

Victorian Heritage Database Report
**Bell Rock Company Mine, near Bell Rock, Butcher Street
extension, ST ARNAUD**



Location:

Butcher Street ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Heritage Status / Level of Significance:

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Statement of Significance:

Mining operations on this site date from the 1870s. The area features a largely intact mullock heap (30m by 10m high), a partly excavated mullock paddock, a small dam, battery site, a 20m wide and intact sludge pond, tramway embankment, 10m wide open cut and a small treated tailing dump. Though most of these features have been disturbed, the site has scientific significance because the surviving features help to illustrate the range of mining operations which occurred on site. It also features the most intact mullock heap on the St Arnaud goldfield. The Bell Rock Company Mine Site is historically and scientifically important at a LOCAL level as a substantially intact example of an important gold mining technique. Gold mining sites are of crucial importance for the pivotal role they have played since 1851 in the development of Victoria.

Overall the Bell Rock Company Mine Site is of LOCAL significance.

RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LOCAL

CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The site has:

Scientific Significance, due to the survival of features which help to illustrate the range of mining operations which took place on the site. The site has the most intact mullock heap surviving on the St Arnaud goldfield.

Description

Site 79.0. Bell Rock Co. (The company erected a 20-head battery in 1875). Mine site. Largely intact mullock heap approximately 30 metres diameter and 10 metres high. On the south-west corner of the mullock heap is a partly excavated mullock paddock. No sign of the shaft on the mullock paddock but there are some iron mounting bolts exposed by the excavation. Battery site. To the north of the mullock heap is a small water dam. Between the dam and the mullock heap is a spread of red brick which marks the location of the battery. In the gully below the water dam is a small (20 metre wide) intact sludge pond. Tramway embankment/open cut. Above the battery site is a small (10 metre wide) open cut. Running from the open cut towards the battery site is the remains of a tramway embankment. Treated tailings. Between the sludge pond and the mullock heap is a small dump of treated tailings.

The mine site contains a range of features but unfortunately most of them have been disturbed.

Heritage Study / Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004
Construction Date Range	
Architect / Designer	
Municipality	NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE
Other names	
Hermes number	108359
Property number	

This place/object may also be State heritage listed. Check the Victorian Heritage Database. For further details, contact the local Council or go to Planning Schemes Online