302 ozs 15 dwt of gold obtained from 504,212 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.14]
1903 35,839 ozs of gold obtained from 444,897 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.16]
1904 48,035 ozs 16 dwt of gold obtained from 644,925 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.18]
1905 45,221 ozs 4 dwt of gold obtained from 626,745 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.20]
1906 44,495 ozs 15 dwt of gold obtained from 665,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [7.18]
1907 65,961 ozs of gold obtained from 983,034 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [6.17]
1908 77,245 ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,768 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [6.15]
1909 75,429 ozs of gold obtained from 1,257,338 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [6.18]
1910 68,583 ozs of gold obtained from 1,177,232 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [6.18]
1911 59,986 ozs of gold obtained from 1,102,956 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [6.20]
1912 55,740 ozs of gold obtained from 881,306 tons of tailings by cyaniding. [6.18]
1913 45,397 ozs of gold obtained from 692,256 tons of tailings by cyaniding.
1914: 39,920 ozs of gold obtained from 607,260 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

1915: 21,511 ozs of gold obtained from 317,636 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

1916: 14,635 ozs of gold obtained from 203,016 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

1917: 8,930 ozs of gold obtained from 127,012 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 66 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1918: 44,200 ozs of gold obtained from 45,600 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 34 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1919: 41,980 ozs of gold obtained from 43,000 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

1920: 42,260 ozs of gold obtained from 37,596 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

1921: 53,260 ozs of gold obtained from 39,937 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 20 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1922: 58,470 ozs of gold obtained from 41,163 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 12 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1923: 34,150 ozs of gold obtained from 18,644 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1924: 20,520 ozs of gold obtained from 12,108 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1925: 9,710 ozs of gold obtained from 8,344 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1926: 13,230 ozs of gold obtained from 7,748 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1927: 16,720 ozs of gold obtained from 11,060 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1928: 11,990 ozs of gold obtained from 6,397 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1929: 7,720 ozs of gold obtained from 4,047 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 10 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1930: There were no reports of gold being obtained from tailings by cyaniding during the year. There were no reports of cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1931: 2,807 ozs of gold obtained from 8,933 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 14 cyanide plants in operation during the year.

1932: 2,060 ozs of gold obtained from 39,317 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 5 Government plants.

1933: 3,550 ozs of gold obtained from 63,565 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 323 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 5 Government plants.

1934: 14,842 ozs of gold obtained from 321,104 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 86 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants.

1935: 22,460 ozs of gold obtained from 630,318 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 121 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants.

1936: 28,565 ozs of gold obtained from 794,640 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 141 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants.

1937: 41,923 ozs of gold obtained from 1,233,914 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 157 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants.

1938: 40,384 ozs of gold obtained from 1,202,623 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 132 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants.

1939: 43,458 ozs of gold obtained from 1,358,304 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 150 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants.

Cyanide plants at Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Ironbark, Huntly, Sebastian,
Fosterville and Marong are giving in most cases payable results. [11]

1940. 38,759ozs of gold obtained from 1,225,301 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 188 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 7 Government plants. [10.25]

1941. 37,050ozs of gold obtained from 1,176,936 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 165 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 4 Government plants. [10.23]

1942. 19,869ozs of gold obtained from 626,643 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 85 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. [10.20]

1943. 6626ozs of gold obtained from 78,716 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 36 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including 2 Government plants. 105.19]

1944. 2936ozs of gold obtained from 59,045 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 19 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [10.19]

1945. 2442ozs of gold obtained from 47,197 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 22 cyanide plants in operation during the year, including one Government plant. [10.19]

1946. 8694ozs of gold obtained from 262,810 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 40 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [10.22]

1947. 9977ozs of gold obtained from 268,893 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 39 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [10.22]

1948. 10,746ozs of gold obtained from 376,143 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 30 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [10.26]

1949. 10,312ozs of gold obtained from 359,577 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 24 cyanide plants in operation during the year, and no Government plants. [9.34]

1950. 10,834ozs of gold obtained from 468,758 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 27 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.31]

1951. 5093ozs of gold obtained from 220,625 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

1952. 1453ozs of gold obtained from 60,466 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 9 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.27]

1953. 1025ozs of gold obtained from 15,807 tons of tailings by cyaniding. There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.24]

1954. 789ozs of gold obtained from 14,677 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 11 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.21]

1955. 764ozs of gold obtained from 13,805 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 8 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.23]

1956. 476ozs of gold obtained from 10,785 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 6 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.23]

1957. 523ozs of gold obtained from 11,861 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 7 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.23]

1958. 569ozs of gold obtained from 11,150 tons of tailings by cyaniding.

There were 5 cyanide plants in operation during the year. [15.31]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

IRON’S DAM

Other Names

Location

Parcel No. P123410, Water Reserve, south side of Scotts Road, Neillborough

Map Reference

Summerfield 1:25,000 - 540.476

Description

About 10 metres south of Scotts Road is a dam, still holding water. Between the road and dam, there is a weathered outline of a puddling machine, with a possible second puddling machine to the east.

History

Period of activity: 1858-1998+

Thematic Context

Mining

Comparative Examples

Within the study area there are at least seventeen dams constructed to provide water for mining purposes. These are: Peter the Great Dam (right hand branch)(1856), Wallace Reef (1856), Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858), Old Tom Reef (1860), No.7 Reservoir (1861), Frederick the Great (1865), Raywood Reservoir (1865), Frühling Reef (1871), Liddell’s (probably 1876), at least one at Fiddler’s Green (by 1879), Elliott’s Reef (by 1887), Christoff Reef (1895), Wilson’s Hill (by 1896), Lightning Hill (by 1903), on the ridge above the Lancashire Reef workings (by 1908) and New Moon Consolidated (by 1910). Several of these dams are still serviceable and at least three are still in use. These three are Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858) and No.7 Reservoir (by 1861). Iron’s Dam is the oldest within the study area which is still in use. Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron’s Dam (2)(1858), Fiddlers Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter’s Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully.

Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at this site, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter’s Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts.
Statement of Significance

It is extremely rare to find a puddling machine for which there is documentary evidence which can confirm its provenance. This appears to be the case for both puddling machines at this site (criterion A). Puddling machine technology, whilst initially imported, was developed further in Victoria and was particularly important for the early development of alluvial mining in this state (criterion A). The ability to be able to construct a dateable sequence of puddling machines is particularly important for the purpose of dating other sites for which there is little or no documentary evidence (criterion C).

Level of Significance

State

Recommendation

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with both the Victorian Heritage Council and the Australian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites. In particular, access to the dam (whether by vehicle or on foot) should be restricted so that further damage to the two puddling machine sites is prevented.

Heritage Boundaries

The site is bounded by Scotts Road on the north and by a line 30 metres beyond the normal high-water level in the dam.

References

2. “Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat.” From a Correspondent, 29 June 1858; The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 2 July 1858.

Notes

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

19.04.1858: Already the miners in this locality are beginning to feel the want of water. ... Mr Iron, of the Black Swan, has at present ten or a dozen men employed making a large dam, which I imagine will, when finished, hold an amount of water sufficient to keep at least a portion of the population employed for some time. ... At any rate, one thing is certain, unless we get water, and a permanent supply of it too shortly, Elysian Flat will once more be deserted, and the population now residing here will have to seek a home for themselves elsewhere. Let those who will be more immediately the sufferers from the depopulation of Elysian Flat, the storekeepers and merchants, look to it. ... By-the-bye there is a great talk of the Ovens just now about here, and several friends of mine have already lefty for those diggings. [139]

02.07.1858: Mr James Iron, that well known practical and enterprising gentleman, has, I understand, completed the erection of a second puddling machine, on ground selected by him for that purpose, at a convenient distance from the shallow sinkings, and is now in a position to puddle at the moderate rate of 2dwt per load, any washing stuff that may be entrusted to him by the diggers for that purpose. [163]

26.07.1858: We understand that the dam formed by Mr Iron at Elysian Flat has been filled by the recent rains. Mr Iron estimates the supply is sufficient for four months, and as a great many of the diggers have their stuff washed at his puddling machine, this fact is of some importance to the district. [167]

29.07.1858: By favour of Mr Iron, who returned from these diggings at a late hour last night, we understand that things are going favourably in this locality. A
good supply of water has been secured in the different dams. One of the dams broke away above Mr Irons dam, and occasioned some inconvenience, but was eventually secured. [170]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

JIB HORSE GULLY ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Other Names

Location

Parcel No. P127161, State Forest, 100 metres south-west of junction of Black Horse Track and Whipstick Road, Jib Horse Gully, Whipstick

Map Reference

Epsom 1:25,000 - BV557.378

Victorian Heritage Register No

No

National Estate Register No

No

Planning Scheme No

No

Description

On the side of a shallow hill, about 40 metres south-west of the junction of Whipstick Road and Black Horse Gully Track, beyond some shallow alluvial workings, there are the remains of a puddling machine. The inner mound is somewhat eroded, but the sides of the puddling trench are still relatively sheer. The puddling machine has a diameter of 22 feet. 20 metres west of the puddling machine is a 50 metre long low embankment which forms the downstream wall of a shallow dam. East of the puddling machine there is an intact mound of wash. The outlet channel from the machine runs south to a deposit of clayey slum.

History

Period of activity: unknown

Thematic Context

Mining

Comparative Examples

This site is one of a number of shallow alluvial workings identified within the study area. Some of the other equally significant early sites are: Myers Flat (1852), Fiddler’s Green (1852), One-Eye Gully (1852), Peter the Great (right hand branch)(1856) and Shallow Diggings (1858).

Within the study area at least sixteen puddling machine sites have been identified. These are: Peter the Great Gully (right hand branch)(by 1856?), Iron’s Dam (2)(1858), Fiddler’s Green (by 1879), Marong Deep Lead (1905), Jib Horse Gully (22 feet)(after 1930?), Old Tom Reef (20 feet)(after 1930), Phillips Gully (2)(after 1930?), Peter the Great Gully (left hand branch)(4)(after 1930?), Splitter’s Gully (2)(22 feet)(after 1930?) and White Jacket Gully.

Nineteenth century puddling machines are extremely rare and their provenance cannot usually be confirmed from such documentary evidence as has normally survived about mining in Victoria. The only site within the study area where this has been possible is at Iron’s Dam, but then only by a process of elimination. That is, from documentary evidence, it is known that there were two puddling machines in the vicinity of the dam in 1858. The remains of two, and only two, puddling machines were identified at the site in 1992, so these must be the original ones. Whilst there are puddling machines at other sites (for example, Peter the Great (by 1856), Old Tom Reef (by 1857) and Splitter’s Gully (by 1865) these are either associated with later phases of mining (reef workings or hydraulic sluicing) and/or do not exhibit extensive weathering and therefore, on these grounds, they cannot be regarded unequivocally as nineteenth century artefacts.

No documentary records have been found for any puddling machines constructed in the nineteenth century, which had an outer diameter of 22 feet.
There is one example recorded where the diameter was 20 feet, but this was an exception; the average being much closer to 16 feet [1.180-186] If the puddling machine at this site was constructed in the nineteenth century then its size was highly unusual (perhaps indicating a regional variation), or it was not constructed in the nineteenth century. If the latter, then it is quite likely it was constructed in the period between 1931 and 1936 when it is known there were over a thousand men engaged in any one year in alluvial mining in the Bendigo district.

The sides of the puddling trench at this machine are no less sheer than those for the puddling machine on the Old Tom Reef, which is thought to have been built no earlier than 1930.

Statement of Significance

The site contains a rare example of a puddling machine in an excellent state of preservation (puddling machine, dam and bank of wash and slum)(criterion B), probably associated with mining activities during the depression years and therefore has the potential to educate and illustrate an aspect of Victoria’s cultural heritage (criterion C).

Level of Significance

Local

Recommendation

The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries

The site is bounded on the east by Whipstick Road, on the north by Black Horse Gully Track, on the west by the Raywood Channel water race and extends due south from Black Horse Gully Track for a distance of 150 metres.

References

2. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.

Notes

Black Horse Gully Track is the title given to an otherwise unnamed track running west from Whipstick Road along the northern boundary of the site.

Assessed by

David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

09.1864 Gum Tree Flat: 20 miners at work. [2.37-40]
12.1864 Gum Tree Flat: 20 miners at work. [2.39-42]
03.1865 Gum Tree Flat: 30 miners at work. [2.42-44]
06.1865 Gum Tree Flat: 10 miners at work. [2.43-44]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

KING OF PRUSSIA MINE

Other Names

Location
Parcel No. P127987, State Forest, west side of Whipstick Road and opposite the Lightning Hill shaft, Hustler's Reef, Eaglehawk

Map Reference
Campaspe 2.3 1:10,000 - BV547.347

Victorian Heritage Register No
National Estate Register No
Planning Scheme No

Description
Intact mullock heap with two dumping lines. On the east side of the heap, close to the road, is a filled shaft. 16 metres south west of the shaft is a rectangular stone structure measuring 32 by 22 feet. The stone walls are largely buried, with the stone set in mud mortar.

History
Period of activity: 1871-1885
Line of reef: King of Prussia/Lightning Hill
Maximum recorded annual production: 934ozs obtained from 2200 tons by tributers in 1879
Total production: 1329ozs obtained from 2847 tons
Deepest working level: 150 feet
Deepest shaft: 240 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context
Mining

Comparative Examples
The site is one of a number of representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the study area, namely: Lightning Hill (1852-1907), Old Tom Reef (1857-1898), Black Forest (1858-1907), Frühling Reef (1860-1931) and Lancashire Reef (1890-1908).

Statement of Significance
The site is representative of a sequence of uses or functions over time: open cutting and shaft mining and is part of a group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant (criterion D). This is a well-preserved mining site which has the ability to answer timely and specific archaeological research questions, because of the possibility of buried remains (criterion C).

Level of Significance
Regional

Recommendation
The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Lightning Hill Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries
The Lightning Hill Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Hodgson Street, on the east by the Raywood Channel as far as the junction between Whipstick Road and Rifle Range Road, on the north-west by a line 150 metres west of Whipstick Road (between Rifle Range Road and Mill Street and excluding all private property) and on the west by a line joining a point at the
junction of Whipstick Road and the western access track to Lightning Hill and a point at the junction of Hodgson Street and the southern access street to Lightning Hill.

References
1. “Mining intelligence. The recently discovered rich lode on Lightning Hill, near Eaglehawk.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 12 February 1876, p3, cols.2/3.
4. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
5. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 3 November 1876.
6. “Mining intelligence. Lightning Hill.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 8 June 1877, p3, col.3.
14. Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records - Files.

Notes The ground was originally worked by three companies: the King of Prussia (1871-1883), the Imperial King of Prussia ((1881-1883) and the Rose/North King
of Prussia (1878-1881). The last company was not particularly successful. In 1883 the first two merged as the New King of Prussia (1883-1885) and this was amalgamated with other companies working the northern slope of Lightning Hill to form the general Gordon (1885-1896).

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998.

Chronology

12.02.1876: The King of Prussia Company's ground, which is comprised of a ...

26.06.1876: King of Prussia - 16 tons of stone were cleaned up today for a yield of 16ozs of amalgam, it is intended in another week to keep a battery going from this level; and from the quantity of stone, and the good prospects of gold obtained, fair yields are anticipated.

09.1876: King of Prussia, Lightning Reef: 241ozs 16dwt obtained from 356 tons of stone at 150 feet in a reef 6 feet wide.

03.11.1876: The King of Prussia Tribute Company are principally working at the 110 and 170 foot levels; they are now getting out a crushing from the higher level, which they expect will give over an ounce per ton, and their mine is a most valuable mining property, when it is taken into consideration that the stone is fully 15 feet wide, and that they have over 500 feet of backs to rise on. The gold is coarse generally, and pretty evenly distributed through the quartz, though the best of it occurs west of the back. At the next lower level (170 feet), however, it appears that they have a strong lode of an extraordinarily rich character, some of the stone broken during this and last week being estimated to go as high as 10ozs per ton. An empty powder keg was filled with specimens last week, and 30ozs of gold were said to be the value of its contents. The deeper stone (Belvidere?), it is satisfactory to note, is very regular in its mode of occurrence, and is fully 8 feet wide; they are now driving north on it at the water level, and when it is fully opened up the yields will doubtless increase very considerably. These tributers have already crushed over 2000 tons of stone from their mine for very satisfactory profits after paying all working expenses. There are a number of claims and leases taken up north, none of which are, however, at work, which is a surprising circumstance, for which such prospects there should be very little trouble to obtain the means for sinking, and also for the purchase of steam machinery if such were required, whilst there are good indications for the location of untried stone.

08.06.1877: Other claims on the line are busily at work, and for some time past the King of Prussia Company has been getting payable stone. Lightning Hill has merely been touched on the surface, and untold wealth, without doubt, lies in its deep interior.

11.06.1877: An entirely new line, or, at least, one that has stood in a very shady back ground, has come to the front - Lightning Hill Reef, Eaglehawk. For a number of years prospecting has been carried on, but only small patches of payable quartz obtained. For some time the King of Prussia Company have
been crushing for an average of half an ounce to the ton, ... [7]

06.1877: King of Prussia, Lightning Reef: 131ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 249 tons of stone at 150 feet in a reef 3 to 8 feet wide. [4.28-30]

08.08.1877: The King of Prussia Company comes next, and is the last one on the line getting gold. It is let on tribute to Herbert and party. The shaft is down 1709 feet, being the deepest on the line, and is now at the water level. They crushed from the stone (coming off the same back as in Pascoe's claim) between their 170 and 140 foot levels a quantity of quartz which yielded an average of 12dwt to the load, and are at present stopping at the 140 foot level, 150 feet north of the shaft, from which last week's return was 11ozs 6dwt from 22 loads. They are starting a new shaft on the south-east boundary of the claim to pick up Pascoe's run at a higher level. The percentage from these tributers enabled the King of Prussia Company to declare a small dividend a short time ago, and they have a creditable balance on hand now. The Rose Company is the last on the line, but up to the present time they have not succeeded in striking the run, but are prospecting vigorously. [8]

02.11.1878: North King of Prussia - A meeting of the shareholders of the Rose Company was held on Thursday evening, ... called for the purpose of considering the advisability of registering the company under the Limited Liability Act. ... It was unanimously agreed to name the company the North King of Prussia Company, ... The company's ground is situated immediately north of the King of Prussia Company's ground, and stands in almost the same position as to the run of stone as the above company. They have a shaft down to water level, and intend to commence sinking as soon as the King of Prussia Company drain the ground. Their shaft is in an excellent position and has stone in the bottom. ... [9]

02.06.1879: A large body of stone has been struck in the King of Prussia's claim at the 240 foot level which is believed to be a continuation of the run now being worked in Pascoe and Simmonds' claim. Should this prove to be the case a bright future is in store, and will be the means of inducing other claims further north to push on with their work. [10]

26.07.1879: King of Prussia - The half-yearly meeting of this company was held ... on the 17th instant ...

Directors' report - At the date of our last report we had just finished the plat at the 240 foot level. The eastern wall was cut at 32 feet from the shaft, but, not finding any stone there we opened levels north and south on the west side of the slate, 22 feet west of the wall. The south level has been extended 100 feet and the north level 70 feet. One winze 40 feet south of the main shaft has been sunk from the old water level to the lower level, another has also been sunk 100 feet south of the main shaft through to the bottom level. In these winzes permanent shoots have been erected and tramway laid, all ready to work the stone above the 240 foot level. A main crosscut has also been put through to the west a distance of 96 feet. At 44 feet from the shaft a slide was cut on which lay a large quantity of stone, but on trying about 20 tons of it it did not pay. It is now evident that the top of the stone worked by the tributers against the eastern wall from which they crushed 2200 tons for a yield of 934ozs 10dwt of gold has gone underfoot at the 170 foot level, and although we have sunk two winzes through it with but poor results, we are of opinion that this block of ground should be worked. As a proof of this opinion two men were put on last week in No.2 winze to drive north on the stone, and nearly every day they see gold in the stone being broken. We also strongly recommend that the 200 foot level be continued north of the slide against the last wall, where every foot of driving will bring us more into the gold-bearing line of stone. We are also of opinion that a crosscut should be put in at the bottom of the whip shaft west, to cut the western run of stone on the slide, which was previously worked by the company at the 110 foot level, where the stone is about 8 feet thick, and from which 350 tons were crushed for a yield of 61ozs 11dwt 12 grains of gold.

Mining manager's report - I was appointed to take charge of your mine on the 8th of May last. Since then the west crosscut has been driven 90 feet. At 40 feet a reef was cut, showing gold. Two trial lots were taken from this reef; which were not payable. The ground driven through from the shaft to the reef is
sandstone, with large spurs running through it, dipping west. After cutting the reef the ground driven through is all slate. The crosscut is stopped for the present. I recommend that it be continued as soon as funds will allow, as there is a western reef. A level has been driven north 70 feet - all slate ground, full of small spurs. No payable gold has been met with in this level, and it has been discontinued for the present. The south level has been driven 112 feet without meeting any stone. This level is also stopped at present. At the 170 foot level, 30 feet south of the shaft, a winze was sunk to the 240 foot level; a large body of stone was gone through. Trial crushings were taken, but were not payable. A second winze, 100 feet south of shaft was sunk down to the 240 foot level. The stone followed the eastern back down 25 feet, when it goes off to the west. So long as the stone keeps close on the back it carries good gold, but when it leaves the back it becomes very poor. In driving north at this level the last two shifts have seen gold frequently in breaking the stone. There is also a level being driven north at the 170 foot plat. The tributers’ old level has just been broken into, showing a good face of stone. There have been 410 feet of main levels and crosscuts driven during the six months and 140 feet of winzes sunk. In the whip shaft trial crushings were taken from the 110 and 170 foot levels, which only yielded one and 2dwt to the ton. At the 80 foot level a crosscut was put in from the shaft 42 feet, when the tributers’ old workings were broken into, which was full of mullock. No stone was cut in this crosscut...

North King of Prussia - The half-yearly meeting of the above company was held... on 22nd July...

Directors’ report - Since the date of our appointment as directors we have repaired the shaft down to the 170 foot level; had the ladders all removed from the west side of the shaft and put in on the east side, which is much more convenient. We also divide the shaft with sawn timber, and fixed the ladders with stages down to the 100 foot level. From this level we carried the ladders down the winze to the lower level, which is now a safe and permanent travelling way. In May last we called for tenders to sink the shaft a further depth of 60 feet, which we anticipate will carry us within 10 feet of the water level in the King of Prussia mine. At our last fortnightly meeting the contractors had finished 42 feet 6 inches, making the shaft 215 feet 6 inches, and when finished the depth will be 233 feet, where we would recommend a plat to be cut on the east of the shaft, and then drive for the eastern wall. We expect the contractors will finish the sinking and timbering to the required depth during the week. [12]

1879: Whipstick. By 1879, much profitable work had already been accomplished on the quartz reefs of the Bendigo goldfield. Several lines of reef had been prospected or worked for some miles but after tracing them from Bendigo to the northern boundary of the Eaglehawk Borough, little effort had been made to locate them further. Beyond this point, several reefs disappeared beneath the dense bush and scrub of the Whipstick. Except for the occasional exposure on hilltop or gully, little trace of them was visible. In 1879, Reginald A F Murray, a geologist with the Victorian Department of mines was engaged to trace two lines of reef, the Garden Gully and Lightning Hill for a distance of three miles northwards into the Whipstick, from the Eaglehawk boundary. The Eaglehawk Borough Council supplied the labour for clearing along these lines. Much quartz mining had already been done on the Lightning Hill Reef, particularly on Lightning Hill itself. On the Garden Gully line the Robin Hood Company had, with little success, been engaged with mining operations for some years. Although this mine was actually on the Garden Gully line, the locality was known as the Moon Reef... [Murray's survey] disclosed that the two reefs, although three quarters of a mile apart, were practically parallel. A number of companies worked on the Lightning Reef over the... years with mostly disappointing results. The Lightning Reef Gold Mining Company was formed in 1864 working on a claim which had previously yielded from 4 to 7ozs. to the ton... Other early companies on this reef were the King of Prussia, the Excelsior and Rifle Companies, none of them particularly successful. The best claim on Lightning Hill was that of Pascoe and Simmonds who in the late 1870's and 80's worked a big reef of 20 to 30 feet wide from the surface to 220 feet. They crushed 12,000 loads for 11,000ozs. of gold. After Pascoe and Simmonds...
had abandoned their lease, their extensive system of tunnels in the hillside became a rendezvous for several generations of Eagl ehawk boys. [13.214-227]

Reef shown marked in Murray's map of the northwards extension of the quartz reefs at Eaglehawk. [15]

19.07.1880 - King of Prussia - Work was resumed in the main shaft last Monday. Everything was got in readiness for sinking on Thursday, when the contractors started with 6 men. The ground is very favourable, and the contractors are sanguine of doing well out of the contract. The machinery and everything is in splendid working order. [16]

07.03.1881 - North King of Prussia - work in the mine has been resumed. We are now putting the shaft in repair and tenders will be called for and opened out to sink the main shaft on the 15th. instant. [17]

21.03.1881 - North King of Prussia - the directors at their last meeting decided not to accept any of the tenders sent in, and agreed to commence with 4 men to sink the shaft. They started on Tuesday last to sink and timber the shaft 100 feet deeper. [18]

28.03.1881 - King of Prussia - during the past fortnight, the western crosscut has been extended 16 feet, total from shaft 116 feet. At 108 feet, we came on a large stone in the roof of the drive, which had every appearance of being the western reef, but, on driving, it proved to be about 2 feet in the roof and going west, broke up in rubbly spurs, which are still going west, and, in the face now, there are some spurs coming ion, which would lead to the belief that there must be more stone west, the western lava has not yet been reached; we have now the safety hooks at work, and boiler erected; machinery and everything is in good working order. [19]

13.06.1881 - North King of Prussia - the lower crosscut has been extended 18 feet, total 24 feet; chiefly through slate ground and small veins of quartz. The winze has also been sunk 17 feet, total 29 feet; we now expect in a few feet to cut the runs of stone coming away from the back. [20]

29.08.1881 - King of Prussia - The rise above 240 foot level has been put up 15 feet; now coming into stone, but no gold had bee seen yet. Work has been stopped in the mine for a few days to make a few repairs and clean out the boiler. No satisfactory arrangement has been made about drainage yet, and work in all probability will be stopped in the lower levels. [21]

Imperial King of Prussia - A contract has been let to cut down and retimber the shaft below the 150 foot plat. This portion of the shaft is to be divided into 3 compartments, 2 for hauling purposes and one for a ladderway. [22]

05.09.1881 - North King of Prussia - The western crosscut has been extended during the past fortnight 19 feet, total 35 feet; ground very good. This company has agreed to pay drainage to the King of Prussia Company for sinking. [23]

10.10.1881 - Imperial King of Prussia - The contractors for cutting down and retimbering the shaft have cut down 26 feet and timbered 18 feet. This portion of the shaft is 8 feet by 4 feet within the timbers and divided into 3 compartments. [24]

13.12.1881 - The first half-yearly meeting of the Imperial King of Prussia Company was held last evening. [25]

13.03.1882 - King of Prussia - All work has been suspended for a few weeks to give time to collect calls, when preparations will be made to sink main shaft. [26]

21.05.1883 - An extraordinary meeting of shareholders in the King of Prussia Company was held ... on Friday, the 16th instant, for the purpose of winding up the company. ... The proposal to amalgamate with the Imperial King of Prussia was agreed to, shares to be allotted as follows: King of Prussia Company, 16,000; Imperial King of Prussia Company, 8000. ... A meeting of shareholders in the two companies was held immediately afterwards, and a new company formed, the name of the new company to be called the New King of Prussia Company. ... Preparations will be made to go to work as soon as the new company is registered, as the machinery is all in good order. With the exception of erecting a new exhaust tank very little time will be lost in getting out the water. [27]
LANCASHIRE REEF MINES, DAM AND ALLUVIAL WORKINGS

Description
Lancashire Company
A small partially quarried mullock heap with two dumping lines, 25 metres long, situated just south of a track around the southern perimeter of the Council tip in Devonshire Gully. North of this heap there is a scatter of building stone and hand-made brick.

South Lancashire Company
South of the Lancashire mullock heap and on the opposite side of the gully there is another small mullock heap, with two short dumping lines. On the south side of the heap is a stone-edged quartz paddock.

Sluice-head dam - for sluicing of Armadale Gully
100 metres further south of the machinery site on the ridge between Maiden Gully and Devonshire Gully there is a well-preserved sluicing dam, fed by water races. The earthen wall of the dam has been faced with stone. The gully below the dam on the northern side has been sluiced.

Surface workings
Further south, on the fall into Maiden Gully, there is a line of shallow reef workings which extend for over 200 metres.

The mullock heaps are weathered and in some cases partially quarried; the dam, however, retains its definition and form. The integrity of the site is good, but reduced at the northern end by the multiplicity of tracks between the various sites.

History
Period of activity: Bush and Holt/Great Lancashire/Lancashire (1891-1896, 1899-1900, 1903-1907); Nelson and Company (1894-1896); South Lancashire (1904); hydraulic sluicing carried out at Bendigo from 1874 to 1944, but probably not in this area until after 1908.

Line of reef: Prince of Wales
Maximum recorded annual production: unknown
Total production: 738ozs obtained from 1760 tons between 1890 and 1898; 879/885ozs from 3444/3637 tons between 1903 and 1908 (Bush and Holt/Great Lancashire/Lancashire)
Dividends £779 (Lancashire)
Calls £7366 between 1902 and 1908 (Lancashire); £1136 between 1903 and 1906 (South Lancashire)
Deepest working level: 217 feet
Deepest shaft: 418 feet (Lancashire), 200 feet (South Lancashire) (below water
level)

Thematic Context

Mining

Comparative Examples

The site is one of a number of representative medium-level low-production mine
sites in the study area, namely: Lightning Hill (1852-1907), Old Tom Reef (1857-
1898), Black Forest (1858-1907), Frühling Reef (1860-1931) and King of
Prussia (1871-1885). This site was the most recently mined and is one of the
best examples of mining undertaken on one of the minor lines of reef on
Bendigo during the “big mine” phase between 1888 and 1914.

Within the study area there are at least seventeen dams constructed to provide
water for mining purposes. These are: Peter the Great Dam (right hand
branch)(1856), Wallace Reef (1856), Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858),
Old Tom Reef (1860), No.7 Reservoir (1861), Frederick the Great (1865),
Raywood Reservoir (1865), Frühling Reef (1871), Liddell’s (probably 1876), at
least one at Fiddler’s Green (by 1879), Elliott’s Reef (by 1887), Christoff Reef
(1895), Wilson’s Hill (by 1896), Lightning Hill (by 1903), on the ridge above the
Lancashire Reef workings (by 1908) and New Moon Consolidated (by 1910).
Several of these dams are still serviceable and at least three are still in use.
These three are Flagstaff Hill (by 1857), Iron’s Dam (1858) and No.7 Reservoir
(by 1861). The dam on the ridge above the Lancashire Reef workings is one of
the most recent of the smaller sites, and is the most intact of these.

Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water
became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such
operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon
and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the
sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was not undertaken
until construction of the Flagstaff Reservoir in the period after 1908.

Statement of
Significance

The site illustrates important aspects of both small-scale reef mining and
hydraulic sluicing (criterion C) and is one of the best examples of mining
undertaken on one of the minor lines of reef on Bendigo during the “big mine”
phase between 1888 and 1914 (criterion A and criterion B).

Level of Significance

Local

Recommendation

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage
Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and in
accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining
sites. In particular, tracks across and in the immediate vicinity of the northern
end of the site should be closed to vehicles and replanted with species native to
the area. Further historical research also needs to be undertaken to determine
when and what plant, machinery and equipment was installed.

Heritage Boundaries

The eastern and western boundaries of the rectangular area of significance are
100 metres apart and equi-distant from a mean line with a true bearing of 340
degrees running through the intersecting centre lines of Albert Road and Maiden
Gully Road. The southern boundary intersects this mean line at a point 150
metres north of this intersection point and the area of significance extends along
the mean line for a further distance northwards of 600 metres.

References

1. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining
district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
2. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining
district, Eaglehawk division.
3. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 13 September 1894,
p4, col.1.
4. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 21 May 1895, p4,
Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology

12.1865 Armidale Reef: 6 miners at work. [1.45-46]
03.1866 Armidale Reef: 6 miners at work. [1.44-45]
06.1866 Armidale Reef: 3 miners at work. [2.41-43]
21.05.1895 A party at Armadale Gully, on a continuation of the Prince of Wales line, crushed 8 tons for 16dwt of gold. [4]
24.02.1896 Nelson and Company, working on this line (Prince of Wales) at Armadale Gully, have a payable return. [5]
01.1899 Great Lancashire: Up to this time the company had obtained 610ozs from 1270 tons of stone. [6]
01.1899 Great Lancashire: 24ozs obtained from 50 tons of stone at 100 feet in a reef 8 feet thick. [6]
02.1899 Great Lancashire: 28ozs 14dwt obtained from 90 tons of stone. [6]
04.1899 Great Lancashire: 20ozs obtained from 100 tons of stone on a property of 14 acres. [6]
18.05.1899 The Great Lancashire stone in the 84 foot level has widened out to 10 feet, and coarse gold is distributed throughout. The ground in the locality had been worked for many years by private parties, notably by Mr Busch, whose lease was taken up by the Great Lancashire Company, an English venture. Since the company started operations they have obtained fairly payable yields, and this crushing of 32 loads which is being put through this week should eclipse any of their former returns. [7]
11.09.1899 Great Lancashire crushed 50 tons for 16ozs 15dwt, which is below the usual average. [8]
25.09.1899 The Great Lancashire furnish payable return of 27ozs 10dwt from 60 tons. [9]
16.10.1899 The Great Lancashire, which is situated about half a mile west of the United Devonshire, sent in a return of 14ozs 18dwt, from a crushing of 9 tons. The reef varies from 4 feet up to 8 feet in thickness, and is located at a depth of 100 feet from the surface. [10]
23.10.1899 Great Lancashire crushed 50 tons for 16ozs 10dwt. [11]
25.10.1899 Few of the outside ventures on this field have figured so consistently on the gold list during the past year as the Great Lancashire, which was originally “Bush and Holt’s” claim. This property is located on the southerly continuation of the North Prince of Wales line, and is situated at Armadale Gully, midway between the United Devonshire and Who-Can-Tell mines. It is about 7 years since the original prospectors (Messrs Bush and Holt) took up the lease, which comprises 12 acres, with 300 yards along the line of reef. A shaft has been sunk in the gully from which the locality inherits its name. This gully, by the way, was rich in alluvial, and the numerous outcrops of quartz on the surrounding hills indicate the existence of reefs abounding in the immediate vicinity of the gully. In the first shaft sunk by Messrs Bush and Holt stone was met with at about 80 feet from the surface, and they obtained remunerative results at various times from the reef, which they worked for a width of from 8 to 12 feet. About 18 months ago a new shaft was sunk to a depth of 100 feet, about 50 feet south-east from the original shaft, and in the last 20 feet of sinking they passed through a mass of stone, crushings from which averaged close on 2dwt per ton. At 84 feet they opened out and crosscutted west about 40 feet, when the main reef was intersected carrying payable gold. A level north has been driven close on 130 feet, and during our mining reporter’s visit there was a mass of stone in the face of an apparently payable character. South, the level is in close on 50 feet, but the main body of stone which is rising south appears to have gone overhead. In the backs above the levels they are taking out the stone for a width of about 30 feet, and at present the stopes exposed for a length of fully 100 feet; the highest point reached above the level being about 30 feet. In places the reef becomes spurry, and intrusions of mullock are to be seen along the stopes. There is, however, a big quantity of crushing dirt available, and in several places fair gold is showing. From the new shaft they
have crushed about 1200 tons for 420 ozs. This is exclusive of 300 ozs obtained from the old shaft, and also the gold won by the tributors, of which no records have been kept. Mr Bush, who is acting as manager of the company, estimates that the average of between 8 and 9 dwt per load has been maintained throughout, and there is every prospect of a continuance of profitable yields for some time to come. The company employ 10 men, and it is intended at an early date to erect a small steam winch for hauling the dirt, as the present method of "whipping" is too tedious. The ground north and south has been taken up, and it is probable that active operations will be shortly commenced on the lease north from the parent mine as the prospects disclosed in the north level are very encouraging at present. [12]

20.11.1899: Great Lancashire obtained 18 ozs from 50 tons, which is payable. [13]
18.12.1899: Great Lancashire have a good amalgam yield. [14]
20.12.1899: Great Lancashire crushed 77 tons and cleaned some plates for 66 ozs. The company continue to meet with fair prospects in opening up the reef at the 84 foot level, where they have a big extent of stone. [15]
17.02.1900: Great Lancashire resumed crushing yesterday, and they expect to be in a position to maintain a regular output every fortnight. [16]
24.01.1900: Great Lancashire will clean off this morning when a fair return is expected. [17]
23.03.1900: Great Lancashire crushed 41 tons for 20 ozs 16 dwt, which is highly profitable. [18]
08.05.1900: Great Lancashire cleaned the plates for 5 ozs. [19]
02.07.1900: The Great Lancashire, at Armadale Gully, are responsible for several remunerative returns. [20]
1903: The Lancashire: 122 ozs 19 dwt obtained from 344 tons of stone. [21]
09.1904: South Lancashire have a new development in the west crosscut at 130 feet, the manager reporting that stone 12 inches wide shows minerals, but no gold has been seen in it. 1904: The Lancashire: 472 ozs 13 dwt obtained from 2016 tons of stone and £779 12 shillings declared in dividends. The company had now obtained 596 ozs 1 dwt from 2410 tons of stone and had just declared its first and only dividend. [21]
1905: The Lancashire: 134 ozs 4 dwt obtained from 627 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 730 ozs 6 dwt from 3037 tons of stone. [21]
1905: Lancashire Company: This company's plant consists of a steam winch and boiler. During the year the shaft has been deepened to 300 feet, and cross-cuts put out east and west. 627 tons were crushed for 134 ozs of gold, the material treated being won from the 217-foot level. Ten men were employed on the average. [21.119]
1906: The Lancashire: 106 ozs 11 dwt obtained from 419 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 836 ozs 17 dwt from 3456 tons of stone. [21]
1906: Lancashire Company: The shaft of the Lancashire Company has been sunk to 354 feet; 17 men were employed. [21.126]
1907: The Lancashire: 48 ozs 13 dwt obtained from 181 tons of stone. The company had now obtained 885 ozs 12 dwt from 3637 tons of stone. [21]

Sluicing on Bendigo
16.09.1858: The puddlers and reefers at the Old Whipstick are still busy, and likely to be so as long as the water holds out. "German Harry's" machine in the vicinity of where the Pahlow nuggets of last year came from, is said to be still doing the trick, although the fortunate proprietor has long since cleaned as handsome a pile as Dame Fortune, perhaps, has awarded any single party since the first opening of the Whipstick. Other machines in this locality are working away with satisfactory results. 4 feet ground which produces such charming bits as 75 ozs is very suggestive of puddling or sluicing on a large scale. [22]
06.1874: At Spring Gully three companies have taken up sluicing claims (quite a new thing in Sandhurst), and, with the aid of the water from the reservoir at the
head of the gully are pretty confident of doing well. [23]
06.1875: A few parties are engaged in sluicing, and this branch of mining may be expected to increase. [23]
12.1877: The most noticeable thing in connection with mining affairs during the past quarter is the completion of the Coliban scheme, whereby a large supply of water is now available for sluicing. In consequence claims have been taken up for that purpose, but little, however, has been done in that way as yet. [23]
03.1878: Since the introduction of water from the Coliban, several sluicing parties have been formed, and on the whole I think they are doing pretty well. They will probably be more successful as they get used to (what is in this district) a comparatively new branch of mining, and when their appliances are more perfect. The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter was 19,941,000 gallons; of this quantity 12,000,000 gallons were for sluicing purposes [23]
03.1878: Some claims have been taken up for sluicing purposes, and an alluvial prospecting claim has been marked out at Fletcher's Creek, Marong, the gold from which is very coarse. [23.27]
09.1878: Some sluicing claims have also been taken up lately, and from the number of enquiries made with regard to the mode, &c, of taking up ground for this purpose, I am inclined to believe that it will not be long before a considerable number of miners will be engaged in this branch of mining. Compared with six months ago there are few miners out of employment...
The quantity of water sold for mining purposes during the past quarter is as follows.
To quartz mining companies: 11,267,000 gals
To sluicing companies: 11,000,000 gals

15.12.1879: The old alluvial diggings in the Whipstick scrub are proverbially prolific in extraordinary patches of gold, which lucky fossickers drop across in the most unexpected manner. On Saturday a party of miners who were sluicing in one of the gullies, discovered a nest of nuggets under the stump of an old tree. The gold obtained from this little pocket weighed about 90ozs, but from the position in which it was found and the other surroundings, it is more than likely that it was a plant by some digger in by-gone years, who had forgotten the position of his plant or from other causes had been unable to recover it. [24, 25]
22.08.1885: In my last communication I referred to several handsome finds of alluvial gold being made in the vicinity of Myer's Flat, and ... that many similar discoveries would probably be made amongst the old alluvial workings after the late heavy rains, which generally tends to disclose the precious metal from its shallow hiding places. My prognostication did not long await gratification, as I today had the pleasure of purchasing another little nugget weighing over 2½ozs, and valued close upon £109, which was discovered this morning by two of our oldest identities, who are familiarly known amongst our local miners as “Proud Bobby” and “Charles the Great. This find was made on the bottom of ground which was covered many years ago, and has caused quite a stir in the immediate vicinity. It will probably lead to the organization of a few sluicing companies to test the auriferous mounds of mullock which so plentifully abound in this locality. [26]
1890: 3293ozs 3dwt 18 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1200ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1250ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 820 alluvial miners in the district, with 250 reported on Eaglehawk and 345 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [27]
1891: 4944ozs 9dwt 22 grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and 1850ozs on Sandhurst/Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 661 alluvial miners in the district, with 220 reported on Eaglehawk and 245 on Sandhurst/Bendigo. [27]
1892: 5750ozs 2dwt of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2300ozs obtained on Eaglehawk and
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in the district. [28]

1905
12,748ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 10,260ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 881 alluvial miners in the district. [28]

Break O'Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 48ozs 3dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [28]

Murray and Company: 122ozs 6dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [28]

1906
9269ozs 12dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 6164ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 802 alluvial miners in the district. [28]

Break O'Day Dredging and Hydraulic Sluicing: 53ozs 2dwt obtained by sluicing an undisclosed amount of material on Bendigo. [28]

1907
18,696ozs 5dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 16,317ozs 6dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 626 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

1908
6293ozs 19dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 4618ozs 17dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 520 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

1909
2926ozs 10dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2035ozs 10dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 478 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

1910
1992ozs 15dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 1302ozs 11dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 337 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 86ozs obtained from 0.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

Green Brothers Dredge: 121ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1911
2519ozs 18dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2070ozs 15dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 238 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 853ozs 18dwt obtained from 4.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

B. Ford's Dredge: 622ozs obtained from 5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

Green Brothers Dredge: 156ozs obtained from 2.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1912
1912ozs 1dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2562ozs 14dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 167 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 1255ozs 19dwt obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

B. Ford's Dredge: 541ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

Green Brothers Dredge: 117ozs 6dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1913
3310ozs 4dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3182ozs 12dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 190 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 1750ozs 11dwt obtained from 8.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]
B. Ford's Dredge: 463ozs 10dwt obtained from 4.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1914: 2859ozs 17dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 2721ozs 9dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 204 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 1575ozs 8dwt obtained from 12.5 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

B. Ford's Dredge: 529ozs obtained from 4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

F. W. Miller's Dredge: 250ozs 8dwt obtained from an undisclosed area of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1915: 3582ozs 11dwt grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with 3434ozs 1dwt obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 137 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 1686ozs 12dwt obtained from 9.25 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

B. Ford's Dredge: 175ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1916: 5000ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. At the end of the year there were 245 alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 1416ozs obtained from 7.75 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

B. Ford's Dredge: 250ozs obtained from 1.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

Jeffrey's Dredge: 194ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1917: 2114ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [27]

Bendigo Dredging: 897ozs obtained from 6 acres of ground by hydraulic pump sluicing at Bendigo. [27]

1918: 705ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [27]

1919: 826ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [30]

1920: 587ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year, with an undisclosed amount obtained on Eaglehawk and Bendigo. There was no report of the number of alluvial miners in the district. [30]

1921: 988ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

Knapman and Wingrave: 140ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

1922: 914ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 235 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

Knapman and Wingrave: 146ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

1923: 361ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 24 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

Knapman and Wingrave: 101ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at
Bendigo. [30]

1924 440 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [30]
Knapman and Wingrave: 145 ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

1925 337 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 35 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

Knapman and Wingrave: 168 ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [30]

1926 367 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 30 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

1927 287 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 48 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

1928 573 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 20 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

1929 585 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 100 alluvial miners in the district. [30]

1930 688 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 112 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

24.08.1931 Thomas and party, which is sluicing in the Whipstick near Eaglehawk, secured a nice gold specimen weighing an ounce. Reports received during last week were to the effect that alluvial prospectors working under the Government grant had in many cases come upon payable gold. [32]

1931 3867 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1093 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

H. E. Knapman: 174 ozs obtained from 1.5 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

1932 5051 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1768 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

H. E. Knapman: 125 ozs obtained from an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

1933 4429 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1407 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

H. E. Knapman: 119 ozs obtained from 0.67 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

1934 5395 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1426 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

Day and Mason: 41 ozs obtained from one acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

H. E. Knapman: 252 ozs obtained from 2.25 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

1935 4609 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1090 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

1936 7196 ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 1043 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

Aurum Dredging Development: 132 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

C. Barton and G. Barton: 14 ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

Henderson and party: 21 ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by
sluicing at Bendigo. [31]
Knapman and party: 85ozs obtained from half an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]
Meldrum and party: 42ozs obtained from 0.4 acres of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]
G. Miller: 28ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]
Noble and party: 20ozs obtained from a quarter of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]
Stringer and party: 43ozs obtained from three quarters of an acre of ground by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

1936: (summary): Yields from Sluicers - Nearly 20 sluicing plants were erected in gullies on the Bendigo goldfield during the year, but owing to water restrictions these parties were not permitted to commence operations until September 1. On the whole, the yields have been small, but the work has provided employment for a number of men. The best record was obtained by the Aurum Sluicing Company, operating on the Long Gully main creek. This company is utilising electric power for its operations, and hopes to open out on a bigger scale in the new year. Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, who have been actively engaged in sluicing in Golden Gully for many years, completed their work this year and are transferring to another location.
The following table, supplied by the Department of Mines, Bendigo, shows the amount of gold won by jet sluicing plants operating on the Bendigo gold field for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sluicer</th>
<th>Ounces (ozs)</th>
<th>DWTs (dwt)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aurum Sluicing Company, Long Gully</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deary and party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards and party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson and Party, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kronk and Sandry, Maiden Gully</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck and Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longoon and Party, White Horse Gully</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethlean and party, Sparrowhawk Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrum and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.F. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.W. Miller, Kangaroo Flat</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Knapman and Wingrave, Golden Gully</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble and Party, Dead Dog Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stringer and Party, New Zealand Gully</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor and Party, Crusoe Gully</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1937: 2151ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 564 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

Aurum Dredging Development: 32ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]
Henderson and Hopgood: 13ozs obtained from 5243 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]
D. J. Rigbye: 48ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [31]

1938: 2346ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 428 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
H. R. Hansen: 22ozs obtained from 16,133 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
D. J. Rigbye: 67ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1939: 2671ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 398 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
H. R. Hansen: 38ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at
Bendigo. [34]
H. Stringer and R. Stringer: 25ozs obtained from 4033 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1940. 4862ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 379 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
A. Maynard: 67ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
D. J. Rigbye: 61ozs obtained from 14,519 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1941. 682ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 169 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
G. Barton and party: 4.9ozs obtained from 675 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
J. N. Day: 62ozs obtained from 14,520 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
P. S. Floyd: 16ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
R. Lethlean: 60ozs obtained from 25,810 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
P. Lougoon: 110ozs obtained from 32,260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
D. J. Rigbye: 24ozs obtained from 8630 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 85ozs obtained from 21,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1942. 510ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 43 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
J. N. Day: 40ozs obtained from 4500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
P. Lougoon: 68ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
D. J. Rigbye: 46ozs obtained from 12,906 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
H. L. Rigbye and party: 156ozs obtained from an unspecified amount of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1943. 527ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 27 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
D. J. Rigbye: 25ozs obtained from 6452 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1944. 30ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 49 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1945. Hydraulic sluicing has ceased in the district. [34]
J. N. Day: 20ozs obtained from 7000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1946. 423ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 37 alluvial miners in the district. [34]
J. N. Day: 2ozs obtained from 200 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
L. Mylon and E. Connor: 6ozs obtained from 2000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]
Styles Brothers: 43ozs obtained from 3650 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

1947: 119ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 25 alluvial miners in the district. [34]

J. N. Day: 15ozs obtained from 1400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

D. J. Rigbye: 9ozs obtained from 9500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Napoleon Gully. [34]

Styles Brothers: 67ozs obtained from 10,800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [34]

1948: 262ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 15 alluvial miners in the district. [34]

J. N. Day: 4ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [34]

D. J. Rigbye: 12ozs obtained from 3600 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [34]

1949: 364ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [31]

P. Lougoon: 164ozs obtained from 19,400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [31]

Rigby and Sons: 39ozs obtained from 9700 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [31]

1950: 205ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 12 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Innes and Dixon: 12ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [35]

Rigby and Sons: 35ozs obtained from 7300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [35]

G. Styles: 5ozs obtained from 800 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Kangaroo Flat. [35]

1951: 133ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 4 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

P. Lougoon: 55ozs obtained from 53,000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [35]

Rigby and Sons: 18ozs obtained from 2500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [35]

1952: 109ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 3 alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Rigby and Sons: 12ozs obtained from 2300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [35]

1953: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [35]

Rigby and Sons: 8ozs obtained from 500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Myer's Flat. [35]

1954: 81ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [35]

A. J. Brauman: 16ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]

1955: 1916ozs grains of gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there were 19 alluvial
miners in the district. [35]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold; 71ozs obtained from 840 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [35]
W. J. Lock: 31ozs obtained from 300 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
W. K. Wood: 76ozs obtained from 1640 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
1956: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [35]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold; 105ozs obtained from 1980 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [35]
W. K. Wood: 114ozs obtained from 2260 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
1957: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [35]
H. L. Archbold and R. H. Archbold; 44ozs obtained from 77 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Eaglehawk. [35]
W. K. Wood: 181ozs obtained from 5400 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
1958: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [35]
W. K. Wood: 135ozs obtained from 3760 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
1959: There was no report of any gold obtained by alluvial mining in the Sandhurst mining district during the year. At the end of the year there was no report of any alluvial miners in the district. [35]
W. K. Wood: 60ozs obtained from 1500 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
1963: G. Holt: 3ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
1964: G. Holt: 61ozs obtained from 3000 cubic yards of material by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
1965: G. Holt: 8ozs obtained by sluicing at Bendigo. [35]
City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

LIDDELL'S PYRITES WORKS

Other Names  Liddell Brothers; R. J. Liddell and Company; R. J. Liddle and Company;

Location  Parcel No. P128082, Unreserved Crown Land, 400 metres east of Keene Street, in Derwent Gully

Map Reference  Campaspe 2./2 1:10,000 - BV537.295

Victorian Heritage Register  No
National Estate Register  No
Planning Scheme  No

Description  The remains of a purple sand dump are visible at several points along the floor of the gully. West of the dump are a number of timber pedestals or 'horses', 1 foot square and 2 feet high and covered with a thick coating of hardened grease, indicating their use as engine supports. Nearby are two brick-lined pits. Further west are some unroofed galvanised iron vats and a linear mound of brick rubble, ash and building stone. This mound extends 56 metres south from a dam that runs along the site's northern edge. Near the dam, the mound has a more rectangular shape, being retained by stone walls, approximately 3 feet high and one foot apart. The bricks among the rubble are a mixture of hand- and machine-made types. The mound apparently represents the remains of a row of furnaces in which the tailings were roasted. The site is very disturbed and mostly overgrown with spiny rish.

History  Period of activity: 1876-1884+
Maximum recorded annual production: 2094ozs in 1882

Thematic Context  Mining

Comparative Examples  There are two other pyrites works within the study area. These two are: Spargo's (1872) and Deeble's (1872). At the time all of these sites were located outside the municipal boundaries of Bendigo. Liddell's site, although constructed later (1876), became the second largest in terms of production (after Deeble's) and of the three appears to be the best preserved.

Statement of Significance  This relatively compact site is associated with the introduction of pyrites treatment technology on Bendigo (criterion A). It is the best preserved of these early sites and has the potential to educate and illustrate an important aspect of Victoria’s mining heritage and to answer timely and specific archaeological research questions because of the possibility of buried remains (criterion C).

Level of Significance  Regional

Recommendation  The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, and in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites.

Heritage Boundaries  The site is approximately triangular in shape along the floor of the gully, bounded on the north by Derwent Gully Road between its junction with Bice Lane and the Specimen Hill water race, on the east by a private property
boundary approximately on a line between the end of Bice Lane and the western end of Liddell Street, and on the south by a curved line between the western end of Liddell Street and the Specimen Hill water race located about 100 metres south of a median line along the floor of the gully.

References
1. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, No.1 or Kangaroo Flat division.
3. Mining Surveyors’ Reports, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
4. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
5. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
6. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 10 November 1870, p2, col.5.
10. “Pyrites.” Report of the Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to report on the methods of treating pyrites and pyritous vein-stuffs as practised on the goldfields, and generally to report and make recommendations as to the best and most economical means of extracting gold from auriferous pyrites; together with minutes of evidence, plans, sections and appendices.” Victoria, Papers presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of His Excellency the Governor, Session 1874, Volume III, No.96, 1874, 82pp, four plans.

Notes
After September 1884 gold production from pyrites was recorded by mining company rather than by pyrites works, but as the total levels of recorded production for all these works both in the period beforehand and afterwards are comparable, and as machine-made bricks were found on site, these works almost certainly continued in operation until at least 1890, and probably until the cessation of most pyrites treatment on Bendigo in the 1914-1918 period.
There is no documentary evidence that tailings treatment by chlorination or by cyaniding were ever practised at the site.
As the site is overgrown there is some potential for buried remains.
By comparison with the other two pyrites sites in the study area this one appears to contain all its features within a relatively compact area along the floor of the gully.
Liddell’s works were established after publication of the government inquiry into pyrites treatment, and may therefore have benefitted from the interest in and study of the various parts of the process, and the technology employed.

Assessed by
David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998.

Chronology
①09.1876: Liddell Brothers, Derwent Gully: 163ozs 4dwt obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings
②12.1876: R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 277ozs 15dwt obtained from 92 tons of pyrites and blanketings
③03.1877: R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 177ozs 19dwt obtained from 96 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
④06.1877: R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 187ozs 8dwt obtained from 80 tons of pyrites and blanketings
⑤09.1877: R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 281ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from 141 tons of pyrites and blanketings
⑥12.1877: Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 107ozs 5dwt obtained from 82 tons of pyrites and blanketings
⑦03.1878: Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 141ozs 19dwt 9 grains obtained from 60 tons of pyrites and blanketings
⑧06.1878: R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 350ozs 18dwt obtained...
from 127 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1878. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 505ozs 10dwt 12 grains obtained from 158 tons of pyrites and blanketings
12.1878. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 255ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 120 tons of pyrites and blanketings
03.1879. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 286ozs 12dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings
06.1879. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 432ozs 4dwt obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1879. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 281ozs 7dwt obtained from 181 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
12.1879. R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 440ozs 17dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings by roasting and grinding
03.1880. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 364ozs 2dwt obtained from 121 tons of pyrites and blanketings
06.1880. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 595ozs 1dwt obtained from 174 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1880. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 476ozs 3dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings
12.1880. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 609ozs 19dwt 18 grains obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings
03.1881. R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 152ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 63 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
06.1881. R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 403ozs 18dwt 12 grains obtained from 143 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1881. R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 491ozs 16dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings
12.1881. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 573ozs 14dwt obtained from 196 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
03.1882. R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 596ozs 16dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings
06.1882. R. J. Liddell and Company, Sparrowhawk: 547ozs 7dwt obtained from 199 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1882. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 492ozs obtained from 202 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
12.1882. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 459ozs 15dwt 12 grains obtained from 192 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
03.1883. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 460ozs 3dwt 12 grains obtained from 203 tons of pyrites and blanketings
06.1883. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 437ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 247 tons 15 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
09.1883. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 383ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 193 tons of pyrites and blanketings
12.1883. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 435ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings
03.1884. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 417ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 189 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
06.1884. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 571ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 193 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
09.1884. Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 481ozs 13dwt obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Pyrites treatment on Bendigo
01.1860. Mr Shiress, the chemist, of Sandhurst, is analyzing and making experiments upon the conglomerate found within Noble and Company's claim, and gives satisfactory accounts thereof. He is making use of the furnaces built by Mr Carpenter for that purpose within the claim. [1]
12.1862. The Catherine Reef United Claimholders erected a reverberatory furnace for the treatment of pyrites. This was the first such furnace erected at Bendigo. [2]
06.1868. The Comet Company, Redan Hill, are down 533 feet, and are cross-
cutting at 500 feet to strike the Hustlers line, which they expect to meet in a few
days; they employ over 50 men in their mine. A buddle has been erected for the
purpose of working their tailings, but the pyrites have not proved payable. [3]

06.1869: H. Koch, Pioneer Works: 53ozs obtained from 15 tons of pyrites by a
Brown and Stansfield concentrator, Koch reverberator furnace and Wheeler's
pan. [4]

09.1869: H. Koch, Pioneer Works: 538ozs 10dwt obtained from 161 tons of
pyrites and blanket sands. [4]

12.1869: H. Koch, Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 628ozs 2dwt obtained from
273 tons of pyrites and blanketings by Wheeler's pans. [4]

03.1870: Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 435ozs 13 dwt obtained from 158 tons
of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

06.1870: H. Koch, Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 483ozs 6dwt 12 grains
obtained from 288 tons 10 hundredweights of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

The Hustler's Reef Company are having the pyrites separated from their
tailings, by means of troughs, each about 12 feet in length, with an incline of half
an inch to the foot. A stream of water running through carries away the light
sand. The tailings are gradually dropped in with a shovel at the head of the
trough, where the water enters. The pyrites separated in this way were perfectly
clean. The manager of this company and Mr Carr, of the Extended Hustler's
Reef Company, speak very highly of Faull's 'patent lubricator', which they
believe effects a saving in fuel. [5]

09.1870: H. Koch, Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 261ozs 11dwt obtained from
148 tons 10 hundredweights of pyrites and blanketings by roasting. [4]

09.1870: There has been great excitement and speculation in the share
market, which has subsided considerably within the last month, in consequence
of speculators now having to contribute towards the expense of opening up new
ground, of which more has been taken up for mining purposes than I have ever
known before in the same time.

Considerably more quartz has been raised than could be crushed, partly
because we have not sufficient wood. The bad state of the roads has rendered it
impossible for the carters to keep up the supply, as they have now to travel a
great distance to procure timber. Some have fortunately had enough fuel on
hand to carry them through the wet season; but it is generally urged by the
proprietors of mines that the scarcity of timber for firewood and underground
workings is becoming a matter for serious consideration, and that a substitute
for firewood must be obtained. The reckless cutting down of saplings is causing
great complaint. A considerable quantity of coke, coal, and gas tar has been
used by machine owners for firing, but coal is far too expensive at the present
cost. Referring to this subject, Mr Koch, the proprietor of the Pioneer works in
Long Gully, reports that 'the quantity of pyrites operated on is much smaller than
usual, in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining firewood, and the cost of
coal being too great to make the process remunerative.' [5]

11.1870: A visit to Mr Koch's crushing works at Long Gully will reveal to the
visitor the enterprise which is that gentleman's distinguishing characteristic.
These works are daily being added to, preparatory to the great addition of some
90 stamps, which will make these crushing works the most complete and
extensive, we believe, in the colony. Already a new boiler has been fitted up.
The furnaces and apparatus for reducing pyrites have been very successful,
and as the chimney for them was found insufficient a large new one has been
built, which is a fine stack. This will enable a very strong flow of water in the
condensing chamber. A new buddle, much larger, and of more elaborate
construction than the one at present in use, is being erected. The centrifugal
tailings pump has been placed in position, and is now in work, to the great
saving of time and power. It is found to work very well. [6]

12.1870: H. Koch, Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 709ozs 4dwt obtained from
317 tons of pyrites by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans. [4]

03.1871: H. Koch, Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 539ozs 14dwt obtained from
209 tons 16 hundredweights of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
[4]

06.1871: Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 760ozs 5dwt obtained from
209 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans. [4]
03.1872 Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1062ozs 18dwt obtained from 321 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]
06.1872 Two additional reverberatory furnaces, with Wheeler's amalgamating pans, have also been erected. [6]
09.1871 United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 254ozs obtained from 102 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra
09.1871 Pioneer Crushing Works, Long Gully: 1160ozs 14dwt obtained from 357 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans
03.1872 Spargo and Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 151ozs 8dwt 18 grains obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and Wheeler's pans. [4]
06.1872 Two additional reverberatory furnaces have been erected, and are fully employed in roasting pyrites. Several companies use ties (strakes) for separating pyrites from tailings. [6]
09.1872 Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company: 72ozs 15dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company: 227ozs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra
03.1873 Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 208ozs 12dwt obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace and arastra
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 900ozs 9dwt obtained from 180 tons of pyrites and blanketings
J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 507ozs 17dwt 6 grains obtained from 97 tons of pyrites and blanketings
06.1873 Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 502ozs obtained from 224 tons of pyrites and blanketings
J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 386ozs 13dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 1070ozs 18dwt obtained from 210 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1873 Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 304ozs 10dwt obtained from 112 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1873 Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 1082ozs 11dwt obtained from 312 tons of pyrites and blanketings
J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 699ozs obtained from 298 tons of pyrites and blanketings
12.1873 Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 487ozs 3dwt obtained from 229 tons of pyrites and blanketings
J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 613ozs 16dwt obtained from 279 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 463ozs obtained from 188 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 445 ozs obtained from 263 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1784 ozs obtained from 238 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 1594 ozs 15 dwt obtained from 250 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 762 ozs obtained from 180 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

06.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 410 ozs obtained from 239 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 990 ozs 12 dwt obtained from 241 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.


09.1874: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 596 ozs 6 dwt obtained from 248 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

J. P. Spargo, Specimen Hill: 633 ozs 7 dwt obtained from 248 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 360 ozs obtained from 166 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pigstye Gully: 1405 ozs 7 dwt obtained from 259 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

Nearly 1100 tons of pyrites have been treated, yielding an average of over 3 ozs 15 dwts per ton. [3]

13.12.1874: After an investigation, extending over 18 months, the board appointed to inquire into the best method of treating pyrites has submitted its report to the Minister of Mines, by whom it was laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday evening. [...]

It has been definitely ascertained that quartz containing pyrites should be crushed in its raw state, but the pyrites must be roasted previous to amalgamation, and it is stated that the process can best be accomplished by means of reverberatory furnaces and inclined hearths. The best method of concentration has been proved to be by the use of Borlase's buddles with Munday's patent scrapers. Wheeler's pans and Chilian mills are pronounced to be very efficient for the purpose of amalgamation, but the board has been unable to determine their comparative saving values. [...][9, 10]


United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 2351 ozs 9 dwt 6 grains obtained from 357 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 252 ozs 18 dwt obtained from 138 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 198 ozs 8 dwt 6 grains obtained from 68 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

03.1875: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 454 ozs 9 dwt obtained from 213 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1165 ozs 11 dwt obtained from 303 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 200 ozs 2 dwt 12 grains obtained from 129 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcining Company, New Chum Gully: 246 ozs 17 dwt obtained from 73 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.

J. P. Spargo, Great Western Gully: 794 ozs 5 dwt obtained from 297 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace.
pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

The average yield from the quartz is very good, 76,000 tons yielding over 13½dwt. and 1,000 tons of pyrites 2ozs 15dwt per ton. [3]

06.1875: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 459ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace

United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1226ozs 15dwt obtained from 380 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 190ozs 19dwt obtained from 140 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace

Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcinining Company, New Chum Gully: 1980ozs 16dwt obtained from 64 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace

Great Western Pyrites Works, Specimen Hill: 874ozs 15dwt obtained from 447 tons of pyrites and blanketings by reverberatory furnace. [4]

...the richest quartz and pyrites have come from the Catherine and St Mungo Reefs at Eaglehawk, but the Pandora Company, on the Garden Gully Reef, have a very large body of stone averaging nearly 1½ozs to the ton. [3]

09.1875: Sandhurst Pyrites Company, New Chum Gully: 310ozs 5dwt obtained from 144 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 725ozs 1dwt obtained from 376 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 891ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 410 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 1125ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 1370ozs 5dwt obtained from 115 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

Two or three companies are endeavouring to erect effectual but less expensive machinery for saving pyrites, and also for beating raw quartz so as to reduce the cost of crushing. [3]

12.1875: Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcinining Company, New Chum Gully: 2090ozs 15dwt 16 grains obtained from 90 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1712ozs 15dwt obtained from 506 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 730ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 243 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 780ozs 2dwt obtained from 97 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 947ozs 12dwt obtained from 453 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

The quantity of pyrites saved from tailings is increasing, and the yield of gold therefrom is considerable. [3]

03.1876: Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcinining Company, New Chum Gully: 234ozs 15dwt obtained from 118 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 7028ozs 15dwt obtained from 377 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1147ozs obtained from 378 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 662ozs 11dwt 16 grains obtained from 340 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 780ozs 7dwt obtained from 90 tons of pyrites and blanketings.

Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 947ozs 12dwt obtained from 453 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst Pyrites and Calcinining Company, New Chum Gully: 140ozs 7dwt obtained from 78 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 902ozs 15dwt obtained from 401 tons of pyrites and blanketings

United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1283ozs 18dwt obtained from 368 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 551ozs 11dwt obtained from 549 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Mining affairs in this division are in a prosperous condition - 90,000 tons raised, yielding an average of 12dwt 8 grains, and by including the gold from the pyrites taken from the same quartz, the average is nearly 13dwt. [3]

09.1876: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 576ozs 5dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1796ozs 15dwt 5 grains obtained from 582 tons of pyrites and blanketings

Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 664ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 347 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 133ozs 8dwt obtained from 123 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell Brothers, Derwent Gully: 163ozs 4dwt obtained from 58 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

12.1876: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 438ozs 2dwt 3 grains obtained from 229 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 113ozs 13dwt obtained from 135 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 1104ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 468 tons of pyrites and blanketings

The Morning Light Company, in Golden Gully, last week obtained 336ozs of gold from 10 tons of dressed pyrites. [3]

03.1877: Spargo Brothers, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 447ozs obtained from 307 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Specimen Hill, Long Gully: 421ozs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 211 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 368ozs 15dwt obtained from 110 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 91ozs 12dwt obtained from 111 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 177ozs 19dwt obtained from 96 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

06.1877: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 270ozs 2dwt obtained from 147 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 72ozs 8dwt obtained from 29 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 955ozs 19dwt 8 grains obtained from 322 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 467ozs 10dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings

09.1877: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 437ozs 10dwt obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 50ozs 8dwt obtained from 51 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 857ozs 4dwt 13 grains obtained from 354 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 270ozs 15dwt obtained from 132 tons of pyrites and blanketings

12.1877: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 432ozs 7dwt obtained from 260 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Koch's Pioneer Works, Long Gully: 36ozs 12dwt obtained from 40 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 291ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 137 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 257ozs obtained from 142 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 107ozs 5dwt obtained from 82 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1878: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 212ozs 19dwt obtained from 121 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 490ozs 13dwt 18 grains obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 10dwt obtained from 134 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 141ozs 19dwt 9 grains obtained from 60 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
06.1878: Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 347ozs 18dwt obtained from 173 tons of pyrites and blanketings
United Pyrites Gold Extraction Company, Pinchgut Gully: 674ozs 17dwt 10 grains obtained from 349 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 237ozs obtained from 115 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1878: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 953ozs obtained from 144 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 505ozs 10dwt 12 grains obtained from 158 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 395ozs 16dwt obtained from 198 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs 15dwt obtained from 191 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
12.1878: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1082ozs 1dwt 22 grains obtained from 283 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 255ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 120 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 475ozs 19dwt obtained from 269 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
03.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1048ozs 4dwt obtained from 278 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 204ozs 6dwt obtained from 84 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 286ozs 12dwt obtained from 157 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 415ozs 11dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
06.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1049ozs obtained from 528 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 457ozs 5dwt obtained from 232 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 432ozs 4dwt obtained from 218 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
09.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 884ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 412 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 244ozs 4dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 281ozs 7dwt 12 grains obtained from 181 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
12.1879: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 480ozs 2dwt obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings by chlorination and 432ozs 16dwt obtained from 208 tons of pyrites and blanketings by roasting and grinding
03.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 906ozs 11dwt obtained from 505 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 527ozs 5dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 168ozs 8dwt obtained from 108 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 364ozs 2dwt obtained from 121 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
06.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 773ozs 11dwt 12 grains obtained from 339 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 427ozs 11dwt obtained from 230 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 274ozs 10dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings
09.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 350ozs 18dwt obtained from 165 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 473ozs 13dwt obtained from 245 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 316ozs 9dwt obtained from 225 tons of pyrites and blanketings
12.1880 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 751ozs 14dwt obtained from 381 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 467ozs 9dwt obtained from 219 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 311ozs 11dwt obtained from 171 tons of pyrites and blanketings
The deepest shafts in Sandhurst are not being further sunk, but may be shortly, as the Carlisle, North Garden Gully, and Passby United Company, on the Garden Gully Reef, have obtained 340 tons of quartz, averaging 12 dwts to the ton, at their 1,320-foot level. In addition to this, the quartz contained a large percentage of pyrites, which has not yet been treated. [3]
03.1881 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 280ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 287ozs 9dwt obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 152ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 63 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
06.1881 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 416ozs obtained from 192 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 463ozs 7dwt obtained from 215 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 464ozs 2dwt obtained from 265 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 403ozs 18dwt 12 grains obtained from 143 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
09.1881 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 556ozs 9dwt obtained from 274 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 463ozs 7dwt obtained from 215 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 431ozs 16dwt obtained from 224 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Derwent Gully: 491ozs 16dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
12.1881 United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 714ozs 4dwt obtained from 275 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 392ozs 12dwt obtained from 209 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 299ozs 12dwt 12 grains obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 573ozs 14dwt obtained from 196 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

03.1882: Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 342ozs 71dwt obtained from 175 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 320ozs 6dwt obtained from 176 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 596ozs 16dwt obtained from 164 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

06.1882: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 591ozs 2dwt obtained from 273 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 321ozs obtained from 153 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 786ozs 13dwt obtained from 327 tons of pyrites and blanketings
R. J. Liddell and Company, Sparrowhawk: 547ozs 7dwt obtained from 199 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

09.1882: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 971ozs 19dwt obtained from 406 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 270ozs 7dwt obtained from 123 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 663ozs 12dwt obtained from 287 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 492ozs obtained from 202 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

12.1882: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 987ozs 14dwt obtained from 392 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 317ozs 6dwt obtained from 163 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 724ozs 2dwt obtained from 341 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddle and Company, Derwent Gully: 459ozs 15dwt 12 grains obtained from 192 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

03.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1040ozs obtained from 425 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 307ozs obtained from 183 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 645ozs obtained from 326 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 460ozs 3dwt 12 grains obtained from 203 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

06.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 992ozs 12dwt obtained from 410 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 375ozs 6dwt obtained from 213 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 437ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 247 tons 15 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 772ozs 9dwt obtained from 432 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

09.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 960ozs 8dwt obtained from 420 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 173ozs 8dwt obtained from 92 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 383ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 193 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 648ozs 7dwt obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]

12.1883: United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1063ozs 3dwt obtained
from 492 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 274ozs 10dwt obtained from 130 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 435ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 623ozs 15dwt obtained from 388 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
  03.1884: 3150ozs 6dwt obtained from 1363.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1874ozs 17dwt 12 grains obtained from 774.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1275ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 589 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1304ozs 12dwt obtained from 512 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Spargo Brothers, Great Western Gully: 153ozs obtained from 73 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 417ozs 5dwt 12 grains obtained from 189 tons 10 hundredweight of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 623ozs 15dwt obtained from 318 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
  06.1884: 2930ozs 19dwt 12 grains obtained from 1234 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1829ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 708.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1101ozs 11dwt grains obtained from 525.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
United Pyrites Company, Pinchgut Gully: 1468ozs 12dwt obtained from 456 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Liddell and Company, Little Derwent Gully: 481ozs 13dwt obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 207ozs 11dwt obtained from 95 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
  09.1884: 2915ozs 15dwt obtained from 1113.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 2257ozs 5dwt obtained from 802 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 658ozs 10dwt obtained from 311 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
Great Western Pyrites Company, Great Western Gully: 307ozs obtained from 152 tons of pyrites and blanketings
Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Gold Pyrites Extraction Company, Jackass Flat: 633ozs 17dwt obtained from 301 tons of pyrites and blanketings. [4]
  12.1884: 3150ozs 6dwt obtained from 1363.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1874ozs 17dwt 12 grains obtained from 774.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1275ozs 8dwt 12 grains obtained from 589 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
  03.1885: 1454ozs 14dwt 12 grains obtained from 552.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 418ozs 17dwt obtained from 194 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1035ozs 17dwt 12 grains obtained from 358.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
  06.1885: 1990ozs 5dwt 18 grains obtained from 875.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 1012ozs 14dwt obtained from 408 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 977ozs 11dwt 18 grains obtained from 467.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
  09.1885: 1437ozs 17dwt 18 grains obtained from 558 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 335ozs 3dwt 18 grains obtained from 215.25 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1201ozs 14dwt obtained from 543.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
  12.1885: 1368ozs 1dwt 3 grains obtained from 591 tons of pyrites and blanketings

...
blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 576ozs 7dwt obtained from 241 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 791ozs 14dwt obtained from 350 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
03.1886 992ozs 17dwt 13 grains obtained from 522 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 344ozs 10dwt obtained from 195 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 648ozs 13dwt obtained from 327 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
06.1886 1398ozs 15dwt 5 grains obtained from 585.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 544ozs 18dwt 12 grains obtained from 1915 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 853ozs 16dwt 17 grains obtained from 394.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
09.1886 1041ozs 16dwt 12 grains obtained from 776.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 135ozs obtained from 65 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 878ozs 2dwt 12 grains obtained from 369.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division. [4]
12.1886 1256ozs 8dwt obtained from 461 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 489.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 834ozs 5dwt 8 grains obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
03.1887 1256ozs 8dwt obtained from 461 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 489.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 834ozs 5dwt 8 grains obtained from 335 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
06.1887 Sandhurst Division - A plant for the treatment of pyrites, by the Newbery-Vautin process, has been erected here, and the results will be awaited with interest. [3]
09.1887 827ozs 3dwt obtained from 415 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 234ozs 5dwt obtained from 156 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 592ozs 18dwt obtained from 259 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
09.1887 1350ozs 13dwt obtained from 559.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 503ozs 4dwt obtained from 217.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 847ozs 9dwt obtained from 342 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
12.1887 1151ozs 15dwt 20 grains obtained from 538.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 524ozs 7dwt 2 grains obtained from 262.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 627ozs 8dwt 18 grains obtained from 276 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
03.1888 1498ozs 12dwt 6 grains obtained from 509.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 480ozs 8dwt obtained from 154 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 1018ozs 4dwt 6 grains obtained from 355.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
06.1888 1187ozs 11dwt obtained from 429 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 660ozs 6dwt 12 grains obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 527ozs 4dwt 12 grains obtained from 276 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
09.1888 1298ozs 10dwt 12 grains obtained from 913 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 614ozs 15dwt obtained from 211 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 778ozs 15dwt 12 grains obtained from 302 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division. [4]
12.1888 1240ozs 4dwt obtained from 507 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 652ozs 2dwt obtained from 295.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 588ozs 2dwt obtained from 211.5 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
03.1889 985ozs 6dwt obtained from 426 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst district with 369ozs obtained from 170 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 616ozs 6dwt obtained from 256 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]
06.1889 1183ozs 6dwt obtained from 514 tons of pyrites and blanketings in
the Sandhurst district with 688ozs 19dwt obtained from 321 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Sandhurst division and 494ozs 7dwt obtained from 193 tons of pyrites and blanketings in the Eaglehawk division. [4]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gold Obtained</th>
<th>Tons of Pyrites and Blanketings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>18,496ozs 6dwt</td>
<td>6344 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.11]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>15,948ozs 7dwt</td>
<td>6105 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.10]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>15,484ozs 7dwt</td>
<td>6061 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.11]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>20,812ozs 12dwt</td>
<td>7020 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.10]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>18,967ozs 9dwt</td>
<td>6658 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.14]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>16,926ozs 6dwt</td>
<td>6246 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.16]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>19,990ozs 7dwt</td>
<td>7456 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.20]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>25,832ozs 8dwt</td>
<td>10,388 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [8.18]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>18,564ozs 8dwt</td>
<td>18,505 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.18]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>30,196ozs obtained from 16,938 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.18]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>18,155ozs obtained from 9936 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.17]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>14,180ozs obtained from 10,453 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.17]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>27,704ozs obtained from 16,271 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.20]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>25,482ozs obtained from 14,229 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.18]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>14,180ozs obtained from 10,453 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.17]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>18,155ozs obtained from 9936 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.16]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The table data is partially extracted and may not include all information from the original text.
1915 15,892 ozs obtained from 11,402 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.12]
1916 12,371 ozs obtained from 9231 tons of pyrites and blanketings in Victoria during the year. [7.5]
Description
Lightning Hill Company
On flat ground at the northern end of Lightning Hill there are two pairs of winding engine foundations. One pair is of hand-made bricks in concrete mortar, each foundation measuring 14 by 4 feet and 6 feet high, and modified or repaired with concrete. 1¼ inch mounting bolts protrude from the upper face of this foundation. Between the two foundations, at their southern end, is a small concrete foundation, measuring 5 by 2½ feet and 6 feet high. It has ¾-inch mounting bolts. The other pair of foundations run parallel to the brick pair, but are constructed of concrete. Each measures 3¼ feet wide and 7 feet high, but the two differ in length. One is 28 feet long, the other 21 feet. At the north end of the concrete foundations are the remains of a concrete boiler setting. 23 metres north of the machinery site is a filled shaft surrounded by three 4 foot-square concrete poppet-leg pads, 39 feet apart. Associated with the pads is a U-shaped concrete stand, with walls 5½ feet high and 1½ feet thick. There is a dry dam 30 metres south of the machinery site, with two others to the north. The mullock has been removed from the site.

Surface workings
Running north and south from the crown of Lightning Hill and generally on the eastern slopes, is a line of open-cuts, mullock heaps and shafts, partially filled with mullock. These workings extend northwards almost as far as the Lightning Hill Company’s machinery site and southwards at least as far as Hodgson Street. Just north of this street there is a large mullock heap 8-10 metres high. The northern end of the hill appears to have been hydraulically sluiced.

History
Period of activity: Lightning Hill - surface reef prospecting by 1860, leading to the first phase of reef working by (from south to north) the Rifle Company (1865), Excelsior Company (1865) at the summit and the Lightning Reef Company (1865-1876). Successful production from Hustler’s Reef to the south led to the formation of the Prince Albert Hustler’s Company (1871-1873) south of the Lightning Reef Company. None of these companies were particularly successful. The second phase of reef working, and the most profitable, commenced in 1876 with the discovery of a rich run of stone by Steer/Stear and Company in the east-west summit tunnel of the old Excelsior Company. The companies formed at this time were (from south to north) the Belvidere (1876), Hummel and Company (1876), Stear and Company (1876) at the summit, Bogel and Company (1876-1878), subsequently the Central Lightning Reef Company (1878-1881), Simmond’s Lightning Reef Company (1876-1877) and Pascoe and Simmonds (1876-1879), subsequently the Pascoe and Simmonds’ Tribute Company (1880-1882) and the General Gordon (1885-1896). Of these the most...
successful was Pascoe and Simmonds. The third phase began with the establishment of the Lightning Hill Company (1903-1907), followed by these three other companies (from south to north) South Lightning Hill Company (1905-1916), Central Lightning Hill (1905-1906) at the summit and adjoining the Lightning Hill Company on the south, and the North Lightning Hill Company (1905-1906) adjoining the Lightning Hill Company on the north.

**Line of reef:** Lightning

**Maximum recorded annual production:** unknown

**Total production:** 3171 ozs obtained from 5807 tons (Lightning Hill) between 1903 and 1906 [70]

**Deepest working level:** 980 feet (South Lightning Hill)

**Deepest shaft:** 300 feet (North Lightning Hill), 326 feet (Central Lightning Hill), 777 feet (Lightning Hill) and 1160 feet (South Lightning Hill) (below water level)

**Thematic Context**
**Mining**

**Comparative Examples**
The site is one of a number of representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the study area, namely: Black Forest (1858-1907), Old Tom Reef (1857-1898), Frühling Reef (1860-1931), Lancashire Reef (1890-1908) and King of Prussia (1871-1885). This site probably contains evidence of the longest sequence of such activities of any of these other sites.

**Statement of Significance**
The site is representative of a sequence of uses or functions over time from the very earliest to the last period of mining: from shallow open cutting to medium-level shaft mining and eventually hydraulic sluicing, and is part of a group or network of sites, the totality of which is considered to be significant (criterion D).

**Level of Significance**
Regional

**Recommendation**
The site should be protected under the heritage overlay of the Great Bendigo Planning Scheme, by registration with the Victorian Heritage Council, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area in the proposed Lightning Hill Mining Heritage Area. In particular, further historical research needs to be undertaken to determine in detail the sequence of successions between the various mining companies operating on Lightning Hill, to relate these activities more firmly to extant physical features and especially to determine the location of the east-west tunnel under the summit.

**Heritage Boundaries**
The Lightning Hill Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Hodgson Street, on the east by the Raywood Channel as far as the junction between Whipstick Road and Rifle Range Road, on the north-west by a line 150 metres west of Whipstick Road (between Rifle Range Road and Mill Street and excluding all private property) and on the west by a line joining a point at the junction of Whipstick Road and the western access track to Lightning Hill and a point at the junction of Hodgson Street and the southern access street to Lightning Hill.

**References**
3. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
9. “The Lightning Reef Gold Mining Company (Registered).” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 6 April 1866.
10. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
14. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
19. “Mining intelligence.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 3 November 1876.
28. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
37. “Mining intelligence. Pascoe and Simmonds Tribute.” The Bendigo
39. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk subdivision.
40. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.
41. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
43. “Mining reports.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 19 September 1887, p3, col.3.
64. “Mining intelligence.” General Gordon.” The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 10 August 1889, p5, col.6.
67. The Bendigo Advertiser, 22 September 1896.
69. The Bendigo Advertiser, 12 January 1906.
Notes Although sluicing began on Bendigo in 1874, when a secure supply of water became available from the Coliban system, it is quite unlikely that such operations began in this area before the construction of the Eaglehawk syphon and Blue Jacket Reservoir in 1885/1886. As there is little re-growth over the sluiced area, however, it seems more likely that the sluicing was undertaken in the period 1931-1936, when there were over a thousand alluvial miners reported to be at work in the Bendigo district, and there were reports of fossickers in the area.

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology
HARTLAND’S LOESER ROAD EUCALYPTUS DISTILLERY

Other Names

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Parcel No. P127174, State Park, Loeser Road, Whipstick</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Epsom 1:25,000 - BV579.432</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Victorian Heritage Register: No  
National Estate Register: No  
Planning Scheme: No

Description

Two circular brick-lined vats, 7 feet in diameter, and concrete lids. Near the vats is a wooden crane base and several sections of condensing pipe in the fragmented concrete condensing pit. North of the condensing pit there is a single pass Cornish boiler, 24 feet long and 6½ feet in diameter, which retains some of its steam valves. North of this setting is an earthen dam. The surrounding land has been made into a picnic area.

History

Period of activity: c.1930-1940+ [1]

Thematic Context

Rural Industry

Comparative Examples

There are six other eucalyptus distillery sites identified within the study area: Blandford Road (c.1900-1920+), Pierce’s (1911-1998+), Flett’s (1921-1980), Hartland’s Neilborough East Road (c.1930-1940+), Black Rock Road (c.1939) and Coles’ (c.1940). These sites display a range of intactness from Pierce’s, which is operational, and Flett’s, which is disused but essentially intact, to Blandford Road and Hartland’s Neilborough East Road where all the plant, machinery and equipment has been removed. There is nothing particularly significant about the site, but it is readily accessible and contiguous to a recreational area.

Statement of Significance

The site is representative of those found in eucalyptus distilling which was an important rural industry (criterion A and criterion D) and has potential for education and interpretation as part of the Loeser Picnic Area. (criterion C).

Level of Significance

Local

Recommendation

The site should be protected by inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay Table in the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, in accordance with the general principles of the conservation policy for mining sites, and should be included as a significant sub-area within the Sandfly Gully Mining Heritage Area.

Heritage Boundaries

The Sandfly Gully Mining Heritage Area is bounded on the south by Scotsmans Track, on the east by Sandfly Road up to a point 100 metres from its crossing of Sandfly Gully, on the south by a line generally 75 metres south of Sandfly Gully across Loeser Road as far north as the junction of Loeser Road and Bright Road and then along Bright Road to the corner of fenced property, on the north by this property fence west to Sandfly Gully, on the east by a line 75 metres east of Loeser Road to its junction with Black Rock Road then along Black Rock...
Road for a distance of 200 metres to a point north of a large shallow dam, on the west and north by a line 50 metres west of Black Rock Road, Loeser Road and Sandfly Gully as far as a track west of the reef workings, and on the west by this track as far as Scotsmans Track.

References 1. Personal communication, W. Perry to D. Bannear, 1992.

Notes Identified as one of Harry Hartland's distilleries. [1]

Assessed by David Bannear in February 1992 and reviewed by Peter Milner in June 1998

Chronology