



MINERAL RESOURCES TASMANIA

**Archaeological Survey Report
2000/02**

**An inventory of historic features
at the Storeys Creek tin mine**

By Parry Kostoglou



A report to Mineral Resources Tasmania
July 2000



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT 2000/02

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The consultant wishes to acknowledge the assistance provided by Mr Volker Hahl, the final resident and ‘Mayor’ of Storeys Creek. In addition to undertaking all the GPS related mapping for the survey, Volker provided most of the oral information on mine features appearing in the inventory section, in addition to the bulk of the historic photographs reproduced in the appendix.

Introduction

Background

This cultural heritage assessment of the Storys Creek mine and settlement was commissioned by Mineral Resources Tasmania in order to assess the various mine and settlement related features situated at Storys Creek. Ongoing physical works at Storys Creek, comprising part of a long-term Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) remediation program by the above mentioned agency, has led to the damage or destruction of several historic sites. This report has accordingly been authorised in order to provide a report detailing these sites so that future work can avoid further untoward impacts upon them.

Project brief

Specifically, the brief required the consultant to:

- Record all features at both the mine and adjacent former township.
- Assign significance weightings to all features.
- Make management-related recommendations for sites deemed to be of proven significance.
- Make generic recommendations for protection of cultural heritage from future AMD remediation activities.

The consultant has provided additional documentation not requested by the brief. This includes:

- A reconstruction of the original mine and town layout.
- A set of historic photographs relating to various features at the mine and town referred to in this report.

Methodology

Initial archival research and historic map reproduction was undertaken over a half-day period, prior to the execution of field work, which was undertaken over two three-day periods. During these two trips, 102 features comprising both the mine and its related township, were recorded and assessed using site assessment data sheets and colour photography. Simultaneously, all feature positions were logged using a GPS system for the subsequent production of all maps. After the completion of field work, this report was subsequently authored over a seven-day period.

Previous work

The following specialists have undertaken previous cultural heritage studies at Storys Creek.

McConnell (1988)

As Senior Archaeologist of the Forestry Commission of Tasmania, McConnell was requested by that agency to undertake an inspection of the Storys Creek minescape and comment on the likely impact of removing resident jig tailings for road construction in State forest. The archaeologist recommended that a systematic survey and management plan be undertaken in order to quantify the resident heritage resource. This does not appear to have been undertaken by that agency.

Gaughwin (1992)

Unspecified preliminary rehabilitation works undertaken by the Department of Mines in 1992 were preceded by a limited inspection and report by the consultant Gaughwin.

Back-Tracks Heritage Consultants (January 1995)

A major six-year rehabilitation plan designed by Thompson & Brett Engineers required the first of two reconnaissances of the mine area by Back-Tracks Heritage Consultants. On this occasion, the consultants were required to assess likely impacts on resident cultural heritage from the first phase of the six-year plan involving the realignment of Storys Creek and the removal of jig tailings from the old compressor precinct.

Back-Tracks Heritage Consultants (June 1995)

An expanded brief six months later required the same consultants to survey the number 1 adit portal and old mill site precincts respectively, which were deemed to be at risk from the remaining five-year rehabilitation plan.

Statement of Significance

Historic significance

The Storys Creek mine was one of the northeast region's most successful mines operating periodically for nearly 100 years. In addition to the impressive lifespan of the mine, it earned further accolades as the State's largest producer of wolfram and a major producer of tin ore after the First World War. As such, the site's Historical Significance is deemed to be of Regional importance.

Social significance

The long-term success of the Storys Creek mine ensured the stability of the companion community which outlived most of the mining communities in the region. While the mine survived, the 250 souls occupying its attendant settlement partook in all manner of community activities and Storys Creek became a major social link in the Fingal/ Avoca area. After the mine's final closure, the township's population and amenities dwindled dramatically to the point where today the population stands at one lone soul. The periodic use of the remaining public buildings by local school parties ensures that the former town still makes some contribution to the region's life. In summary, the Social significance of Storys Creek is deemed to be of Local importance.

Aesthetic significance

Although the Storys Creek mine is set against the backdrop of the magnificent towering crags of Ben Lomond/Stacks Bluff, the bulk of the mine and related settlement is currently less aesthetic than many other mine sites of similar age. This is in part due to the numerous piles of concrete building rubble which is the result of building salvage and clean-up attempts after final mine closure. The relatively recent age of the closure is yet to see any substantive re-colonisation of the site by native vegetation, and this further serves to highlight the rubbish laden nature of the landscape. The aesthetic significance of the Storys Creek mine at this point in time is therefore deemed to be of Local importance only.

Archaeological significance

The surviving physical remains at Storys Creek have been substantially damaged or removed by mine closure activities. However, sufficient features survive *in situ* to continue to describe the manner in which ore was mined and refined at Storys Creek. Some of these features are exceptionally preserved artefacts in their own right such as the air compressor and attendant gas producers. It is further anticipated that the subsurface remains of the old mill site, currently buried by jig tailings, will make this one of the best preserved historic mine mills in the State. Such overall archaeological integrity of the mine remains recommends the site to be of Regional importance.

When these various weightings are assessed collectively, the Storys Creek mine is deemed to be of undoubted Regional Significance, and worthy of ongoing and sympathetic management of its resident cultural heritage.

Note: The correct spelling of the township and creek is *Storys Creek*, although the mine was often known as *Storeys Creek mine*. Some earlier reports used the name *Story's Creek*, while some usage in relation to company names is contradictory between reports. Where reference has been made to either the mine or geographic features the appropriate spelling has been used.

Description of survey area

The former tin mine and related settlement of Storys Creek is situated at the base of the southern slope of Ben Lomond some 20 km due west of Fingal township in northeastern Tasmania. More specifically, the mine and associated settlement site straddles the slopes of the west bank of Storys Creek opposite Eastern Hill. Plate 1 shows the relative position of Storys Creek while Plate 2 shows the locations of all its constituent archaeological precincts.

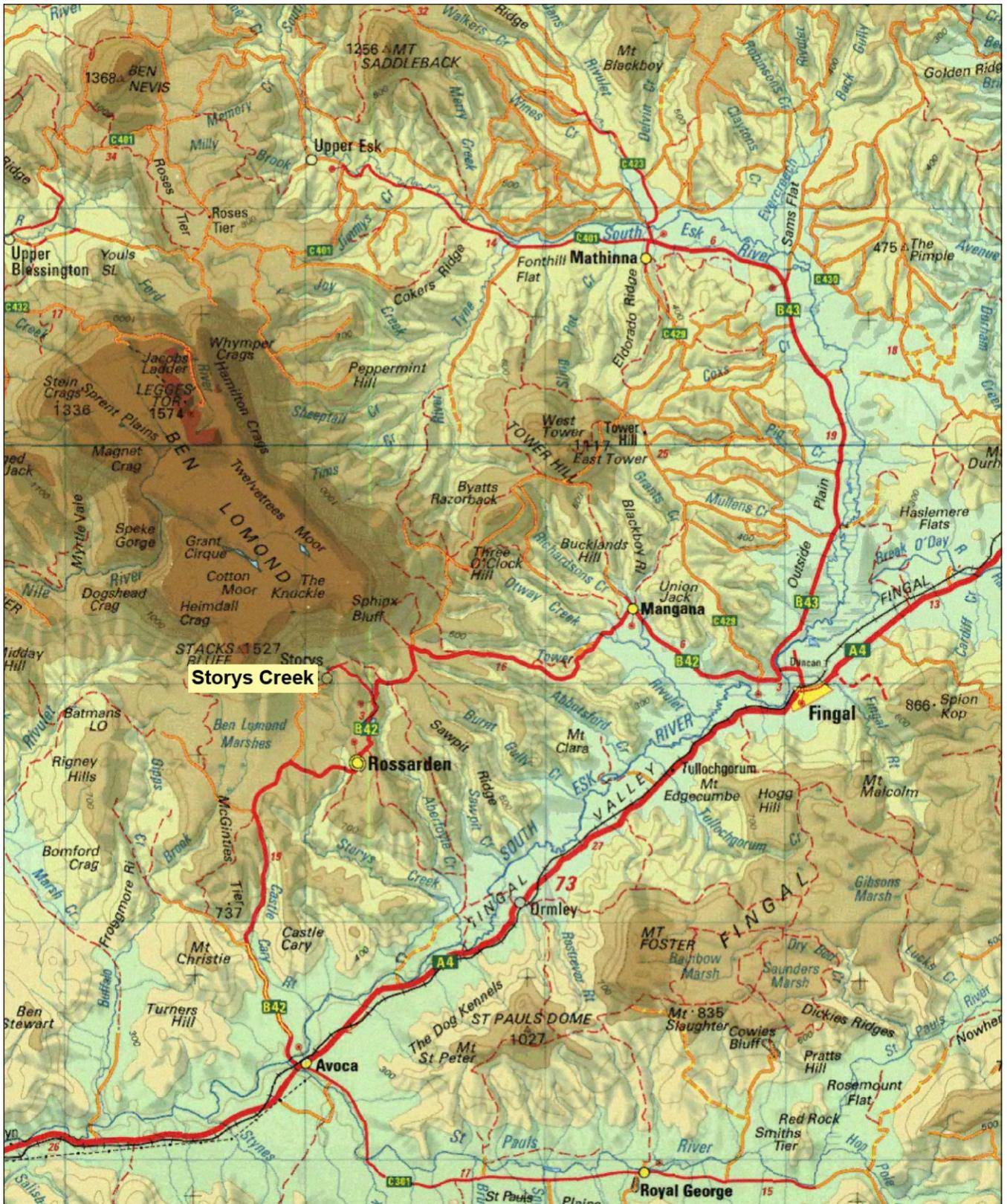


Plate 1

Map showing location of Storys Creek.

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<i>Precinct name</i>	<i>Location</i>
Side Creek alluvial mine precinct	Both banks of Side Creek westward to its confluence with Storys Creek.
Mine adits and milling precinct	West bank of Storys Creek between Side Creek confluence and Storys Creek road.
Topside housing precinct	Upper slope of valley between Storys Creek to the east and Storys Creek road to the west.
Main shaft mine yard	West side of Storys Creek road between topside housing precinct to the east and dam sites to the west.
Northern water system	Between Storys Falls vicinity in the north and old dam site to the south.
Dam precinct	Between Stacks Bluff track to the south and Main Shaft mine yard to the north.
Stacks Bluff road houses	Between Stacks Bluff road and dams to the northeast.
Company built town	Eastern side of Storys Creek road south of Stacks Bluff track junction.
Red face camp	Below Storys Creek road east of the timber bridge over Storys Creek.

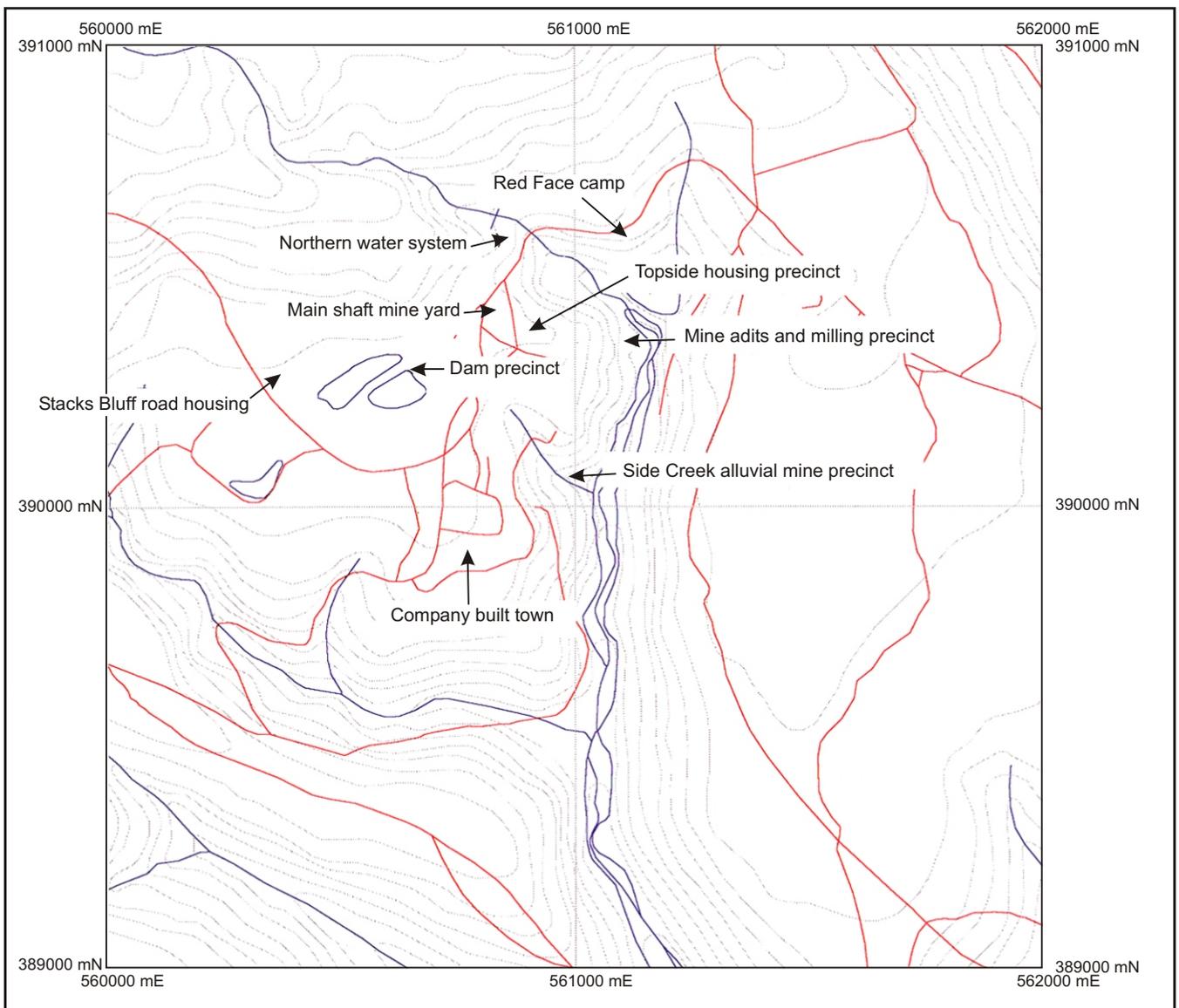


Plate 2

Map showing location and extent of various identified archaeological precincts comprising Storys Creek minescape.

Recommendations

Site/feature specific recommendations

As a result of this survey, site-specific recommendations for each recorded site and/or feature appear in gazetteer form below.

No.	Feature name	Precinct	Contents	Significance	Recommendations
01	Side Creek alluvials	Side Creek	Shallow alluvials, surface stoping and blocked adits	High significance	Protect all shallow alluvials and stoping. Blocked adits are not an issue
02	Miers Adit	Side Creek	Collapsed adit portal	Low significance	None made
03	Side Creek drain	Side Creek	Concrete drain intake/pipe	Low significance	None made
04	Side Creek stope	Side Creek	50 metre long surface stope	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
05	Drainage adit	Side Creek	Adit portal and AMD slick	Detracts	None made
06	South Bank adit	Side Creek	Adit and remnant mullock	Low significance	None made
07	Main Ck u/hand stope	Side Creek	60 metre long surface stope	High significance	Protect from all impacts
08	Ferrous dump	Mine adits/milling	12 assorted metal items	Low significance	Relocate if threatened
09	Original mill site	Mine adits/milling	Assorted plant & footings	Very High significance	Protect from all impacts. Clear tailings
10	Mill tram terminus	Mine adits/milling	Mound/retaining wall/sleeper	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
11	Concrete water tank	Mine adits/milling	Concrete water tank	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
12	Number 3 adit	Mine adits/milling	Collapsed adit/drystone wall	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
13	Jacques rock crusher	Mine adits/milling	Rock crusher plant shell	High significance	Protect in situ from all impacts
14	Comm. gas producer 1	Mine adits/milling	Gas producer chamber	High significance	Protect in situ from all impacts
15	Cast iron water pipe	Mine adits/milling	7 metre long pipe section	Moderate significance	Protect in situ from all impacts
16	Post sequence	Mine adits/milling	Series of upright posts	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
17	Stone cairn	Mine adits/milling	Drystone cairn and post	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
18	Adit No. 2 entrance	Mine adits/milling	Timbered adit entrance way	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
19	Timber ore tram (north)	Mine adits/milling	Right of way/in situ sleepers	High significance	Protect from all impacts
20	Pump house	Mine adits/milling	Concrete slab/pipeline pier	Low significance	Routine protection is desirable
21	Pump house stopes	Mine adits/milling	35 metre long surface stope	Moderate significance	Protection is desirable
22	Ore bins	Mine adits/milling	Earthen cutting/charred posts	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
23	Stacked mullock	Mine adits/milling	40 metre long mullock wall	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
24	Shower room slab	Mine adits/milling	Concrete slab/footings/pipe	Moderate significance	Protection is desirable
25	Stone steps	Mine adits/milling	70 metre flight of stone steps	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
26	Adit number 1	Mine adits/milling	Blocked adit portal	Low significance	None made
27	Compressor	Mine adits/milling	Compressor plant/footing	Very High significance	Protect in situ and clear all jig tailings
28	Comm. gas producer 2	Mine adits/milling	Gas producer chamber	Very High significance	Protect in situ and clear all jig tailings
29	Saunders adit	Mine adits/milling	Blocked adit portal/jig tailings	No significance	None made
30	Timber gear slide	Mine adits/milling	5 metre remnant timber slide	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
31	Timber bridge	Mine adits/milling	Fallen decked timber bridge	Moderate significance	No deliberate destruction of feature

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Feature name</i>	<i>Precinct</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>
32	Water flume	Mine adits/milling	Timber supports/ base board	Moderate significance	Protection is desirable
33	Northwestern stope	Mine adits/milling	Fenced underhand stope	Low significance	None made
34	Carbide dump	Mine adits/milling	Pile of discarded carbide	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
35	Timber hut	Mine adits/milling	Standing timber/corrugated iron hut	Moderate significance	Protection is desirable
36	Machinery component	Mine adits/milling	Bell shaped pressure vessel	High significance	Relocate beside compressor
37	Bridge side adit	Mine adits/milling	Timbered adit portal	Low significance	None made
38	Concrete tank pad	Topside housing	Octagonal concrete slab	Low significance	None made
39	Collapsed stope	Topside housing	Timbered stope collar	Low significance	None made
40	Mine managers house	Topside housing	Drystone wall footings	High significance	Protect from all impacts
41	Second mill footings	Topside housing	Concrete foundations	Moderate significance	Bury but do not destroy
42	Drying/separating shed	Topside housing	Brick rubble scatter	No significance	None made
43	Stoped outcrop 1	Topside housing	Parallel stoped outcropping	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
44	Stoped outcrop 2	Topside housing	Parallel stoped outcropping	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
45	Ferrous junk yard	Topside housing	Discarded mine machinery	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
46	Stope/surface travelway	Topside housing	3 collapsed timbered entrances	Low significance	None made
47	Former compressor shed	Topside housing	Rubble scatter	Detracts	None made
48	Erect bull wheel	Topside housing	Bull wheel artefact	High significance	Protect in situ
49	Jig tailings dumps	Topside housing	350 metre long tailings deposits	High significance	none made as damage already done
50	Vacant house lot 1	Topside housing	Fenced garden lot	Low significance	None made
51	Volker Hahl's house	Topside housing	Standing house and garden	Low significance	None made
52	Vacant house lot 2	Topside housing	Rear shed, driveway, trees.	Low significance	None made
53	Miners cottage	Topside housing	Cottage and garden	High significance	Protect from all impacts
54	Vacant house lot 3	Topside housing	Chimney base, pathways, trees	Low significance	None made
55	Fosters Vein workings	Topside housing	45 metre long surface stoping	Low significance	None made
56	Vacant house lot 4	Topside housing	Timber floor joists/water pipe	Low significance	None made
57	Vacant house lot 5	Topside housing	Chimney base, cement slabs	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
58	Vacant house lot 6	Topside housing	Stone culvert/ ferrous scatter	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
59	Hill side water pipes	Northern water system	3 sets of water pipe	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
60	Overflow flume	Northern water system	Elevated timber flume	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
61	Header tanks	Northern water system	Pressure receiver/wood boxing	High significance	Protect from all impacts
62	Water race	Northern water system	Earthen water race	High Significance	Protect from all impacts
63	Mine yard mullock dump	Main shaft mine yard	Large piles of mullock	Low significance	None made
64	ANFO mixing station	Main shaft mine yard	Timber lined foundation/cutting	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
65	Main shaft ore bin	Main shaft mine yard	Large elevated steel drum	High significance	Protect from all impacts
66	Capped main shaft	Main shaft mine yard	Cement slab/breather pipe	High significance	Do not cover slab
67	Crib house/store shed	Main shaft mine yard	Cement slab	Low significance	None made
68	Workshop slab	Main shaft mine yard	Cement slab	Low significance	None made

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Feature name</i>	<i>Precinct</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>
69	Cap lamp room	Main shaft mine yard	Timber beam	No significance	None made
70	Mine offices precinct	Main shaft mine yard	Piles of bulldozed rubble	Detracts	Remove
71	Ablutions block slab	Main shaft mine yard	Cement slab	No significance	None made
72	Winder house slab	Main shaft mine yard	Cement slab	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
73	Compressor shed slab	Main shaft mine yard	Cement slab	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
74	Electrical switch slab	Main shaft mine yard	Cement slab	Low significance	None made
75	3rd managers house	Topside housing	Pathway and toilet footing	No significance	None made
76	Community hall	Topside housing	Standing timber hall building	High significance	Protect from all impacts
77	Vacant house lot 7	Topside housing	House piers/chimney base	Low significance	None made
78	Vacant house lot 8	Topside housing	Concrete slab	Low significance	None made
79	New dam	Dam precinct	Earthen dam	Low significance	None made
80	Old dam	Dam precinct	Earthen dam	Low significance	None made
81	Gelignite shed footings	Dam precinct	Concrete building piers	Low significance	Protection desirable
82	Vacant house lot 9	Dam precinct	Drystone chimney	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
83	Vacant house lot 10	Dam precinct	Concrete building piers	Low significance	Protection desirable
84	Vacant house lot 11	Dam precinct	Ferrous/cement scatter/pipe	No significance	None made
85	Log landing	Stacks Bluff road	Roadside log loading ramp	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
86	Roadside mullock dumps	Stacks Bluff road	Numerous piles of mullock	No significance	None made
87	Sports oval	Stacks Bluff road	70 metre diameter cleared oval	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
88	Vacant house lot 12	Stacks Bluff road	Stables, hut and row of pines	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
89	Storys Creek school	Company built town	Standing school buildings	Low significance	None made
90	Mess house	Company built town	Standing mess buildings	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts and maintain
91	Vacant house lot 13	Company built town	Willow trees/ cement footings	Low significance	None made
92	Vacant housing precinct	Company built town	Large clearing/lupins	No significance	None made
93	Vacant housing lot 14	Company built town	Linear stones and cart chassis	Low significance	Protect cart
94	Single mens ablution slab	Company built town	Cement slab	Low significance	None made
95	Recreation room site	Company built town	Cement slab	Low significance	None made
96	Electrician's house?	Company built town	Cement skirt	Low significance	None made
97	Tennis court	Company built town	Formed tennis court	Low significance	None made
98	Vacant house lot 15	Company built town	Creekside line of willows	No significance	None made
99	Teacher's house	Company built town	Standing private house	Low significance	None made
100	Elevated water pipe	Company built town	Timber trestles x 2	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
101	Red face hut sites	Red Face camp	Building cuttings/chimney butts	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts
102	Old Storys Creek road	Red Face camp	Stacked stone walling	Moderate significance	Protect from all impacts

Recommendations relating to various archaeological precincts

In addition to the significance and sensitivity of individual site/features, some consideration has been given to the importance of groups of sites and features. At Storys Creek, such clustering has been the inevitable consequence of the ad hoc growth of the mine and related settlement over time. Recommendations in regard to the following precincts are accordingly made below. Reference should be made to Plate 3 which shows the relative sensitivities of all precincts at Storys Creek.

Side Creek alluvial mine precinct

This site contains the oldest mine workings at Storys Creek dating from the mid 1880s. The alluvial workings at the western end of the creek are especially significant and should be protected from any works program, whereas the hard rock mines closer to the Storys Creek confluence have been substantially ruined.

Adit mines and milling precinct

This creek-side level of composite mine workings and buildings dates from the original underground mine operation dating from between 1916 and 1958. This precinct is the most historically and archaeologically significant precinct containing the old adits, connecting tramway, mill site, power plant and ore bins site. As such this precinct should be avoided by all impacts, apart from those occurring on the jig tailings dumps.

Topside housing precinct

As the venue for the most recent milling and housing activities, the upper slopes of the Storys Creek valley have been the focus of the most extensive damage from salvage and closure activities. As such the remains here tend to be of recent derivation and poorly preserved. Few sites or features here are deemed to be of any real significance.

Main shaft mine yard

As the focus of activities between 1958 and final closure in the early 1980s, this precinct is not as historically significant as the other adit mines and milling precinct. However, some features clustering around the former main shaft continue to represent the importance of this final mining venture at Storys Creek. Special consideration should therefore be given to the ore bin and a small selection of adjacent building slabs. It should be noted that the large number of rubble piles resulting from building demolition activities do not retain any cultural significance today, and can be cleaned up.

Northern water system

The hillside water system overlooking the mine yard precinct contains a number of Highly significant features, including the earthen water race to the old dam which dates from the mid 1880s and the siphon complex containing the recycled pressure receiver.

Dam precinct

The two dam sites are aesthetic assets to the site and have little intrinsic archaeological significance. As such they do not warrant any management related prescriptions here.

Stacks Bluff road

The sports ground and original house sites on the northern side of Stacks Bluff road are deemed to be important remnants of the town site. The more recent mullock dumps on the south side of the road have no significance.

Company built town

The company built township comprising the southern end of the site has little surviving cultural significance apart from surviving standing structures such as the mess hall. Once again, the numerous piles of concrete rubble relating to building demolition at the time of closure have no cultural significance, and can be cleaned up.

Red Face camp and original road

The so called Red Face hut sites and adjacent original Storys Creek road are highly significant as original remnants of the first underground mine workings from c.1916. Although the road may be resurfaced for vehicle traffic, the attendant timber bridge and stacked stone walls may not be interfered with. The former building sites above the road are likewise sacrosanct.

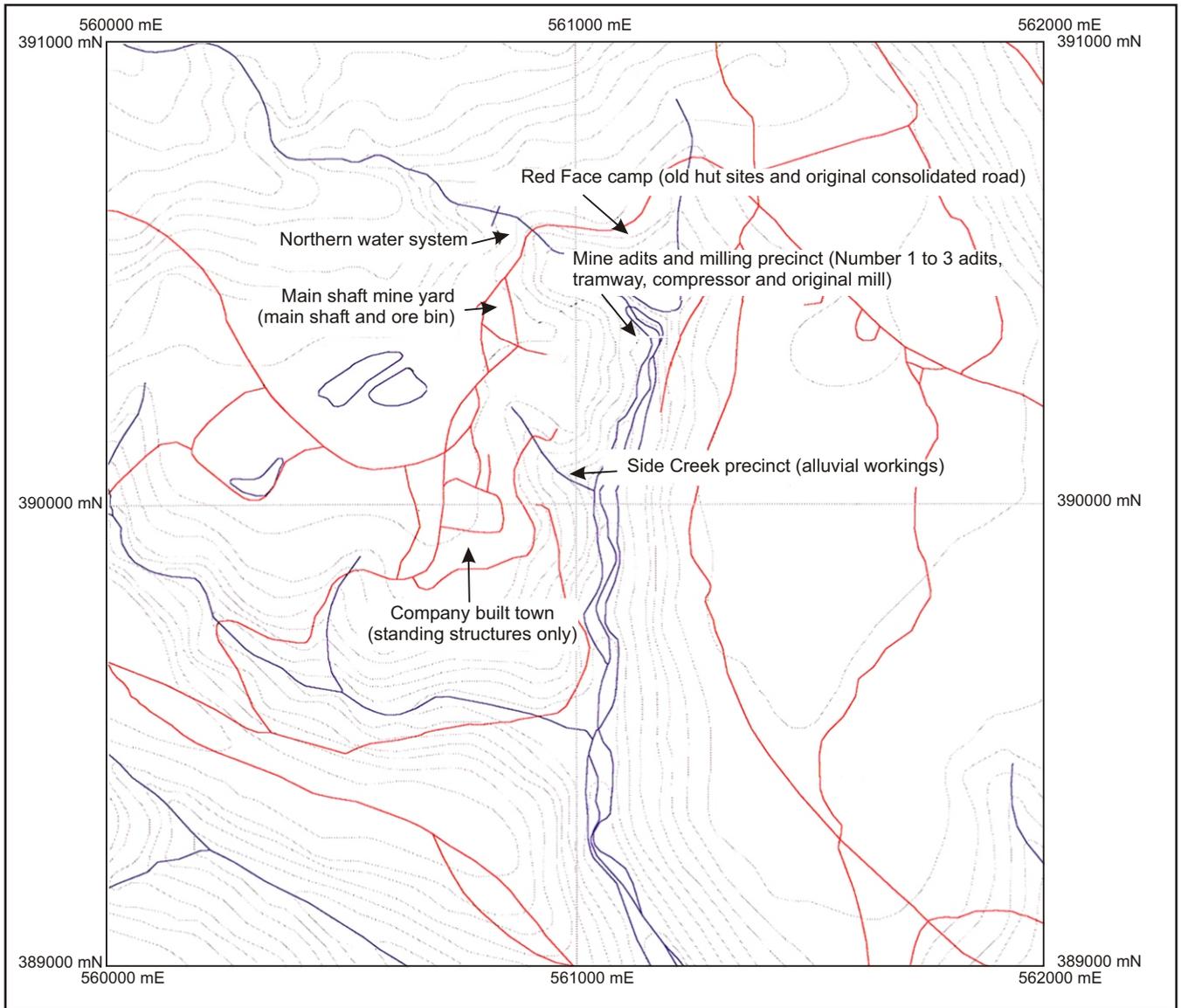


Plate 3

Map showing various historic precincts and their most significant contents.

Historical overview

Earliest settlement/prospecting (c.1825–1881)

The earliest record of European settlement in the Storeys Creek vicinity relates to a 600 acre parcel of land selected by John Batman, the famous founder of the city of Melbourne, in 1824. Further displacement of the resident aboriginal Ben Lomond Tribe during the early 1830s by the notorious black line and subsequent journeys of George Augustus Robinson saw the further consolidation of settlements throughout the area. The establishment of convict probation stations at Fingal and Avoca in the mid 1840s saw further tracts of land cleared for sale. Legend has it that tin-laden silt deposited from a creek draining Ben Lomond was discovered on one such property (Henbury) owned by John Story. The more conventional tale of discovery of tin at Storeys Creek saw three Mangana gold miners (Tom Meehan, Alec Meehan and David Ward) discover traces of tin while gold prospecting in c.1871. Alluvial workings and a “Storeys Creek mine” were alleged to have been worked during the mid 1870s, although there is no documented proof of such activity until 1881, when a total of 640 acres was selected and leased at the head of Storeys Creek by seven different prospectors, Stephen Grueber of Avoca, Francis Grueber of Conara, Humphrey and John Falkiner of Longford, Hamlet Fletcher of Maria Island, Thomas Bruce of Launceston and Robert Hamilton of West Tamar. These gentlemen individually set about prospecting and shallow ground sluicing the sides of a creek gully and were rewarded for their efforts with coarse crystals of tin and wolfram washed from the resident decomposing quartz veins.

Storeys Creek Tin Mining Company (1882–1901)

These separate leases were soon consolidated through the formation of the Storeys Creek Tin Mining Company in February 1882, and the subsequent issue of 4,400 shares values at 10 shillings each. Most major shareholders were the former prospectors themselves, although work at the mine was now delegated to Mr Henry Edgell, the newly appointed mine manager. Initially, operations were directed at a small creek (Side Creek) where adits were driven into the north bank. In 1891, Department of Mines geologist A. Montgomery visited the Storeys Creek field and noted that:

“A large number of sections have been at one time taken up near the head of Story’s Creek, but at present next to no work is going on, and many of the leases have been forfeited. On the Story’s Creek Tin Mining Company’s property (Sections 2141-87M, 1089. and 1077, held in the names of J. C. Genders and R. Bennell), one, and sometimes two, men are kept employed. Far more work has been done on this Company’s ground than any of the adjacent holdings”.

Montgomery further noted that somewhat prematurely, a waterwheel-powered battery mill had been erected at the mine. Further desultory work occurred during the following decade. In 1901 another Department of Mines geologist George Waller found two men still working the company’s leases, although “*Apparently, the results obtained by the company were not satisfactory, as it has sold its battery and concentrating appliances and these have been lately removed. A number of small tin veins have also been discovered on the property*”. The Storeys Creek Tin Mining Company was wound up shortly after and their leases forfeited to the Crown.

Storeys Creek Tin Mines NL (1906)

In June 1906, a second company titled the Storeys Creek Tin Mines NL Company was formed in Melbourne to re-work the former company’s adits at the southern end of the mineral lease. A second mill plant and water wheel power plant was evidently erected, although falling tin prices saw the venture collapse within months.

Storeys Creek Tin Mining Syndicate (1914–1928)

Periodic small-scale surface stoping by various miners occurred on the former leases until the formation of another company in 1914. Called the Storeys Creek Mining Syndicate, this was formed by Messrs John and Alec McKenzie in partnership with a Mr. D. McLeod. The new firm acquired all of the former leases while the newly appointed mine manager, Joseph Miller, set about extending the length and number of adits into the target hill side. By 1915 forty-five men working two shifts were said to be employed at the mine. Although tin prices fell during the war, a coincidental increase in demand for wolfram for the manufacture of armaments saw the fortunes of the Storeys Creek mine revived, and expansion soon followed. In 1916 Department of Mines geologist Loftus Hills reported the commencement of work on a concentrating mill which was to be connected to the main adit by means of a tramway. By August 1920, this construction activity had increased the payroll to 90 men, although all work at the mine ceased that month as an industrial dispute for higher pay saw the entire workforce walk off the job. Although the company sought to find other miners to replace the strikers, a labour shortage saw that the mine remained closed until midway through 1922.

After re-commencing operations, attempts were made to expand and increase the efficiency of the resident mill plant. In 1929 government geologists Reid and Henderson visited the workings and while finding favour with the speed and ingenuity of plant related development, they diagnosed poor ore recovery and treatment rates as the main ills facing the enterprise: “*The present rate of production of veinstone is only 35 tons per day, a rate far too low to allow of economical operation. That small output is the present limit, owing to shortage of power, to the backwardness of underground development, and to the low capacity of the milling and concentrating plant*”. Although the company showed a profit and paid shareholder dividends, the poor tonnages and prohibitive expenses related to requisite upgrades forced the mine’s closure by 1928.

Egan’s tributing (1929–1936)

While fortunes declined at the Storeys Creek mine during the mid 1920s, a local storekeeper named Edward Egan extended some old adits on nearby Eastern Hill. After the failure of the Storeys Creek mine in 1928, Egan approached the syndicate and offered to pay a 20% tribute to the shareholders for profits on all ore raised. An inspection by Department of Mines geologist Scott in 1934 found the mine profitable and plans for further developments imminent. Mr Egan had also personally financed the construction of several huts at ‘Flea Flats’ and ‘Red Face’ for some of the 70 employees now on his payroll.

The Storeys Creek Tin Mining Company NL (1937–c.1949)

The mine was running sufficiently well for Egan to float a company in 1937, which delivered sufficient working capital to undertake the additions outlined by several government geologists. The Storeys Creek Tin Mining Company NL was formed just in time to reap renewed war-related benefits from wolfram production, and Commonwealth contracts between 1939 and 1945 encouraged the company’s management to replace the old mill with a thoroughly new plant. The end of the war also coincided with Ted Egan’s retirement from the mine as manager and major shareholder. Shortly after, the company and its mine which Egan had effectively created, was taken over by Aberfoyle Ltd.

Aberfoyle Limited (c.1950–1979)

As result of the takeover by a substantial offshore mining entity, further developments at Storeys Creek were now undertaken including the establishment of a vertical main shaft network into the mine and a new flotation plant at the old mill before it was finally closed down and replaced by a new one in 1959. In that year, government geologist Blissett was able to report that the underground mine had reached the 435 foot level. The mine’s work force peaked in 1968 when 107 men including 66 underground miners, 11 mill workers, 20 surface workers and 10 miscellaneous staff comprised Aberfoyle’s Storeys Creek payroll. In 1971, falling tin prices and a strict quota system imposed by the International Tin Council saw the mine’s fortunes start to fail. Local concerns about the mine’s environmental impact on the South Esk River’s water quality were also causing the company political grief. The 1970s saw the mine gradually shut down despite improving tin prices after 1976. A diamond-drilling program failed to yield any further high grade ore reserves underground, and the mine was accordingly closed for the final time in 1979.

Inventory

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Side Creek alluvial workings

Site/Feature number: 01

Location: South bank of Side Creek.

Site type: Mine working (alluvials).

History:

These alluvial workings comprise the earliest mining activities at Storys Creek. Work had been commenced here by 1881 when several 80 acre leases totalling 640 acres were pegged along Storys Creek and its tributaries by Stephen and Francis Grueber, Humphrey and John Falkiner, Hamlet Fletcher, Thomas Bruce and Robert Hamilton. These leases were consolidated into one corporate entity titled the Storeys Creek Tin Mining Company which mined Side Creek in addition to the main Storys Creek channel between 1882 and 1901 using a combination of alluvial and surface stoping with adit drives and cross cuts. In 1892, government geologist A. Montgomery visited the workings and wrote that "A great deal of surface work has been done on these sections, the soil though very shallow, having contained large quantities of tin ore"⁽¹⁾. He also noted what he considered to be the premature erection of a waterwheel powered 10-stamp battery for the treatment of ore from these workings. In 1901, another government geologist George Waller found two men still alluvially sluicing this site. He ruefully observed that "Apparently, the results obtained by the company were not satisfactory, as it has sold its battery and concentrating appliances, and these have lately been removed"⁽²⁾. With the subsequent recommencement of operations at Storys Creek in 1914, all activities within Side Creek would relate to the resident adits, with the presumed abandonment of all alluvial work.

Description:

This site consists of a fifty metre long section of hand stacked parallel tailings to three metres in height along both banks of Side Creek, in addition to several large piles of stone forkings on the southern side of the creek.

Interpretation:

Hand-worked late 19th century alluvial mining site.

Statement of Significance:

This site is Highly significant as the earliest known vestige of historic mining in the Storys Creek area. Its excellent state of preservation makes it all the more valuable.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High

- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

It is recommended that these creek-side features be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Montgomery, 1892, p. 36.
2. Waller, 1901, p. 336.

Photograph: General view of hand-stacked tailings along Side Creek.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Miers adit

Site/Feature number: 02

Location: This feature is the westernmost excavation in Side Creek.

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

In 1892, Government geologist A. Montgomery reported that the Storys Creek Tin Mining Company was working veins from an adit driven into the north side of a small creek flowing southeast into Storys Creek (Side Creek)⁽¹⁾. At the time of his inspection, this tunnel was 300 feet in length with a cross cut 120 feet in from the portal. This working had not been appreciably extended when geologist Waller visited subsequently in 1901⁽²⁾. In 1916 geologist Loftus Hills reported that: "Miers tunnel situated on the southern fall to the creek... has been along number 1 lode, which is here also in two branches, showing good values, and providing a very convenient means of attacking the southern portion of the lode. The crosscut from this tunnel, if continued for a few feet, will emerge a few feet above the level of the tramline, not many yards away from the mill site"⁽³⁾.

In 1929, geologists Reid and Henderson recommended that Miers Adit be extended as the most convenient means of accessing a 500 foot long patch of ground between the current main workings and old South workings⁽⁴⁾. Miers adit appears to have been abandoned when operations directed by Mr Ted Egan enlarged the main workings along the west bank of Storys Creek through the tunnelling of new adits.

Description:

This site consists of a ten metre long adit portal, the entrance to which is now collapsed. Access is still possible through a narrow cleft in the collapsed rubble.

Interpretation:

Early 20th century mine adit.

Statement of Significance:

Although this is believed to be the earliest adit driven at Storys Creek, its extremely poor state of preservation tends to minimise its current significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Blissett, 1959, p. 76.
2. Waller, 1901, p. 336
3. Hills, 1916, p. 21.
4. Reid & Henderson, 1929, pp. 36–37.

Photograph:

Location of collapsed adit behind fern cluster.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Side Creek concrete drain

Site/Feature number: 03

Location: South bank of Side Creek.

Site type: Water conveyance (drain).

History:

This drain was built in the 1950s to prevent water from entering the adjacent stope. The drain was destroyed during closure-related activities in the early 1980s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

A remnant ten metre long section of this drain has survived the nearby passage of a bulldozer. This feature consists of a form concrete intake and attached iron pipe. The spoon drain below the iron pipe has since been destroyed.

Interpretation:

Water diversion around underground working.

Statement of Significance:

This feature's relatively recent derivation and poor state of preservation lowers its significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

Close up of concrete drain intake.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Side Creek underhand stope

Site/Feature number: 04

Location: South bank of Side Creek some 50 metres upstream of its confluence with Storys Creek.

Site type: Mine working (stope)

History:

This feature is probably part of the extensive underhand stoping undertaken from the surface throughout the Storys Creek mine lease between c1885 and 1914 prior to the advent of deep lead mining (1).

Description:

The feature consists of a 50 metre long excavation to 3.5 metres in depth and adjacent buttressed dry-stone walling.

Interpretation:

Turn of the century stoping and related retaining wall for mullock.

Statement of Significance:

This feature is a well preserved example of surface stope mining from the earliest period of development at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all activities.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 31.

Photograph:

Detail view of stacked mullock retaining wall beside stope.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Drainage adit

Site/Feature number: 05

Location: North bank of Side Creek opposite the surface stope described previously (feature 04).

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

This adit was driven into existing underground workings in the Side Creek vicinity in order to act as a drain for mine water. The adit was sealed after the mines closure in the early 1980s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of a three metre high adit portal and associated 20 m long slick of acid mine drainage (AMD).

Interpretation:

Mine water drainage tunnel.

Statement of Significance:

This feature is deemed to be an unimportant and poorly preserved example of deep lead mine drainage practices.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts**

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

View of acid mine drainage from sealed adit.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — South bank adit

Site/Feature number: 06

Location: South bank of Side Creek 35 m from its confluence with Storys Creek.

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

There are no known direct references to this adit, however, it was possibly tunnelled between the mid 1880s and 1914 in association with the other Side Creek adits. It was certainly in existence by 1930, when it appeared on a map of the Storys Creek workings⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This site comprises a twenty metre long adit entrance and four metre high portal which is now sealed. A finger formation of waste mullock lying east of the adit was washed away by floods in 1986. Likewise an ore skip lying nearby was also disturbed by the same event.

Interpretation:

Early 20th century mine adit

Statement of Significance:

Although this working may date from the earliest period of mining at Storys Creek, its extremely poor state of preservation tends to minimise its current significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The adjacent ore skip should not be removed.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Tasmania Department of Mines, Map 523/48.

Photograph:

View of ore skip lying in Side Creek.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Main Creek underhand stope

Site/Feature number: 07

Location: West bank of Storys Creek.

Site type: Mine working (stope).

History:

This feature is probably part of the extensive underhand stoping undertaken from the surface throughout the Storys Creek mine lease between c.1885 and 1914 prior to the advent of deep lead mining⁽¹⁾. It was subsequently re-worked in the 1940s by Mr Charlie Dennis⁽²⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of a 60 m long shallow open-cut trench (to three metres) alongside a so-called hanging wall. All the resulting mullock has been thrown aside to form a six metre wide parallel band of discarded rock. A pair of timber props has been inserted to support a cavity in the wall at the lowest/easternmost end of the stope. These were evidently erected there by Mr Dennis⁽³⁾.

Interpretation:

Underground stope developed to trace course of Number 1 ore lode.

Statement of Significance:

This well-preserved surface working dates from the earliest period of the Storys Creek mine.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 31.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.
- 3. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

Westerly view of hanging wall and adjacent discarded mullock.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Ferrous dump

Site/Feature number: 08

Location: West bank of Storys Creek adjacent to old mill site.

Site type: Dump site (ferrous).

History:

Unknown. These items were exposed by a bulldozer undertaking work along the banks of Storys Creek about 1995⁽¹⁾.

Description:

One dozen steel sleeves and one conical plunger.

Interpretation:

Assumed to relate to milling equipment in old mill.

Statement of Significance:

As incidental components of unknown identity, these items are provisionally deemed to be of Low Significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

In the event that these items are under threat, they can be removed to another venue at the site.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

Detail view of ferrous items lying beside Storys Creek.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Original mill site

Site/Feature number: 09

Location: Lower slope of west bank of Storys Creek between adit numbers 2 and 3.

Site type: Mine building site (milling).

History:

After the mine's reopening by the Storeys Creek Tin Mining Syndicate in 1914, the high demand for wolfram resulting from war time hostilities ensured that the company had sufficient orders to establish their own concentrating mill plant at the mine. At the time treatment of the resulting ore was very primitive, as geologist Hills noted in his 1916 report:

“At Story's Creek, the ore, as mined, is passed over a grizzly, and the coarse portion stacked for future treatment. The fines are treated in streaming-boxes, and a mixed tin wolfram concentrate obtained, which is sent to Launceston for electro-magnetic treatment... Such are the methods at present employed, and which have served a useful purpose in the past, but it is now necessary to replace this crude treatment by more efficient methods of concentration”⁽¹⁾.

In the same report, Loftus Hills reported that work would shortly commence on the construction of a new mill site situated 300 m southeast of the main adit and connected to this working by a tramway⁽²⁾. In 1929, geologists Reid and Henderson visited Storys Creek and after a tour of the mill, described its method of operation:

“The milling and concentrating plants are designed to separate the valuable minerals in as coArse condition as possible, and, by so doing, to reduce the losses to a minimum. Both cassiterite and wolfram are brittle minerals, wolfram particularly; therefore coarse crushing and concentration are desiderata. The operation of concentration may be divided into three processes, namely:

- (1) Crushing and gravitative concentration per medium of water.
- (2) Calcining.
- (3) Magnetic separation.

This plant consists of two rock breakers (one erected) of the gyratory crusher type, revolving and screen ore feeders, crushing rolls, trommels, jigs, classifiers, Card tables, tossing tub, hydraulic cleaners, & c., driven by a 55 h.p. Tangye gas engine connected to a 75 h.p. Commonwealth gas producer. To avoid sliming, and with the object of treating a maximum tonnage with a minimum of loss, the ore is crushed to a half inch. The capacity of the plant is 30 to 35 tons per working day of 8 hours, and the extraction is from 80 to 90 per cent”⁽³⁾.

The mill ceased operating in the late months of 1928, although it had recommenced in 1934 after Mr Ted Egan took over the Storys Creek mine lease on tribute. By c.1939, Storys Creek joined the electricity grid and the mill no longer required its gas producer. In 1946, one source reported that:

“The plant is old and has been altered from time to time over a period of years during which milling methods have developed as a result of experience...At present mine ore is crushed in a gyratory crusher and by rolls in closed circuit with a vibrating screen. Screened product is sized by trommel and passes to coarse, intermediate and fine jigs and to tables. Middling products are reground in rolls and are returned in circuit”⁽⁴⁾.

A new flotation cell facility was installed at the mill in the early 1950s and the old mill was not decommissioned until the new mill was built and tested by 1959. The original plant and building was then abandoned and allowed to be gradually buried by jig tailings produced by its replacement further up the hillside.

Description:

The site of the former mill complex retains the following features partially buried by jig tailings discarded from the second mill site further uphill.

- A 25 x 15 m external building wall line consisting of sawn timber/corrugated iron skin.
- Internal in situ timber floor sections in association with timber/concrete machinery footings.
- In situ machinery elements such as drive pulleys.
- Toppled milling plant such as three jigs and a roller.

Interpretation:

Early 20th century mine mill plant.

Statement of Significance:

As a relatively well preserved and significant entity from the second phase of mining at Storys Creek, this site is deemed to be of Very High Significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High**
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts. At some time in the future, careful clearance of the jig tailings here would be desirable in order to expose the rest of the mill floor and plant.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Hills, 1916, p. 23.
2. Hills, 1916, p. 21.
3. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 37–38.
4. Dunkin, 1946.

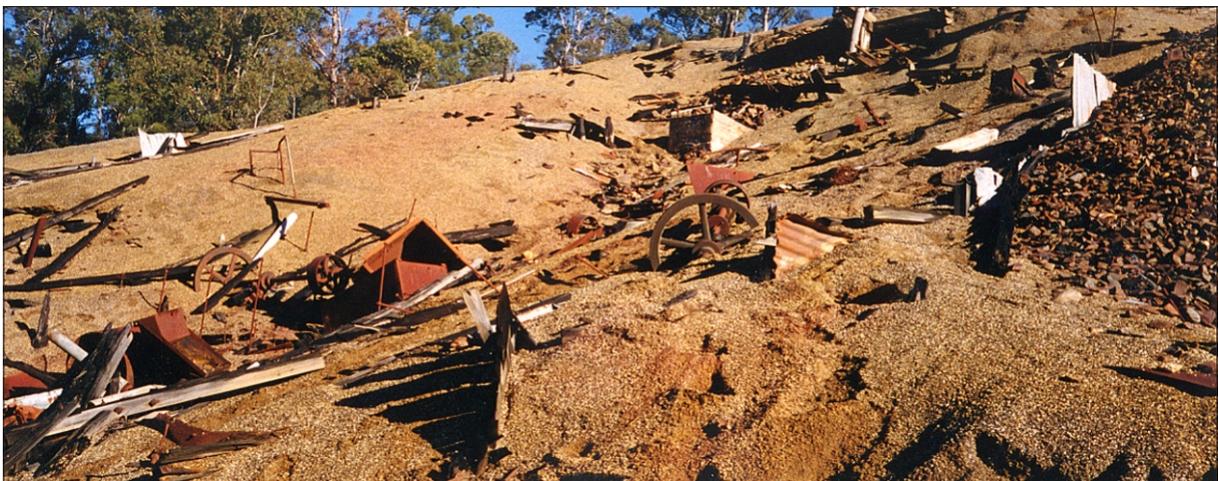
Historic photograph:

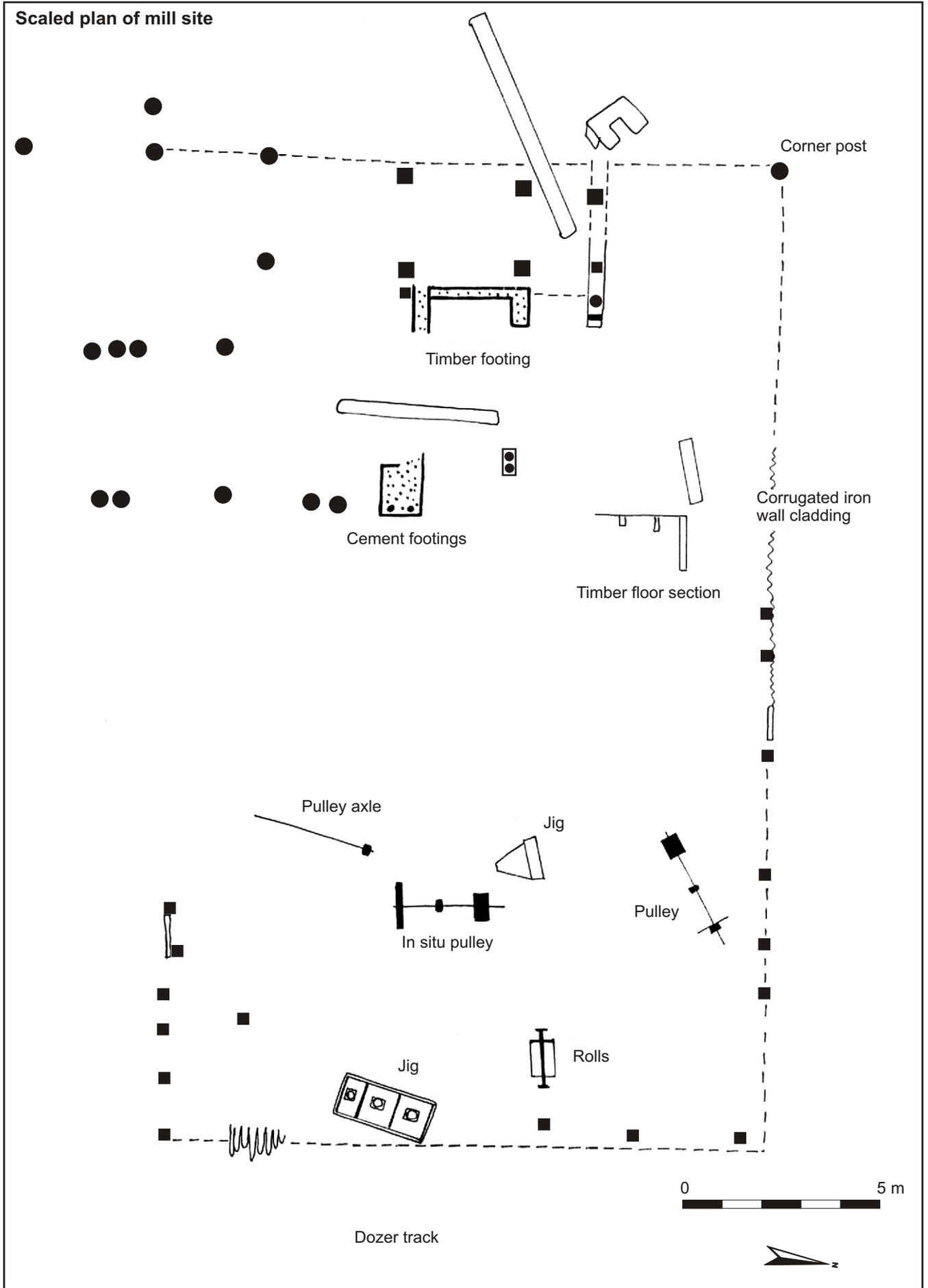
1931 westerly view of mill precinct.



Photograph:

Uphill view of mill remains showing toppled mill plant on the lower level.





Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Site/Feature name: *Mill tram terminus*

Site/Feature number: 10

Location: Immediately east of adit number 3.

Site type: Tramway (terminus).

History:

The parent tramline was constructed to link the various adits along this hill side to the uppermost ore receiving section of the old mill in c.1916. This terminus was created in the 1930s when the number 3 adit was created. The horse-drawn tramway was subsequently abandoned by the mid to late 1950s with the establishment of the second mill plant.

Description:

The terminus consists of a hillside earthen mound up to seven metres in height consolidated with a dry-stone retaining wall. Much of the fill for this mound was mullock removed from the adjacent number 3 adit.

Interpretation:

Horse-drawn mine tramway terminus.

Statement of Significance:

This is the best preserved feature of the former mine tramway, which was a major piece of infrastructure at the Storys Creek mine.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts. The tramway decking could also be more fully exposed by removing the jig tailings which have all but covered it.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

Photograph: Westerly/uphill view of terminus embankment made from mine mullock.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Concrete water tank

Site/Feature number: 11

Location: Immediately west/uphill of mill tram terminus.

Site type: Water storage (tank).

History:

This tank was built in 1939 as a permanent water storage facility for the original mill plant below⁽¹⁾. It became disused in 1959 after the successful trialing of the new mill.

Description:

This feature is a circular form concrete shell measuring four metres in diameter and two metres in height. Graffiti scrawled on the upper lip of the structure indicates that it was cast by:

G. T. Baxter 1939 G. Page 1939 G. McLeod 1939

Interpretation:

Water storage facility for original mill plant.

Statement of Significance:

This feature is the best preserved feature relating to the old mill and remains a landmark on this hillside.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This tank should be protected from all impacts.

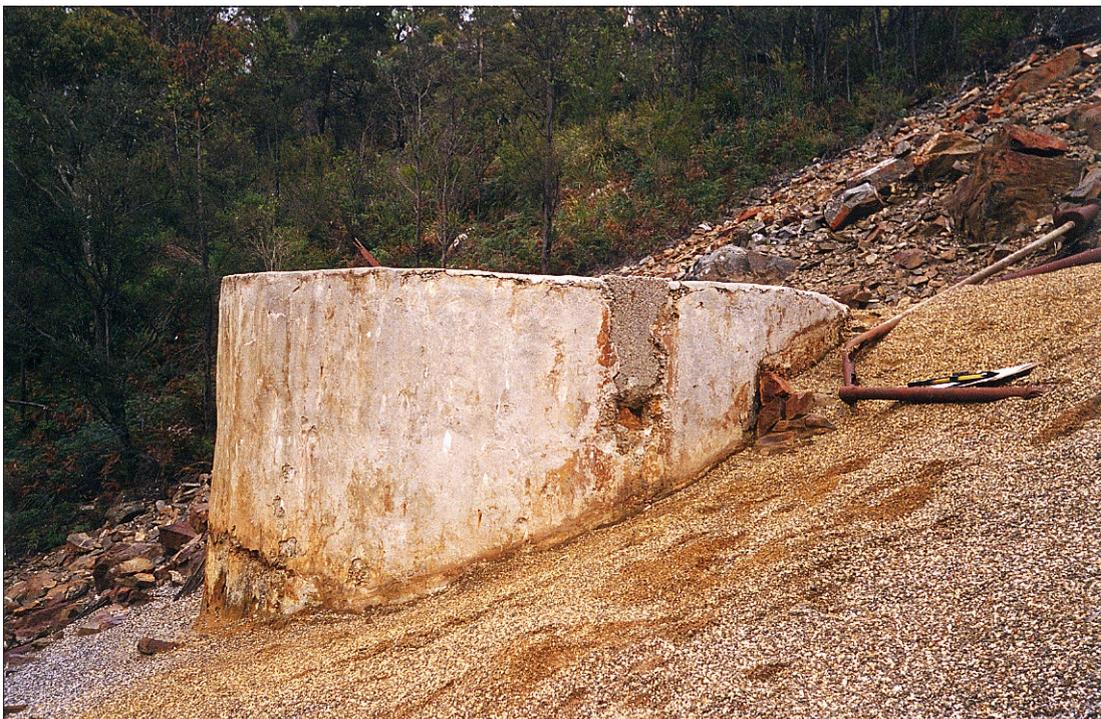
Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: General view of concrete tank and resident feed pipes looking southwesterly.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Number 3 adit

Site/Feature number: 12

Location: 35 m south of concrete water tank.

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

In 1916 geologist Loftus Hills, visiting the newly re-opened mine, noted that more ready underground access could be gained by a cross-cut tunnel driven from Miers adit. He noted that: “*The crosscut from this tunnel (Miers), if continued, for a few feet, will emerge a few feet above the level of the tramline, not many yards away from the mill site*”⁽¹⁾. Management appear to have heeded Hills advice, as the number 3 adit portal was established at the very location suggested by him. This adit had certainly been established by 1930, when it appeared on a chart of the mine⁽²⁾. It was presumably established between 1916 and 1928 by the Storeys Creek Tin Mining Syndicate. It remains uncertain when the adit was abandoned, although mining here had probably ceased by the 1960s. It was finally blocked off deliberately as part of the mine closure in c.1982⁽³⁾.

Description:

This site consists of a collapsed and gated adit portal and adjacent three metre section of dry-stone walling.

Interpretation:

Underground access Number 3 lode.

Statement of Significance:

Although the portal is poorly preserved, surrounding features remain sufficiently intact to warrant protection of the site.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
- 3. Moderate**
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Retention of the remaining portal features is desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Hills, 1916, p. 21.
2. Department of Mines map 523/48.
3. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

View of gated adit portal and adjacent dry-stone walling.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Jacques rock breaker

Site/Feature number: I3

Location: 15 m north of adit number 3.

Site type: Mine plant (portable).

History:

This primary crushing plant was installed in the original mill site at the time of its construction in 1916. It is certainly mentioned in Reid and Henderson's 1929 description of the Storys Creek mill plant as one of two rock breakers (one erected) of the gyratory type⁽¹⁾. It was referred to yet again in 1946 when one source touring the mill noted that: "At present mine ore is crushed in a gyratory crusher..."⁽²⁾. This item presumably became idle in 1959 when the second mill became operational.

Description:

This cast metal chamber and base is externally embossed with the following manufacturers details.

JACQUES BROS.
ENGINEERS
Z
RICHMOND
VICTORIA

Interpretation:

External casing to 'Bell' type rock breaker plant.

Statement of Significance:

This is a well preserved artefact highlighting early 20th century milling processes.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This item is not to be removed by unauthorised persons. Some consideration may have to be given in the future to its removal to another part of the site for safe keeping.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 38.
- 2. Dunkin, 1946, p. 49.

Photograph:

Southerly view of crusher showing embossing.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Site/Feature name: Commonwealth gas producer

Site/Feature number: I4

Location: Immediately south of old mill remains.

Site type: Energy production (gas).

History:

This plant was installed in 1916 as part of the primary energy supply system to the first mill. In their 1929 description of the Storys Creek mill, Department of Mines geologists Reid and Henderson made reference to this 75 horsepower Commonwealth wood gas producer driving a 55 horsepower Tangye gas engine⁽¹⁾. This plant became redundant in 1939, when the mill was first supplied with electricity. The connecting pressure pipes were selectively salvaged in 1959, when the old mill was closed down and a new plant built further uphill to the north. A view of the mill site dated 1931 (see site 9) shows the detached gas producer shed to the left of the main mill building.

Description:

This plant consists of a two metre high tapering cylindrical water-jacketed fire-brick lined combustion chamber with attached intake and outlet pipes.

Interpretation:

Gas fuel production vessel

Statement of Significance:

This unusual and well preserved apparatus also unusually remains in situ beside the old mill.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This plant should be protected from all impacts and should continue to remain in situ. Further clearance of this site to expose the Tangye gas engine footings and building slab would be desirable in the future.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 38.

Photograph:

Detail view of gas producing chamber looking southwest.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Cast iron water pipe

Site/Feature number: I5

Location: Uphill/west of old concrete water tank.

Site type: Water conveyance (pipeline).

History:

This pipeline was laid out in 1939 in association with the concrete tank (site I I) as a means of supplying water to the original mill. This pipe was disconnected from fluming near the town site (site I00) when the second replacement mill became operational in c.1958/59⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of a remnant seven metre long section of three inch cast iron water pipe laid down the hill side to the concrete tank. A 0.5 m high concrete plinth supported the pipeline immediately uphill of the tank.

Interpretation:

Feed pipe to concrete water tank (site I I) supplying original mill.

Statement of Significance:

Although well preserved, only a small sample of the pipeline survives.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
- 3. Moderate**
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This remnant section of pipeline should be protected in situ.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

Downhill/easterly view of pipeline and concrete tank below.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Post sequence

Site/Feature number: I6

Location: Ten metres west of lease boundary marker.

Site type: Pipeline/conveyor (aerial).

History:

These supports may have comprised part of a haulage line erected in 1916 to link the original mill site and an electromagnetic drying and separating plant on the ridge above (see site 42) Visiting the mine that year, geologist Loftus Hills for one noted that: "A haulage line from the mill site to the top of the ridge has been cleared and formed where it is proposed to erect an electro-magnetic separator"⁽¹⁾. The conveyance became redundant when the original mill and drying/separating plant were decommissioned in 1958.

Description:

This feature consists of a set of assorted timber uprights protruding from the jig tailings. Some of these uprights are unsquared timber beams while others closer to the mill are finer T-shaped iron rods to three metres in height.

Interpretation:

Support for fine ore conveyance from mill to drying/separating plant uphill.

Statement of Significance:

Reasonably preserved indicators marking the location and orientation of the pipeline connecting original mill and drying/separating facility.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

These uprights should all be protected from any impacts.

Level of recording:

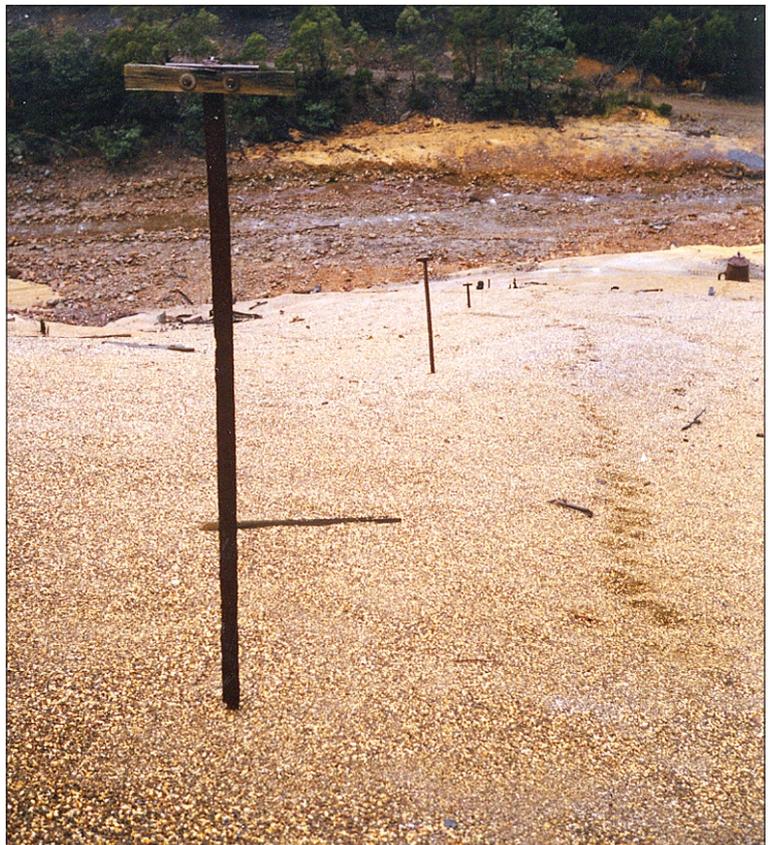
This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Hills, 1916, p. 21.

Photograph:

Downhill/easterly view of upright T supports protruding from jig tailings above original mill.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Stone cairn

Site/Feature number: 17

Location: Amongst remnant vegetation island seven metres south of water pipe (site 15).

Site type: Boundary marker (mine lease).

History:

No known mineral lease corners relating to the Storys Creek mine appear to relate to this location.

Description:

This feature is a stacked dry-stone cairn measuring 1 x 0.75 x 0.4 m high with a burnt hardwood post and attached wire snood protruding from the centre.

Interpretation:

Boundary marker indicating the corner of an old mineral lease.

Statement of Significance:

This is a well preserved mine marker.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This cairn is to be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

None known

Photograph:

Detail view of cairn showing constituent stones and burnt post within.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Adit number 2 entrance

Site/Feature number: I8

Location: 75 metres north of original mill site on jig tailings slope.

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

Work on this adit commenced in 1917 and it was 200 feet long at the end of 1918. The adit was subsequently re-timbered with the present timber sleeve in 1959, when the second mill plant became operational and its waste tailings threatened to cover this adit entrance⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This adit entrance consists of a 20 x 2 x 2 m high boxed in covered approach to the number 2 adit portal. A pair of narrow gauge tram rails protrude out of the entrance.

Interpretation:

Adit entrance extension.

Statement of Significance:

This is an unusual and well preserved adit feature. The number 2 adit is also one of the major adits comprising the original underground workings at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature is to be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Westerly/uphill view of timbered entrance extension and tram rails.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Timber ore tram (northern end)

Site/Feature number: I9

Location: Linking pump house and ore bins.

Site type: Mine tramway (timber).

History:

This tramway right of way was formed in 1916 and the tramline laid the following year when the original mill commenced operations⁽¹⁾. The tramway was closed and its steel rails salvaged in 1959 when the second mill was opened.

Description:

Until May 2000, this tramway consisted of a 300 m long right-of-way between the Number 2 adit and the ore bins. However, a bulldozer moving jig tailings at this time destroyed the southernmost and best preserved 40 m section between the Number 2 adit and the pump house. The surviving section between the pump house and ore bins consists of occasional in situ sleepers dug into a gravelled hillside cutting up to 3 m in width. The foundations of a timber water flume also survive along the edge of the cutting (see site 32).

Interpretation:

Tramway linking three underground adits with concentrating mill.

Statement of Significance:

This is the major historic transport linkage between the various mine precincts. Despite the recent damage, it remains sufficiently intact to retain physical significance also.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site is to be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Hills, 1916, p. 21.

Photograph: Northwesterly view of hill side tramway cutting showing timber sleepers and adjacent water flume supports.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Pump house

Site/Feature number: 20

Location: Immediately uphill of tramway approximately 50 m southeast of ore bins.

Site type: Pumping plant (water).

History:

This plant was erected in the 1960s in order to draw tailings across Storys Creek in an overhead pipeline from the second mill to a newly excavated slimes dam⁽¹⁾. It was shut down and the pump auctioned in 1982 after the mine's final closure⁽²⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of a 5 x 3 m form concrete building foundation slab with a small rectangular steel engine footing bolted down in its centre. An overhead pipe collar and concrete pier adjacent to the slab indicates where the pipeline descended to the pump plant from the second pipeline before crossing the river.

Interpretation:

Pumping plant for slimes pipeline.

Statement of Significance:

This relatively recent infrastructure is in a poor state of preservation.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Routine protection of the feature from damage is desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers, comm.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers, comm.

Photograph: Northwesterly view of pump house remains showing slab and adjacent pipe pier.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Pump house stopes

Site/Feature number: 21

Location: 20 metres directly above ore tram between ore bins and pump house.

Site type: Mine working (stope).

History:

The precise origins of this working remains unknown. The feature is probably part of the extensive underhand stoping undertaken from the surface throughout the Storys Creek mine lease between c.1885 and 1914 prior to the advent of deep lead mining⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This working consists of a 35 x 3 x 3 m deep underhand stope running along a hanging wall. An adjacent parallel mullock pile measures 20 x 15 x 2 m in height.

Interpretation:

Stoping undertaken prior to underground mining.

Statement of Significance:

This section of stoping is more modest than those sections further south (site 04 and site 07).

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Routine protection of the feature from damage is desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 31.

Photograph: Westerly view of mullock below hanging wall stope.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Ore bins

Site/Feature number: 22

Location: Between coarse creek-side mullock and shower room slab.

Site type: Ore storage (bins).

History:

This ore stockpile facility was constructed in 1916 as part of the first underground mine operations centred at the adjacent Number 1 adit⁽¹⁾. The bins were ultimately made redundant with the closure of the original mill plant in 1959. The bins remained substantially intact until they were destroyed by bushfire in 1978⁽²⁾.

Description:

The bins site now consists of a 20 x 8 m earthen cutting beside Storys Creek and a resident scatter of charred timber uprights and beams. Only three unsquared timber posts remain standing. Other related artefacts in the vicinity include an ore skip chassis and oil drum scatter.

Interpretation:

Storage bins for ore removed from Number 1 adit awaiting removal to mill.

Statement of Significance:

Although all but consumed by fire, the ore bins site is still a significant feature from the original 1916 Number 1 adit precinct.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.) p. 20.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of western most end of ore bins showing charred/toppled timbers.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Stacked creek side mullock

Site/Feature number: 23

Location: Between Storys Creek and ore bins site.

Site type: Mine waste (mullock)

History:

This mullock was sorted and separated from the target ore outside the Number 1 adit between 1916 and 1959. While the commercial grade ore was placed in the adjacent ore bins for transport to the mill, this waste mullock was stockpiled for future removal back underground as stope backfill.

Description:

This feature consists of a 40 x 4 x 4 m high wall of stacked course mullock.

Interpretation:

Waste rock/mullock dump for Number 1 adit.

Statement of Significance:

This mullock dump is a well preserved vestige of the original Number 1 adit workings.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known.

Photograph: Detail view of stacked course mullock.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Shower room slab

Site/Feature number: 24

Location: Immediately west of ore bins.

Site type: Mine building site (ablutions).

History:

This shower and change block for miners emerging from the Number 1 adit was built in 1917. After this building was burnt down in 1939/40, a modified version was rebuilt⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The current remains consist of a 12 x 4 m area comprised of assorted concrete floor slabs and discrete fixture footings. A 2 inch cast water pipe discharged waste water into the adjacent Storys Creek.

Interpretation:

Shower/change block for miners.

Statement of Significance:

These poorly preserved remains most probably relate to the mid 20th century rebuild.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Routine protection of the feature from damage is desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl. pers. comm.

Historic photograph:

c.1931 view showing shower room/change house at far left of frame.

Photograph:

Easterly view of cement shower room slab.

Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Stone steps

Site/Feature number: 25

Location: Immediately above western end of shower room.

Site type: Mine access (Stairway).

History:

These steps linking the Number 1 adit precinct to the hill-top mine cottages on the bank above, were probably created in c.1916 with the construction of the first houses along the upper edge of the creek valley.

Description:

This 70 odd metre long flight of steps has been built out of un-bonded local tabular rock.

Interpretation:

Access/short cut for miners.

Statement of Significance:

This is a well preserved remnant of the both original 1916 era mine and housing settlement.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This walkway should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known

Photograph: Detail view of stone steps.

Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Adit number 1

Site/Feature number: 26

Location: 30 metres south of compressor.

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

This adit was commenced by the Storeys Creek Tin Mining Syndicate shortly after they re-started the mine in 1914. In commencing this adit, the company chose to abandon Miers adit well to the south, which was the principal underground working at the time. When geologist Loftus Hills visited the mine in 1916 he wrote: “*Since taking charge of operations, the present owners have driven a low level adit and cut both No. 1 and the main lodes. No. 1 lode has been driven on for 150 feet...*”⁽¹⁾ This adit remained the main underground drive and ore recovery route at the Storeys Creek mine until its replacement by the new main shaft in 1958. The portal was subsequently capped/collapsed after the mine’s ultimate closure in 1982.

Description:

This feature is comprised of a 15 x 5 x 4 m high collapsed adit entrance and remnant narrow gauge tramline linking it to the adjacent mullock dump described previously as Site 23.

Interpretation:

Main mine adit

Statement of Significance:

The exterior of this highly significant mine adit has been all but destroyed.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Hills, 1916, p. 20.

Photograph: Southwesterly view of revegetation on collapsed scree at former adit portal.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Compressor

Site/Feature number: 27

Location: 30 metres south of old Storys Creek road bridge.

Site type: Air producer (compressed air).

History:

This apparatus and a companion pressure receiver were installed at the mine in 1920 and operated until c.1934, when a larger second hand compressor plant acquired from Geelong was installed on the hillside above in anticipation of the arrival of electricity. In a 1920 reference to the plant's installation, it is stated that this was an 800 cubic foot compressor⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This plant consists of an intact two-cylinder compressor with flywheel and drive shaft erected on a 4 x 3 m concrete footing.

Interpretation:

Air producer for underground mine

Statement of Significance:

This intact compressor is the best preserved in situ example of its type known at any mine site in the State.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High

4. High
3. Moderate
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This apparatus should be cleared of corrosive jig tailings and painted with protective red lead oxide primer paint. It should continue to be protected in situ against all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

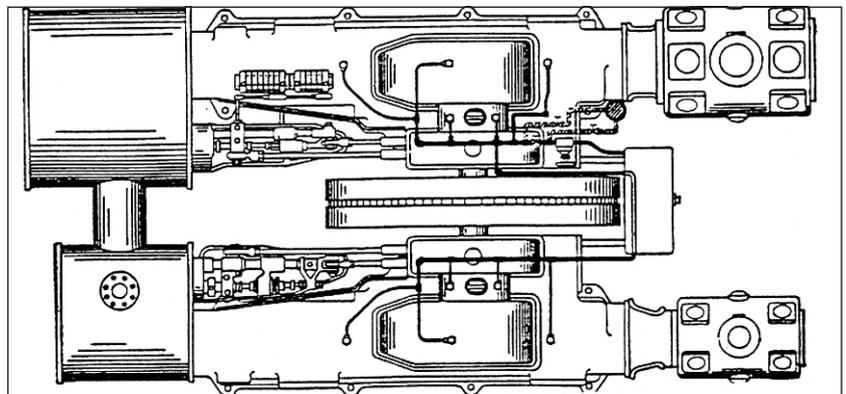
1. Secretary of Mines report for 1920, p. 24.

Historic technical drawing:

Plate showing similar Ingersoll Rand Duplex steam driven compressor plant (Peele 1945, p. 14.)

Photograph:

Close up view of compressor and concrete footing.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Gas producer 2

Site/Feature number: 28

Location: 15 metres southwest of compressor.

Site type: Energy producer (gas).

History:

Installation of this plant was begun in 1920 and completed two years later. A 1920 reference to the installation listed the resident plant as consisting of a 165 horsepower Commonwealth gas producer and 140 horsepower Premier gas engine⁽¹⁾. These were in turn connected to the adjacent compressor. Both gas plants became redundant along with the compressor in 1934 when Storys Creek was to be hooked up to the electricity grid.

Description:

This feature consists of a single gas production vessel and an adjacent cast iron pipe connecting it to the nearby compressor.

Interpretation:

Gas fuel production vessel.

Statement of Significance:

In association with the nearby companion compressor, this plant is deemed to be unique as the best preserved plant of its type in the state.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High

4. High
3. Moderate
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature is to be protected from all impacts in association with the adjacent compressor. Further excavation of the jig tailings here is desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Secretary of Mines report for 1920, p. 24.

Photograph:

Detail view of gas producer vessel.

Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Saunders adit

Site/Feature number: 29

Location: 30 metres west/uphill of gas producer.

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

This exploratory adit was driven in the 1950s. It was subsequently back filled with jig tailings⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This site consists of a collapsed adit portal filled with jig tailings and an adjacent section of 8 inch cast iron pipe.

Interpretation:

Exploratory adit.

Statement of Significance:

This relatively recent working has since been all but destroyed on the surface.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Jig tailings excess flowing from former adit portal.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — ***Timber gear slide***

Site/Feature number: 30

Location: 20 metres south of Saunders adit.

Site type: Mine access (Equipment slide).

History:

This slide was built in c.1914 as the most convenient means of delivering mine gear to the newly opened Number 1 adit workings. It was subsequently used to deliver firewood to the nearby gas producer which powered the mine compressor. The slide was abandoned when the first Storys Creek road was completed in c.1932⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of a 5 x 2 m remnant section of the slide comprised of parallel hardwood boards nailed to a succession of spar logs.

Interpretation:

Gear slide used to supply workings prior to completion of road.

Statement of Significance:

Although poorly preserved, this feature attests to the novel way in which the Storys Creek mine was supplied with necessities for the first two decades of its life.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

Detail view of boards comprising slide chute.

Recorded by:

P. Kostoglou

Date:

1/6/2000



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Timber bridge

Site/Feature number: 3 I

Location: 30 metres north of compressor.

Site type: Road bridge (timber).

History:

By 1935, the timber equipment slide used to move mine gear down to the mine had become too inefficient, and the decision was accordingly taken to build a road to the mine. This bridge was built to carry the road over Storys Creek to the mine compound. Its support piers were deliberately detonated in 1982 as part of the mine's closure⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Measuring 18 x 3 m in dimension, the bridge consists of three bed logs which have been decked over with planking and a pair of outer safety rails fitted. The bridge has collapsed in the centre after the three bed logs were broken with explosives.

Interpretation:

Bridge carrying old Storys Creek road to the mine.

Statement of Significance:

Despite its demolition, the bridge remains in a reasonable state of preservation.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should not be deliberately destroyed.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Northerly view of collapsed bridge.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Water flume

Site/Feature number: 32

Location: Running parallel to north side of old mill tramway cutting (#19).

Site type: Water conveyance (flume)

History:

This fluming was built in 1916 in conjunction with the adjacent mine tramway. One source claims that the flume was constructed to convey mine water from adit number 1 to the old mill where it was used as a supplementary water source during dry periods when the regular dam-based water supply ran low⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Forty metres of the most intact fluming has recently been destroyed by bulldozer activity. Remaining sections in the vicinity of the pump house (site 20) consist of sequential timber supports along side the tramway cutting and one three metre base board to the flume boxing.

Interpretation:

Water drainage flume.

Statement of Significance:

Although poorly preserved, this feature represents a traditional means of water conveyance.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
- 3. Moderate**
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Protection of remaining timbering is desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: In situ base board to box flume.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — North western slope

Site/Feature number: 33

Location: Immediately south of timber slide.

Site type: Mine working (stope).

History:

This feature is probably part of the extensive underhand stoping undertaken from the surface throughout the Storys Creek mine lease between c.1885 and 1914 prior to the advent of deep lead mining⁽¹⁾. Underground stoping and a subsequent breakthrough to the surface at this spot occurred in the 1950s⁽²⁾.

Description:

This working consists of a fenced 3 x 2 m irregular hole which has been fenced off by the Department of Mines, and an adjacent underhand stope below a sheer wall which has been consolidated with stacked block mullock.

Interpretation:

Stoping along sheer wall while tracing line of No. 1 lode.

Statement of Significance:

This small scale stoping lacks the size, state of preservation and age of those examples at the southeast end of the lease.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 31.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of fenced stope break out.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Carbide dump

Site/Feature number: 34

Location: Adjacent to number 1 adit tram formation on west bank of Storys Creek.

Site type: Mine waste dump (carbide).

History:

This dump for carbide lamp residues was probably established in 1916 with the commencement of underground mining at the adjacent Number 1 adit. The dump was finally abandoned when carbide lamps were superseded by electric lamps in c.1950.

Description:

This feature consists of a 9 x 8 m pile of accreted/spent carbide residue. This deposit has been cut in half by a bulldozed track from Number 1 adit to Storys Creek.

Interpretation:

Waste dump for miners lamps.

Statement of Significance:

The unusual size of this feature highlights the sheer number of miner visits underground.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
- 3. Moderate**
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: Not applicable.

Photograph: View of damaged white carbide dump.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Timber hut

Site/Feature number: 35

Location: Five metres north of carbide dump.

Site type: Mine explosives store (detonators).

History:

This structure is supposed to have served as a detonator store for the main mine precinct around Number 1 adit between 1916 and c.1950⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The structure is a 3 x 3 x 3 m high timber-framed and corrugated iron clad hut. Resident fixtures within the single room include a door and bench seat. The sheet iron is stamped RADCLIFFE TRADEMARK.

Interpretation:

Detonator storage shed.

Statement of Significance:

Although appearing to have served a specific and interesting purpose, the structure shows no characteristic or purpose-built attributes indicating its linkage to explosives storage.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Routine protection of the structure is desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: General view of structure.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Machinery component

Site/Feature number: 36

Location: Immediately north of ore tramway some 20 m west of shower room slab.

Site type: Mine plant artefact (portable).

History:

Unknown.

Description:

Bell-shaped heavy gauged cast pressure vessel with attached drive component.

Interpretation:

Unknown function but assumed to relate to nearby compressor/gas producer or air receiver plant.

Statement of Significance:

Significance is high by association if this component in fact relates to the compressor.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Re-locate feature beside compressor.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: Not applicable.

Photograph: Close up view of artefact.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Bridge side adit

Site/Feature number: 37

Location: Ten metres north of collapsed timber bridge over Storys Creek (site 31).

Site type: Mine working (adit).

History:

This adit was driven in the 1950s as an exploratory drive during a diamond drilling program⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of a 3 x 2 m timbered adit portal which has since been deliberately collapsed. A small hole has since been re-excavated through the overburden. The adit is said to only be 25 m long in total⁽²⁾.

Interpretation:

Exploratory adit.

Statement of Significance:

The external part of this recent adit is poorly preserved.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Close up view of re-opened adit entrance.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Concrete tank pad

Site/Feature number: 38

Location: 20 metres southeast of Bedford truck at V. Hahl's house.

Site type: Mine plant site (tank).

History:

At Storys Creek during the 1960s, crushed jig tailings were used as underground mine backfill. A holding tank was accordingly erected here into which finely crushed tailings were placed after removal from a rod mill. The tank was pulled down after the mine's closure in c.1982⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of an octagonal concrete slab with separate square concrete blocks with metal tank anchors laid against every second facet. The slab measures 5.3 m in diameter.

Interpretation:

Pad for sandfill tank.

Statement of Significance:

This poorly preserved feature is of recent derivation.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of hexagonal slab and adjacent tank anchors.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Collapsed stope

Site/Feature number: 39

Location: Five metres northwest of sandfill tank base (site 38).

Site type: Mine working (stope).

History:

This feature is probably part of the extensive underhand stoping undertaken from the surface throughout the Storys Creek mine lease between c.1885 and 1914 prior to the advent of deep lead mining⁽¹⁾. The feature was possibly re-timbered some time later for renewed access⁽²⁾.

Description:

The feature is a 3 x 2 x 1 m deep rectangular timbered stope with collapsed fill within.

Interpretation:

Underground stope with surface access.

Statement of Significance:

The resident timbering is unremarkable and poorly preserved.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 31.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Close up view of stope timbering.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Mine Manager's house footings

Site/Feature number: 40

Location: 40 metres east of sand fill tank base on edge of ridge line.

Site type: House site (Mine managers).

History:

A house to accommodate the Mine Manager was built at this location in 1918. Several managers resided here until the 1950s, when a new manager's house was built next to the community hall (site 75). This building was then used as a store house for company records before being demolished in the 1960s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Remains of this building now consist of three sided dry-stone footings measuring 7 x 8.3 x 0.6 m high. There are two remnant red brick chimney bases and an apparently unrelated concrete anchor for some type of upright support.

Interpretation:

Former mine manager's house.

Statement of Significance:

This is the oldest surviving domestic structural remnant at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southeasterly view of dry-stone building footings and unrelated anchor in the foreground.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Second mill footings

Site/Feature number: 41

Location: 30 metre east/downhill of managers house site.

Site type: Mine building site (mill).

History:

The war time boom in wolfram consumption had encouraged the Storeys Creek Tin Mining Company and its successor Aberfoyle Ltd to construct a new state of the art concentrating mill. In 1946, one source wrote that: "Excavation for the mill has started and some equipment is already at the mine, but the delivery of other items has been delayed"⁽¹⁾. Curiously, the mill was not completed until 1958. Having been successfully trialed, this mill came on line, and the original mill nearby was shut down for the final time. This second mill operated until 1974, when an amalgamation of operations at both the Storys Creek and Rossarden mines saw all ore treated at the latter mine. This mill was later pulled down and components auctioned in 1984⁽²⁾. The remainder was bulldozed.

Description:

Today, remains of this building consist of the sides of five sections of concrete foundation exposed along a bulldozer track. These measure up to 2.5 m in height, and are covered by assorted debris from the former mill such as steel pipes and railway iron.

Interpretation:

Replacement milling plant for Storys Creek mine.

Statement of Significance:

Although significant as a major entity at the Storys Creek mine site, this recent mill plant has been all but destroyed above the ground.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Surviving sections of the foundation slab should not be destroyed. They can however be covered with dirt material if required.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Dunkin, 1946, p. 51.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

View showing one of the foundation sections beside bulldozed track.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Drying/separating shed

Site/Feature number: 42

Location: Immediately west of the bulldozed track some 40 m south of the southernmost mill footings. This rubble is also straight uphill from the lease boundary marker (site 17)

Site type: Mine building site (concentrating plant).

History:

Two buildings, housing the roaster and separator plant respectively, were erected in c.1917 using bricks manufactured locally (Nisbetts Creek vicinity?)⁽¹⁾. Visiting the mine in 1929, Messrs Reid and Henderson noted that: “Wolfram is separated from tin ore in the mixed concentrate by means of electro-magnetic separators. This plant consists of crushing rolls, dryer, screen classifiers, two dynamos, and two ‘Rapid’ type (Thompson-Davies patent) electro-magnetic separators, each having 3 poles, 3 discs, and a 15 inch feed belt. This plant is driven by a 25 h.p. Tangye engine connected to a 33 h.p. Commonwealth wood-gas producer”⁽²⁾.

Another visitor in 1946 examined the separating plant: “Mixed concentrates are dried on a wood fired hot plate and screened. Plus 1/8 inch material is crushed in rolls in closed circuit with a screen and the product is screened to four sizes for separate magnetic treatments in batches on Rapid Magnetic Separators”⁽³⁾. Of the separate roasting plant the same source further noted that: “The non magnetic separator product contains 20% Sn and is roasted, when sufficient material has accumulated, in a simplex Edwards roaster with seven rabbls. The calcine is tabled to recover a 70–71 % Sn concentrate”⁽⁴⁾. After the drying and separating shed was burnt down in 1965, the resident fine tailings were successfully re-worked on site by Mr Darryl Hayes in the late 1970s⁽⁵⁾.

Description:

This feature now consists of a 5 x 4 m clump of broken sandstock bricks immediately west of the bulldozed jig tailings track. Associated debris mounded up by the bulldozer includes slab cement fragments and assorted ferrous.

Interpretation:

Drying or separating shed used to further refine tin ore.

Statement of Significance:

Although one of the original and principal industrial plants at the mine, its almost total destruction leaves little if anything of the site left to interpret.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
3. Moderate
2. Low
- 1. None**
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.
2. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 38.
3. Dunkin, 1946, p. 49.
4. Dunkin, 1946, p. 50.
5. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Mounded red brick rubble adjacent to bulldozed track.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Stoped outcrop 1

Site/Feature number: 43

Location: Outcrop commences 20 m south of red brick rubble (site 42) and proceeds south for 120+ metres.

Site type: Mine working (stope).

History:

This feature is probably part of the extensive underhand stoping undertaken from the surface throughout the Storys Creek mine lease between c1885 and 1914 prior to the advent of deep lead mining (1).

Description:

This working consists of parallel bands of stoped rock outcrop and adjacent block mullock formations to five metres in height.

Interpretation:

Surface stoping associated with clarifying line of lode.

Statement of Significance:

This working is a well preserved component from what appears to be the earliest phase of mining at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This working should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Reid & Henderson, 1929, p. 31.

Photograph: View showing stacked mullock on edge of hill side.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Stoped outcrop 2

Site/Feature number: 44

Location: Situated beneath modern power line and 45 m west of existing power pole on edge of hill side. This item is in line with lease boundary marker (site 17).

Site type: Mine working (stope).

History:

This working may have been prospected during the late 19th century before being worked during the early pre-underground mining phase at Storys Creek between 1904 and 1915. It was subsequently used as a refuse site during the 1970s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This working consists of three parallel 40 m long surface stopes to two metres in depth and adjacent lines of stacked block mullock. This working has been subsequently used as a dumping ground for discarded machinery. Prominent items noted here include ore skip chassis and matching wheel pairs.

Interpretation:

Surface stoping associated with clarifying line of lode.

Statement of Significance:

Although this working is not as physically significant as some of the other stoping operations at Storys Creek, its resident collection of ironmongery could hold highly significant components.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This working should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of mullock and adjacent rubbish scatter within grassland.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Ferrous junk yard

Site/Feature number: 45

Location: Immediately north of site 44.

Site type: Refuse site (Ferrous).

History:

This refuse deposit has resulted from the demolition of the drying and separating shed after the conversion of the mine's concentrating plant from gas to electric in c.1939. It has grown with periodic dumping of rubbish up to the 1982 closure of the mine.

Description:

The feature consists of a 40 x 35 m wide scatter of discarded mine-related ironmongery. Some of these items have been further cannibalised for parts or steel plate. The most important and obvious artefacts here are a broken head frame bull wheel protruding from a tree trunk and an adjacent pair of brake bands from the mine's earliest winding plant. The bull wheel is known to have been removed from the Mangana Gold Reefs mine in the 1920s⁽¹⁾.

Interpretation:

Demolition site and subsequent junk yard.

Statement of Significance:

Although this feature is unsightly, its resident collection of ironmongery holds highly significant historic mine components.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Detail view of broken head frame bull wheel protruding from tree trunk.



Photograph: Discarded winding gear brake bands adjacent to broken bull wheel.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Stope to surface travelways

Site/Feature number: 46

Location: 25 metres northwest of broken bull wheel (site 45) and 25 metres south of intact bull wheel (site 48).

Site type: Mine working (stope).

History:

These connections between underground stopes and the surface may have been installed in the 1930s for additional ventilation⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of three collapsed/buried surface entrances to stopes over a 30 m squared area. The largest of these has been fenced and covered with block mullock by the Department of Mines. Another remains open and intact timbering to 1.5 m in depth can still be seen.

Interpretation:

Access/ventilation ways between surface and underground workings.

Statement of Significance:

These features are relatively poorly preserved at ground level.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of timbered access way and capped example in background.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Former compressor shed

Site/Feature number: 47

Location: 30 metres east of surface/stope travel ways (site 46).

Site type: Mine building site (power house).

History:

This building was erected in 1934/35 to house the original steam powered compressor. When the arrival of electricity in 1939 made this plant redundant, it was nonetheless retained as a backup along with an adjacent diesel generator. This building was pulled down in 1983⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This former building is now evidenced by a triangular 15 x 10 m deposit of broken ferro-concrete and iron debris beneath a stand of wattle regrowth.

Interpretation:

Former compressor shed.

Statement of Significance:

This feature has been completely obliterated, and the remaining debris in no way expresses its former function or extent.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
3. Moderate
2. Low
1. None
- 0. Detracts**

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southerly view of debris from compressor shed.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Erect bull wheel

Site/Feature number: 48

Location: 25 metres north of open travelways.

Site type: Mine equipment (portable).

History:

This head frame bull wheel was brought to Stores Creek from the Mangana Gold Reefs mine as a spare in c.1921⁽¹⁾.

Description:

1.8 metre diameter intact headframe/poppet head bull wheel which has been partially buried to make it stand up.

Interpretation:

Mine shaft headframe accessory.

Statement of Significance:

This item is a well preserved and characteristic artefact from the earliest shafting at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature is to be protected from all impacts. It should not be re-located unless deemed at risk.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southerly view of bull wheel.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Jig tailings dumps

Site/Feature number: 49

Location: Along edge of hillside overlooking Storys Creek valley.

Site type: Mine waste dump (mill tailings).

History:

These jig tailings were produced by the second mill plant which operated between 1958 and 1972. Some of these tailings were re-ground into fine sands and pumped underground as mine fill⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Extensive tailings dump (350 x 150 x 20 m high) comprising numerous mounded concentrations cascading down hill side to Storys Creek. Numbers of dead eucalypt trees killed by the encroaching tailings protrude from the mounded tailings.

Interpretation:

Jig tailings from second mill plant.

Statement of Significance:

This feature is the most conspicuous mine related entity comprising the Storys Creek landscape.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

As these mounds have already been flattened, no protective measures can be taken.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Dunkin, 1946, p. 51.

Photograph: Summit of one tailings dump showing dead trees.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant housing allotment 1

Site/Feature number: 50

Location: Immediately west of lupin patch south of Volker Hahl's house.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

This allotment was first fenced and a mess house for the single men erected here in c.1918. With the construction of a new mess house closer to the new main shaft in c.1958, this building was turned into a private house for company staff⁽¹⁾. After the mine's closure in 1982, the resident building was auctioned and removed⁽²⁾.

Description:

This 30 m squared allotment has been subdivided and fenced into two smaller pens; one containing the house site and another to the south a garden area. Remnants of the house include a concrete building slab and adjacent brick chimney base, while the garden precinct contains a large patch of lupins. A number of non-native trees on the allotment include cotoneaster, lilac and plum trees.

Interpretation:

Mine mess building/house site.

Statement of Significance:

Very little evidence of the site's association with the mine now survives.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.) p. 59.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Northerly view showing brick chimney remains and thicket of non-native trees.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Volker Hahl's house

Site/Feature number: 5 I

Location: 20 metres northwest of vacant lot (site 50).

Site type: House (occupied).

History:

This allotment has served as a housing venue since c.1920. The original house was probably demolished when a second building was erected here in c.1950. After the mine's closure in 1981, this second house was auctioned and removed somewhere on the east coast. The present house was acquired and moved by Volker Hahl from another allotment (site 77) some 40 m due west of its present position⁽¹⁾. One source claims that during the 1930s an occupant known to locals as 'Nigger Delphin' put gelignite in Mine Manager Ted Egan's garage⁽²⁾.

Description:

This site consists of a heavily modified weatherboard walled, corrugated iron roofed house dating from the 1950s.

Interpretation:

1950s miners accommodation.

Statement of Significance:

This relatively recent building has been heavily modified.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.
- 2. Kilner (n.d.) p. 59.

Photograph: Westerly view of house and adjacent grounds.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant housing allotment 2

Site/Feature number: 52

Location: Immediately northwest of Volker Hahl's house.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

A house was erected on this allotment in the 1950s. This dwelling was auctioned and removed after the mines closure in 1982⁽¹⁾.

Description:

45 x 18 metre allotment containing remnants of the former house including:

- concrete front path and back door step
- rear shed and attached picket fenced vegetable garden
- car driveway to rear shed
- grove of silver birch trees along southern boundary

Interpretation:

Former 1950s house site

Statement of Significance:

This relatively recent house site retains few interesting vestiges.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Northeasterly view of allotment containing shed and vegetable garden.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Miners cottage

Site/Feature number: 53

Location: 40 metres north of Volker Hahl's house.

Site type: House (unoccupied).

History:

The original split timber central section of this cottage was erected on this allotment in 1927. The existing frontal section was added in the 1930s, while the weatherboard back end and adjacent laundry were added in the 1950s⁽¹⁾. Occupants of this cottage included Mr Jim Keenan to 1930 and Jim Hall in the 1950s⁽²⁾.

Description:

This cottage consists of:

- The original corrugated iron clad central living room and chimney built in 1927
- A corrugated iron clad front porch and bedroom added in the 1930s
- A weatherboard kitchen and detached laundry added in the 1950s
- Assorted non native garden plants and trees

Interpretation:

Miners cottage altered periodically.

Statement of Significance:

This is the only standing structure at Storys Creek built and occupied by a miner from the earliest phase of underground mining.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This structure should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.
2. Kilner (n.d.), p. 59.

Photograph: Northeasterly view of front aspect to miners cottage.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant housing allotment 3

Site/Feature number: 54

Location: Immediately north of miners cottage (site 53).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

The cottage on this allotment was built in the 1920s and occupied by a number of people including Ted Withers and Charlie and Frank Dennis, until its destruction by fire in 1953⁽¹⁾. Another source claims that a second house erected on this allotment was abandoned in the 1970s and pulled down shortly after⁽²⁾.

Description:

This 35 x 40 m allotment retains vestiges of its resident building including:

- A back porch step and front door step made out of concrete.
- A brick chimney base against the former back wall line.
- A fence post sequence along the northern boundary.
- A septic tank concrete cover inscribed with the name and date: CRAIG BROWN 1.2.81

Interpretation:

Former miners cottage.

Statement of Significance:

Very little evidence of the sites association with the mine now survives.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 59.
2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Northeasterly view of allotment showing resident chimney base.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Foster's vein workings

Site/Feature number: 55

Location: Immediately west of Storys Creek road between Volker Hahl's house and main shaft mine yard.

Site type: Mine workings (surface).

History:

These shallow surface workings were dug prior to the commencement of underground mining at the number 1 adit in 1914⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature consists of a 45 x 2 x 1.5 m deep open trench parallel to Storys Creek road.

Interpretation:

Early 20th century surface working/costean.

Statement of Significance:

These shallow workings are unremarkable. Several other similarly aged examples at Storys Creek are more notable.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southwesterly view of excavated material beside trenching.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant housing allotment 4

Site/Feature number: 56

Location: Immediately south west of Fosters workings (site 55).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

A hut and camp was erected on this allotment in the 1940s and utilised until the late 1950s. Residents here included Charlie McCormick, Jack Bruce and a Mr Daniels and wife⁽¹⁾. The building had been demolished by the mid 1970s⁽²⁾.

Description:

This former house site is now partially covered in block mullock from the adjacent mine yard. A remnant section of timber floor joists, an in situ water pie and scatter of period artefacts such as an enamel washing bowl remain exposed.

Interpretation:

Former miners cottage.

Statement of Significance:

Very little evidence of the site's association with the mine now survives.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 59.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southeasterly view of allotment showing remnant timber flooring wedged between Foster's workings and mine yard mullock overflow.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 5

Site/Feature number: 57

Location: 20 metres west of downhill water pipes (site 59).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

This site appears to have been first developed in c.1914 for Mr Hugh Coull the gas powered engine driver⁽¹⁾. The house built here evidently served as the first Mmine manager's house prior to the construction of the first purpose built one further south (site 40). This house was demolished in the 1960s⁽²⁾.

Description:

This 35 x 20 m hillside clearing contains:

- Two concrete doorways
- A dry stone chimney base and adjacent brick scatter
- A ferrous debris field including a corrugated iron water tank and chimney flue.

Interpretation:

Early 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

This site comprises part of the oldest known housing at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 58.
2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

Westerly view of site showing door step in foreground. Also chimney flue and water tank in background.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 6

Site/Feature number: 58

Location: Located between vacant allotment 5 (site 57) and mine yard entrance off Storys Creek road.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

A large house was allegedly built on this allotment in the 1940s and subsequently occupied by the family of Mr George Hodgeman⁽¹⁾. The house was demolished a decade later. No further development occurred.

Description:

This stony hillside clearing contains:

- A ferrous scatter including combustion stove parts
- A stone culvert and pathway to a what would have been a front doorway.

Interpretation:

Early/mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The possibility that this site may date to near the turn of the century, and therefore be older than the sources claim, raises an otherwise Low significance threshold.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The routine protection of this site would be desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner (n.d.), p. 59.

Photograph: Westerly view of culvert and pathway.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Hill side water pipes

Site/Feature number: 59

Location: On hillside immediately east of site 57.

Site type: Water conveyance (pipeline).

History:

The original iron pipe evident on this hillside is said to have been laid in 1918 by a Mr Coull. This original pipeline only supplied domestic housing needs. A second ferro-concrete pipe was subsequently laid in the 1950s to replace this, while another 8 inch steel pipe was also fitted to supply the mine mill. After the closure of the mine in 1982, this steel pipe was removed and fourth pipe made of 1.5 inch steel was laid to supply the few remaining houses⁽¹⁾. Mr Volker Hahl still relies on this pipeline today for his domestic water supply.

Description:

The hillside slope at this location is traversed by three parallel pipelines.

- A rivetted 10 inch sheet iron pipe supported on concrete pier
- An 8 inch ferro-concrete pipe
- A 1.5 inch steel pipe

Interpretation:

Three successive domestic water pipelines.

Statement of Significance:

This interesting system is the original domestic water supply to the settlement.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

These features should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Remnant section of original iron pipe on concrete pier.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Overflow flume

Site/Feature number: 60

Location: At terminus of hillside pipes (site 59).

Site type: Water conveyance (flume).

History:

The precise origins of this feature remain uncertain. However, the condition of the timber would suggest its construction after c. 1945.

Description:

Timber box flume elevated on periodic 200 mm high trestles.

Interpretation:

This feature formerly returned excess water from the adjacent intake (site 61) back to Storys Creek.

Statement of Significance:

Relatively well preserved water conveyance which combines with other adjacent pipelines and intakes to comprise an interesting example of town water distribution.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known

Photograph: Northerly/uphill view of water flume system.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Header tanks

Site/Feature number: 61

Location: At terminus of hillside pipes (site 59).

Site type: Water conveyance (header tank).

History:

The original timber water header tank systems were presumably begun in 1918 along with the associated pipeline. The replacement rivetted steel pressure receiver is known to have been placed here with a crane in c.1970. The system has been periodically repaired since this time.

Description:

This system consists of three separate but adjacent header tanks made from a variety of salvaged materials. These are:

- A rivetted steel pressure receiver claimed to have been removed from the Mangana Gold Reefs mine which has two iron pipes welded on each side of it as an inlet and outlet.
- An all timber header tank.
- A Composite concrete walled and timber-lined header tank.

Interpretation:

Water concentration system to increase force or head of piped water.

Statement of Significance:

This relatively well preserved feature is a highly unusual/eccentric example of its type.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature is to be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known.

Photograph: Downhill view of pressure receiver and two siphons.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY —

Water race

Site/Feature number: 62

Location: Situated along hillside between creek and town dams.

Site type: Water conveyance (race).

History:

This race was excavated in c.1885 in order to carry water from Storys Creek to the alluvial workings in Side Creek (site 01) and its resident waterwheel power plant which drove a battery mill. In 1892, geologist Montgomery noted that: "The water for which is brought down by a pipe from a race which comes over the terrace, and is supplied from a dam higher up Storeys Creek"⁽¹⁾. After the demise of alluvial mining and related milling in Side Creek, the race may have been subsequently re-used for a time to feed water into the old dam.

Description:

This 400 m long feature is an excavated earthen race measuring on average two metres in depth and 1.5 m wide. The section between the creek intake and pressure receiver/siphons was formerly covered with a continuous roof of timber boards. Some parts of the race retain sections of rivetted iron water pipe in them.

Interpretation:

Mine water race.

Statement of Significance:

This is the oldest and best preserved feature from the original mid-1880s mine settlement at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
- 4. High**
3. Moderate
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site is to be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Montgomery, 1892, p. 37.

Photograph:

View of water race and resident pipe section north of Anfo mixing shed (site 64).



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Mine yard mullock dump

Site/Feature number: 63

Location: Stockpiled along southern boundary of mine yard.

Site type: Mine waste dump (mullock).

History:

This dump was created as a stockpile for mullock brought up during the development of the new main shaft in the late 1950s.

Description:

The feature consists of several large deposits of mullock measuring up to 50 m squared and three metres in height.

Interpretation:

Mullock waste dump.

Statement of Significance:

This unremarkable feature is the result of the final/most recent mining programme at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known.

Photograph: Easterly view of one section of the mullock dump.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — ANFO mixing station

Site/Feature number: 64

Location: North side of mine yard 40 m north of ore bin (site 65).

Site type: Mine explosives store (ANFO).

History:

This structure was built in the 1950s as a venue for mixing the opposing ingredients comprising ANFO explosive. It had become disused by the mid 1970s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The feature consists of a 8 x 4 x 1.5 m high timber framed stacked mullock platform and adjacent earthen cutting for drive-in vehicle access.

Interpretation:

Explosives mixing station.

Statement of Significance:

This relatively well preserved feature highlights the role of explosives at the Storys Creek mine.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature is to be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Easterly view of ANFO mixing station showing stone platform.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Main shaft ore bin

Site/Feature number: 65

Location: Immediately east of capped main shaft (site 66).

Site type: Ore storage (bins).

History:

This bin was probably commissioned and then erected in c.1960 when mined ore was first hoisted to the surface through the adjacent main shaft. Prior to this, the ore was raised to the number 1 level and removed through the number 1 adit.

Description:

This feature is a 5.3 m diameter cylinder with three discharge chutes standing on a 2.5 m high welded steel platform. The chutes have been welded shut after closure to prevent entry by children.

Interpretation:

Main shaft ore bin.

Statement of Significance:

Bereft of any head frame, this is now the most poignant reminder of underground mining at Storys Creek.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

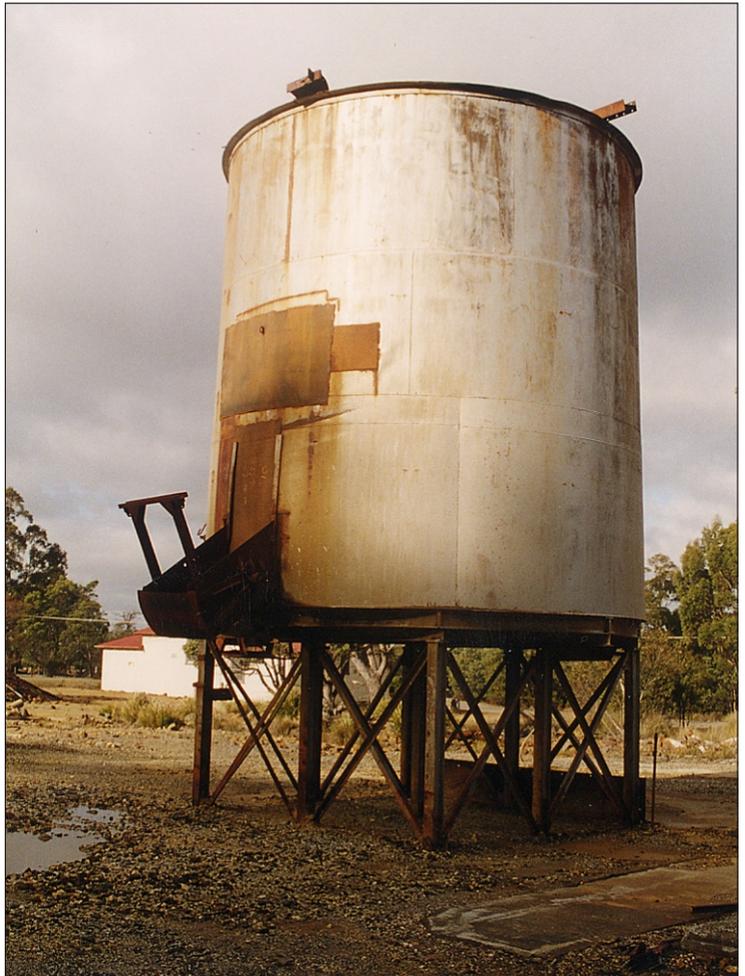
This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known

Photograph: Southeasterly view of ore bin.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — **Capped main shaft**

Site/Feature number: 66

Location: Immediately west of ore bin (site 65).

Site type: Mine working (shaft).

History:

Some rudimentary work on this vertical shaft was begun in 1952 with its survey from the No. 1 adit portal by Jim Hornsey, whose accuracy evoked local admiration⁽¹⁾. More intensive underground development began in 1957, and an appropriate headframe for the shaft was made the same year⁽²⁾. Both the shaft and its headframe remained in service as the principal underground egress for personnel and ore until final closure in 1982. In 1984, the headframe was purchased by a Victorian mine (Morning Star mine)⁽²⁾. The main shaft had presumably been capped some time earlier.

Description:

The main shaft capping consists of a 7.2 m squared slab some 0.25 m in thickness above the ground. Two short in situ sections of narrow gauge steel tram rails running out from the northern and southern sides of the capping shows how heavy equipment was moved to the shaft for removal underground. Two sawn-off anchor bolts embedded in concrete around the slab are the only remaining indications of the location of the former headframe legs.

Interpretation:

Main shaft and overhead headframe.

Statement of Significance:

This feature, along with the adjacent ore bin, was the heart of the Storys Creek mine between 1958 and its final closure in 1981. However, nothing of the original shaft is left above the slab.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The site should remain identifiable to the public as the site of the main shaft (i.e. do not cover).

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 40.
- 2. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 42.
- 3. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southwesterly view of main shaft slab cap and breather vent.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Crib house/store shed slab

Site/Feature number: 67

Location: Immediately west of main shaft.

Site type: Mine building site (crib house).

History:

This structure was erected in association with the adjacent main shaft in 1952. It was removed after final mine closure in 1982⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The remaining slab measuring eight metres squared has a smaller off-set concrete footing immediately to the southwest.

Interpretation:

Slab for crib building.

Statement of Significance:

The scant remains in no way demonstrate the former building function or its relationship to the adjacent shaft.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southwesterly view of slab.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Workshop slab

Site/Feature number: 68

Location: Five metres south of ore bin (site 65).

Site type: Mine building site (workshop).

History:

The workshop was erected in mid to late 1950s soon after the opening of the adjacent main shaft. It was pulled down in 1982 after the mines final closure⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The remaining slab, measuring 9.3 x 3.6 x 0.3 m high, has an adjacent spoon drain and water pipes protruding from its eastern side. A set of tram rails from the adjacent main shaft show how heavy items were wheeled from the workshop to the shaft for removal underground.

Interpretation:

Workshop remains.

Statement of Significance:

The scant remains poorly demonstrate the former building function and its relationship to the adjacent shaft.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of main shaft cap. Workshop slab is in the background.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Cap lamp room

Site/Feature number: 69

Location: Immediately west of crib house (site 67)

Site type: Mine building site (lamp room).

History:

This building was erected in the mid 1950s along with the other structures clustered around the main shaft. It was also removed in c.1982 after the mines final closure⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This feature is evidenced by a four metre long timber beam used as a step on the north side of the building.

Interpretation:

Miners cap lamp store room.

Statement of Significance:

The near complete absence of remaining fabric eliminates any significance this location may have had.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southwesterly view of cap lamp room location. The pale timber on the right is the sole surviving item relating to the former cap lamp room.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Mine offices precinct

Site/Feature number: 70

Location: 35 metres north west of capped main shaft (site 66).

Site type: Mine building site (offices).

History:

At least four separate buildings were erected on this marshy ground in the late 1950s for various staff including the geologist, paymaster, surveyor and mine manager. They were subsequently auctioned and removed in c.1982 after the mines final closure⁽¹⁾.

Description:

These buildings are evidenced by four mounds of bulldozed building fabric and rubble in a 40 x 25 m wetland area.

Interpretation:

1950s mine office precinct.

Statement of Significance:

The remaining rubble piles have no archaeological significance and indeed are an eyesore.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts**

Recommendations:

Removal of rubble heaps.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of one former building heap in wetland.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Ablutions block slab

Site/Feature number: 71

Location: At western end of wetland past mine offices rubble heaps.

Site type: Mine building site (toilets).

History:

This building was erected in the mid to late 1950s as a toilet block for staff in adjacent office buildings. It was pulled down after the mines closure in 1982⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This building is evidenced by a concrete slab measuring 3.6 m squared and an adjacent mound of bulldozed building material such as asbestos sheeting.

Interpretation:

None.

Statement of Significance:

The remaining slab and rubble pile has little or no archaeological significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of concrete slab.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Winder house slab

Site/Feature number: 72

Location: 20 metres west of crib room slab.

Site type: Mine building site (winder house).

History:

The winding house was built between 1952 and 1957. After mine closure in 1982, the building was auctioned and removed. The resident winding gear was sold and removed to a Victorian mine called the Morning Star mine in 1984⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Concrete slab measuring 9.4 x 7.2 m with anchor bolts which formerly held down winding engine plant.

Interpretation:

Mine winder building.

Statement of Significance:

The slab indicates the location and orientation of the former winding engine, a major component of the mine.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southeastern view of winding house slab.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Compressor shed slab

Site/Feature number: 73

Location: Five metres south of winding house slab.

Site type: Mine building site (compressor).

History:

This building was erected in 1960 with the installation of an Ingersoll Rand (single cylinder) compressor. In 1984, after the closure of the mine, the compressor was bought and removed to the Morning Star mine in Victoria, while the building was salvaged⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This 5.7 m squared slab retains two centrally located raised footings upon which the compressor stood. An adjacent slab formerly supported the companion pressure receiver.

Interpretation:

Mine compressor shed.

Statement of Significance:

The slab indicates the location and orientation of the former winding engine, a major component of the mine.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
- 3. Moderate**
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Easterly view of compressor shed slab showing raised footings.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Electrical switchboard slab

Site/Feature number: 74

Location: Five metres south of compressor shed slab.

Site type: Mine electricity supply (switchboard).

History:

This switchboard facility was built in 1952 in association with the adjacent winding plant. It was subsequently dismantled in 1982 after the mines closure⁽¹⁾.

Description:

6.2 x 3.75 m slab and adjacent set of five footings for power line tower legs.

Interpretation:

Electrical switchboard for mine plant.

Statement of Significance:

The scant remains poorly demonstrate the former building function and its relationship to the adjacent shaft.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southerly view of slab and tower footings.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Third Managers house site

Site/Feature number: 75

Location: 20 metres west of community hall.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

This domicile was erected in 1931/32 as a replacement residence for the old Mine Managers residence built in c.1916 (site 40). In the mid 1960s the house became a visitor's residence for company guests. This third and final managers residence at Storys Creek was ultimately pulled down in 1982 after the mines final closure⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Remnants on this allotment consist of a gravel pathway and detached footings for a toilet. A series of rubble heaps at the northern end of the allotment contain the remains of the main house slab.

Interpretation:

Mid-20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The scant remains in no way impart any information about the occupancy of the house.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Northeasterly view of remnant gravel path.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Community hall

Site/Feature number: 76

Location: 45 metres south of ore bin.

Site type: Town Hall.

History:

Sources disagree as to whether this facility was built in 1936⁽¹⁾ or 1944⁽²⁾.

Description:

This is a weatherboard structure with a gabled corrugated iron roof measuring approximately 16.5 x 9 m in dimension.

Interpretation:

Community hall.

Statement of Significance:

As the social focus of the community since the Second World War, this well preserved building is Highly significant to the town site.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High**
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Conservation activities required by relevant department (Education?).

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 30.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Westerly view of community hall.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 7

Site/Feature number: 77

Location: 40 metres northeast of community hall.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

A miners cottage was possibly erected here in the 1930s and then subsequently enlarged in the 1950s⁽¹⁾. In the 1990s, the house was moved about 70 metres to its current location by Mr Volker Hahl who currently resides in it (site 51)⁽²⁾.

Description:

This site contains:

- A sequence of concrete/brick house support piers to 0.3 m high
- An in situ 4 x 3 m wide weatherboard shed
- A front path, chimney and front step made of concrete
- Various timber features such as a clothes line support

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The site in no way expresses any tangible association with the mine.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.
- 2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of shed and assorted ground features.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 8

Site/Feature number: 78

Location: Immediately north of vacant allotment 7 (site 77).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

A small miners cottage was possibly erected here in the 1930s, which was subsequently rebuilt or extended on a large concrete slab in the 1950s⁽¹⁾. It was subsequently auctioned and removed in the 1980s after the closure of the mine.

Description:

On-site remains consist of:

- A 12.5 x 6.5 m wide concrete slab with a 0.2 m high lip containing attachment bolts for wall panels.
- A tiled shower bay, tiled kitchen floor, toilet slab and two brick chimney bases.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The site in no way expresses any tangible association with the mine.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of south side of lipped concrete slab.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — New dam

Site/Feature number: 79

Location: 60 metres west of ablution block slab (site 71).

Site type: Water storage (dam).

History:

This dam was dug in 1960 as an additional town water supply after a drought dried up the existing dam during the previous decade⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This ovoid shaped earthen excavation measures 150 x 50 m in dimension. It is supplied with water from a pipe (following the original 1885 earthen water race) connected to a siphon (site 61). A concrete spillway, inscribed with the date '1960' and the makers names, discharges overflow water from the new dam into the original one below.

Interpretation:

Water storage facility for town water supply.

Statement of Significance:

This unremarkable dam site does not express any unusual or interesting characteristics. Its principal asset is its aesthetically pleasing setting.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of form concrete spillway linking the two dams.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Old dam

Site/Feature number: 80

Location: Immediately south of new dam (site 79).

Site type: Water storage (dam).

History:

This original dam was excavated in 1939 to supply the mine mill, after a severe drought halted ore production the previous year⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This 100 x 64 m dimension earthen dam is connected by a concrete spillway to the new dam. This dam also has a timber jetty/diving platform erected at its southeastern end. This was presumably erected for use by visiting school children.

Interpretation:

Mine water storage facility.

Statement of Significance:

Although part of the mine water supply infrastructure, the dam does not display any specific characteristics which highlight this linkage.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Westerly view showing diving platform.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Gelignite shed footings

Site/Feature number: 81

Location: 50 metres west of western end of new dam.

Site type: Mine explosives store (gelignite).

History:

A separate gelignite store shed was erected here in the 1960s. It had been removed by the mid 1970s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The site now consists of a set of twelve small concrete piers which formerly supported the building, which would have measured approximately 4 x 2.5 m in dimension. A ring of stones in the centre of the pier configuration is from a recent camp fire.

Interpretation:

1960s explosives store.

Statement of Significance:

Physically, the footings are in no way exceptional.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The routine protection of this site would be desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Westerly view of squat concrete piers formerly supporting gelignite store.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 9

Site/Feature number: 82

Location: 40 metres north of gellignite store footings (site 81).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

According to one source, a large split timber house was built here between 1910–1920, before its ultimate demolition in the 1940s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Remains on this site consist of:

- A 2 x 2.5 x 0.4 m high dry-stone chimney
- A surrounding 4 x 3 m dry-stone building foundations.
- Two cement blocks lying within the foundations.
- An adjacent 40 m squared clearing.

Interpretation:

Residential building site.

Statement of Significance:

This is the site of one of the original miners cottages at Storys Creek and the remains further reflect this.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner (n.d.), p. 55.

Photograph: View of remnant chimney butt.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 10

Site/Feature number: 83

Location: 40 metres north east of vacant allotment 9 (site 82).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

According to one source, a house with hand sawn weather boards was built here in the 1930s and subsequently demolished in the 1960s. Occupants included Mr Billy Williams, Messrs Syd and Ron Gaunt and their mother⁽¹⁾.

Description:

Remains at this site consist of:

- A set of six concrete piers and a set of front steps
- A 30 x 6 m pile of stones cleared off the building site prior to construction.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

Although well defined by the remaining footings, this house site does not reflect a mining origin.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The routine protection of this site would be desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 55.

Photograph: Northerly view of front steps and adjacent piers.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 11

Site/Feature number: 84

Location: 30 metres west of vacant allotment 10 (site 83).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

Nothing about the remains at this location are known. However, the age of the artefacts would tend to suggest that this feature is contemporaneous with another nearby dry-stone chimney site (site 82), which dates from between 1910 and 1940.

Description:

The remains at this site consist of:

- A fragment of concrete with the mould of ripple iron impressed upon it.
- An upright section of half inch water pipe embedded in the ground akin to an earthing rod.
- A surrounding scatter of ferrous artefacts such as steel fuel drums and sections of corrugated iron.

Interpretation:

Early/mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The remains at this site are very poorly preserved and now only serve as an indicator of the location of a former dwelling of some sort.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The routine protection of this site would be desirable.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known

Photograph: Rusting drum section littering the general vicinity of this feature.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — **Log landing**

Site/Feature number: 85

Location: Beside Stacks Bluff track.

Site type: Log loading facility (sawmilling).

History:

This feature was constructed in the 1950s as a ramp on which felled logs were rolled onto trucks for delivery to the Storys Creek sawmill.

Description:

The 7 x 7 x 1.5 m high road-side landing consists of a bed log and two parallel spar logs rebated into it and the gap between them packed with earth. There are also the remains of a brick chimney/camp site situated 15 metres west of the landing.

Interpretation:

Log loading ramp for 1950s sawmill operation.

Statement of Significance:

In the local Storys Creek context, this well preserved feature is the only surviving vestige of the Storys Creek sawmill/timber industry.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
- 3. Moderate**
2. Low
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References: None known

Photograph: Westerly view of landing showing two spars supported by bed log.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Road-side mullock dumps

Site/Feature number: 86

Location: Staggered along western side of Stacks Bluff road between log landing (site 85) and sports oval (site 87).

Site type: Mine waste dump (mullock).

History:

These mullock dumps were created in the 1960s when mine development was still occurring at the lower levels⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This site consists of assorted discrete piles of coarse mullock to two metres in height.

Interpretation:

Mullock removed via the main shaft.

Statement of Significance:

These dumps are extremely commonplace and recent examples of mine waste disposal.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of typical road side mullock dump.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Sports oval

Site/Feature number: 87

Location: North side of Stacks Bluff road.

Site type: Outdoor sports venue (cricket).

History:

The Storys Creek Cricket Club was founded in 1923 by Messrs Tom and Ted Stacey of Parattah. One source claims that: “They worked the area around Gipps Creek, sluicing for tin and wolfram. Having recovered five bags of minerals they went to Storys Creek to see Joseph Miller to ask if he would separate the metals. Miller refused and so the Staceys donated the bags for the clearing of the oval”⁽¹⁾. Evidently the club closed down during the worst of the depression before re-opening in c.1932. It survived until the 1970s.

Description:

The 70 m diameter oval is cleared and grassed. It boasts several additional amenities including a concrete cricket pitch, and an assortment of treated pine playground fixtures.

Interpretation:

Cricket oval.

Statement of Significance:

Large and well preserved vestige of Storys Creek community.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 32.

Photograph: Westerly view of cricket pitch.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 12

Site/Feature number: 88

Location: Directly opposite/west of Storys Creek school buildings.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

The house on this site was built by Mr Edwin Hayes in 1926⁽¹⁾. An adjacent timber shed was built subsequently in the 1940s. The house was burnt down by arsonists in 1986⁽²⁾. A stables building was subsequently erected here for school riders using remains salvaged from the fire.

Description:

This 30 x 35 m allotment contains:

- A three sided stand of mature *Macrocarpa* pine trees
- A 15 m long corrugated iron stables building
- A sawn timber hut with chimney.

Interpretation:

Early/mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The well preserved tree stand and timber hut relate to the earliest 1920s settlement here.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 60.
2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of stables building and hut beneath pines.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Storys Creek school

Site/Feature number: 89

Location: Immediately east of *Macrocarpa* stand (site 88).

Site type: Educational facility (school).

History:

The original classroom was erected here in 1936. One source remembered that: “By the 40s the school population at Storys Creek had increased to about thirty. The school was still housed in a single room heated by two fire places, with a porch and two earth closets situated at the rear of the building. This was a standard design for one-teacher country schools in Tasmania and many examples existed”⁽¹⁾. Further additions were made during two building programs undertaken in the 1940s and 1950s. Further out buildings such as the toilet block were added in the 1970s. Another classroom built in the 1960s was burnt down accidentally in 2000⁽²⁾.

Description:

Features within this fenced compound include:

- The cement footings of the recently burnt down class room
- The intact but extensively altered timber main school room
- An ablutions block.
- A shower block
- An asphalt basketball court.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century school grounds and buildings.

Statement of Significance:

The original school building has been unsympathetically and extensively altered. The more recent out-buildings are of minimal significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 44.
2. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph:

View of main school room and adjacent ablutions block.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Mess house

Site/Feature number: 90

Location: 40 metres southwest of school site.

Site type: Kitchen building (mess).

History:

This structure is said to have been built in the 1950s⁽¹⁾, although some elements would appear to be older.

Description:

The mess precinct contains:

- A weatherboard and fibro cement mess building with a gabled corrugated iron roof
- An adjacent museum building formerly used as the single mans recreation room (site 95)
- A newly built 'bushmans hut'
- A detached work shed and laundry.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century mine mess complex.

Statement of Significance:

Only the mess building itself has any intrinsic heritage significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

Maintenance of mess building as required by relevant agency (Education Department?).

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Front facade of Mess building.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 13

Site/Feature number: 91

Location: This site is situated 40 metres southeast of the school next to site 88.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

This house was built in the 1930s and subsequently occupied by Mrs Turner, who became the cook at the single mens mess hall. When she left in the mid 1980s after the final closure of the mine, the house was used briefly as a holiday shack before its sale and removal to St Marys⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This site was formerly occupied by a weatherboard house. The site now consists of a fenced allotment containing:

- Large numbers of wild lupins
- Concrete house footings
- A number of resident willow trees

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The remains at this site are very poorly preserved and now only serve as an indicator of the location of a former dwelling.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View showing concrete foundation rubble and non native trees in background.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant housing precinct

Site/Feature number: 92

Location: Southern end of Storys Creek settlement.

Site type: Vacant allotments (residential).

History:

This large residential precinct may have originally accommodated some early miners camps when the first underground mine was established in 1914/16. These early camps were subsequently removed by the Storeys Creek Mining Company when the firm built its own staff housing here in the 1940s. Most of these company-built houses were pulled down in 1979. The remainder were auctioned and then removed after mine closure in the early 1980s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This 400 x 300 m wide clearing contains bulldozed remains of cement footings, paths, driveways and non-native vegetation such as lupins and pine trees.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century housing precinct.

Statement of Significance:

The scant remains have no remaining intrinsic heritage significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Roadside lupins and vacant allotments beyond.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 14

Site/Feature number: 93

Location: 50 metres east of museum building (site 90).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

One source states that this site served as a miners camp and subsequent house site for the Page family from Beaconsfield between the 1920s and the 1940s when it was removed by the mining company⁽¹⁾. The site subsequently housed a number of buildings comprising the company-built single men's camp.

Description:

The site contains the remains of a timber cart frame, axle and springs adjacent to a linear sequence of stones.

Interpretation:

Early/mid 20th century miners camp and single mans quarters.

Statement of Significance:

The timber cart is an increasingly unusual portable artefact from the early mining period.

Significance assessment (Local):

5. Very High
4. High
3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
1. None
0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The cart should be protected from any impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 57.

Photograph: View of cart remains under white gum.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Single mans ablution block site

Site/Feature number: 94

Location: 30 metres east of school allotment.

Site type: Miners camp facility (ablutions).

History:

This structure was erected in the 1950s and burnt down in 1983⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The 7 x 9 m wide concrete slab contains the remains of six toilet bases, six shower bays, a hot water cylinder base and a set of cement steps.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century miners ablutions facility.

Statement of Significance:

This footing is a poorly preserved, unremarkable and relatively recent part of the camp.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of concrete slab and related brick rubble.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Recreation room site

Site/Feature number: 95

Location: Five metres north of Ablutions block site (site 94).

Site type: Miners camp facility (recreational).

History:

This building was erected in the 1960s after the previous single mans recreation room located beside the mess hall proved too small. This second mess building was subsequently removed to stand beside the mess hall in c.1990⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This former building is evidenced by a 9 x 6 m concrete slab with attached linoleum tiles and a front door step.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century miners recreational facility.

Statement of Significance:

This footing is a poorly preserved, unremarkable and a relatively recent part of the camp.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of resident slab and linoleum tile flooring.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Electrician's house?

Site/Feature number: 96

Location: 20 metres north of recreation room slab (site 95).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

Details regarding this structure are unknown. However, an electrician is known to have lived in the immediate vicinity of this location between the 1950s and 1960s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This site consists of a 4 x 3 m concrete skirt/slab comprising the front doorway and side wall footings of a house.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

This common and recently made feature has very limited significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Southerly view of slab.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Tennis court

Site/Feature number: 97

Location: 30 metres northwest of school compound (site 89).

Site type: Outdoor sports venue (tennis).

History:

This venue was probably built in the mid to late 1950s, by which time the Storys Creek Tennis Club had been formed⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This site consists of a prepared and marked out tennis court in a fenced enclosure. The court surface is comprised of cement render sprayed over a 200 mm thick foundation layer of jig tailings. Service lines have been painted on, and some are still evident. A timber retaining wall has been built along the road side of the court to prevent its slippage.

Interpretation:

Tennis court.

Statement of Significance:

This relatively recent feature was not a major part of the community's social fabric.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Roadside view of court surface.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Vacant allotment 15

Site/Feature number: 98

Location: Immediately north of creek opposite teachers house (site 99).

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

A house was built on this site in the late 1950s/early 1960s. Used as a staff house for company personnel, the building was auctioned and removed to Avoca in 1982 after the mines closure⁽¹⁾.

Description:

On site remains are limited to a 50 m long line of willow trees along both side of the creek and several remnant cement slab sections from a house footing.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century house site.

Statement of Significance:

The scant remains have no remaining intrinsic heritage significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low
- 1. None**
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of creek-side willows.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Teachers house

Site/Feature number: 99

Location: Opposite tennis court (site 97).

Site type: House (unoccupied).

History:

This house was erected in 1965 as accommodation for contract teachers working at the Storys Creek school⁽¹⁾.

Description:

This structure is an intact but vacant weatherboard two bedroom house on brick footings.

Interpretation:

Mid 20th century house.

Statement of Significance:

This recent spec. house has as yet little intrinsic heritage significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate
- 2. Low**
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

None made.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: Front aspect of teachers house.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Elevated water pipe

Site/Feature number: 100

Location: In the creek 30 metres northeast of teachers house (site 99).

Site type: Water conveyance (pipeline).

History:

This pipeline was built in 1939 to convey water from the old dam (site 80) to the original mill (site 09). It became disused when the original mill was closed down after 1958⁽¹⁾.

Description:

The feature consists of two sections of 2 x 1.5 m high timber trestling erected in a dry creek bed to support a pipeline crossing.

Interpretation:

Water pipeline to original mill.

Statement of Significance:

This feature comprises part of the original mine water supply system.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This feature should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View showing two sets of creek-bound trestling.



STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Red Face hut sites

Site/Feature number: 101

Location: Below Storys Creek road south of Storys Creek bridge.

Site type: Vacant allotment (residential).

History:

Six single mens huts were erected along this slope (historically known as the Red Face) in 1916/17. One source remembers that they were demolished in the 1950s when the single mens camp was moved to a new company built camp at the southern end of town (site 93).

Description:

This site consists of a dry-stone chimney and at least two adjacent earthen cuttings dug to accommodate buildings on the resident sloping ground.

Interpretation:

Early 20th century miners camp.

Statement of Significance:

As the earliest and best known miners camp dating from the underground mine period, these remains have reasonable significance.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

This site should be protected from all impacts.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Kilner, (n.d.), p. 58.

Photograph: View of chimney butt.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

Date: 1/6/2000

STORYS CREEK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY — Old Storys Creek road

Site/Feature number: I02

Location: Between Red Face hut sites and current Storys Creek road.

Site type: Vehicle road (unsealed).

History:

The original Storys Creek road was laid in the late 1920s. It was finally replaced with a new bitumen road immediately to the north in the 1960s⁽¹⁾.

Description:

A number of features relate to this former roadway in addition to the track itself. These include:

- A road-side cutting to two metres
- Two sections of stacked stone retaining wall on the southern/down side of the road measuring 15 and 5 m in length respectively.

Interpretation:

Early 20th century access track.

Statement of Significance:

This well preserved site is the original roadway to the underground mine workings.

Significance assessment (Local):

- 5. Very High
- 4. High
- 3. Moderate**
- 2. Low
- 1. None
- 0. Detracts

Recommendations:

The stone walling should be protected from all developments.

Level of recording:

This inspection and site record is deemed adequate.

References:

- 1. Volker Hahl, pers. comm.

Photograph: View of eastern most section of retaining wall.



Recorded by: P. Kostoglou

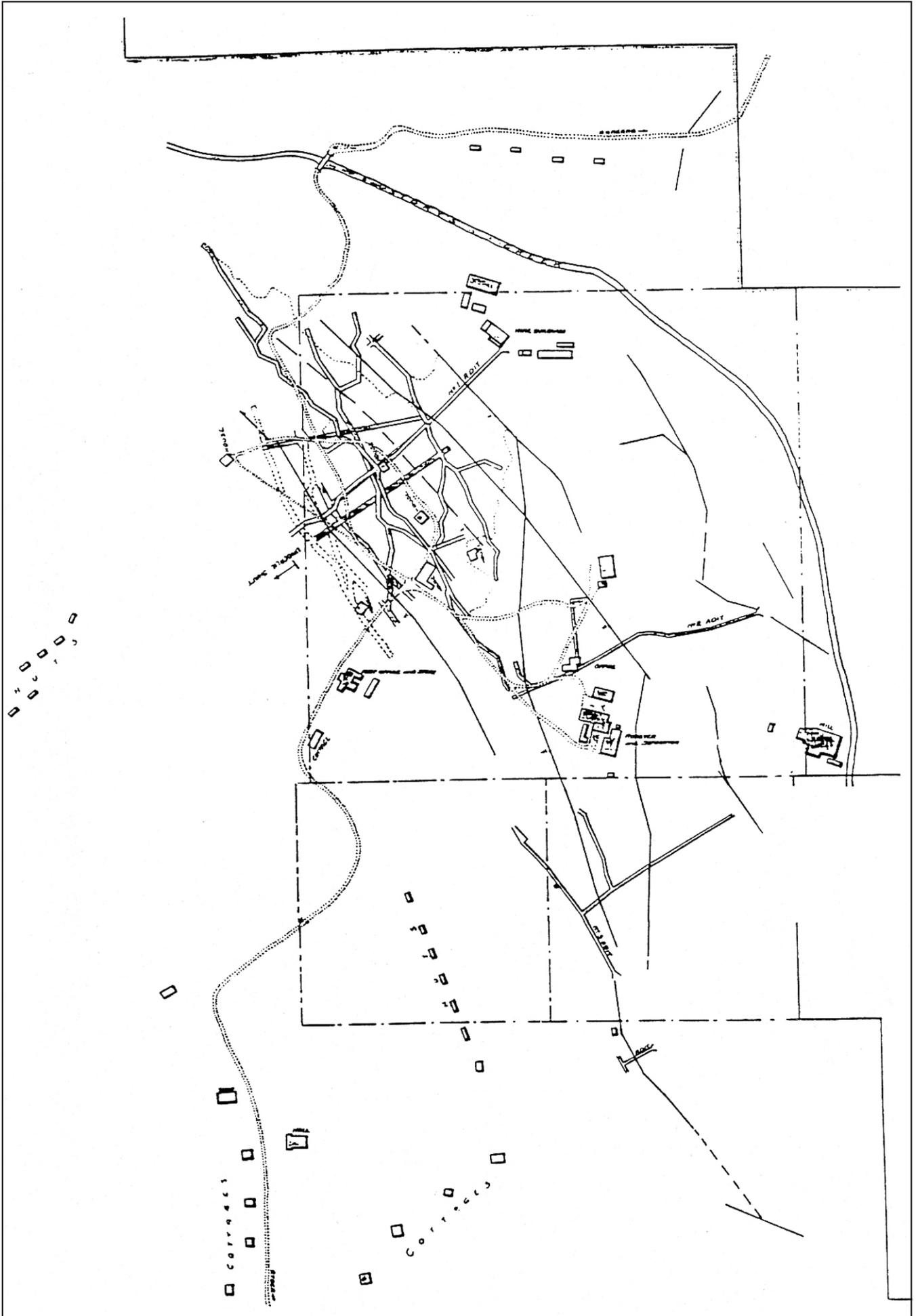
Date: 1/6/2000

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APPENDIX I

Historic maps and plans



Appendix Plate I. Storrs Creek mine site, 1930

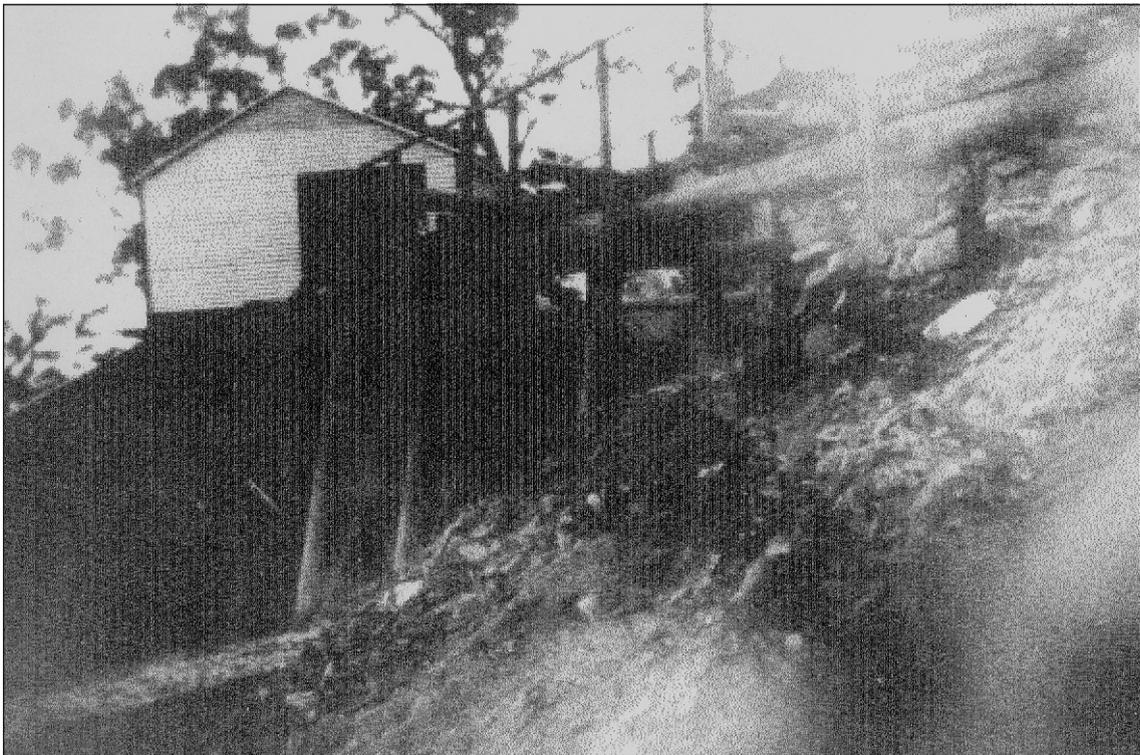
APPENDIX 2

Historic photographs



Appendix Plate 2

*1931 view of original mill from opposite side of creek.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 3

*Undated view of tramlane entering crushing shed above original mill.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 4

*Undated uphill view of mill from creek.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



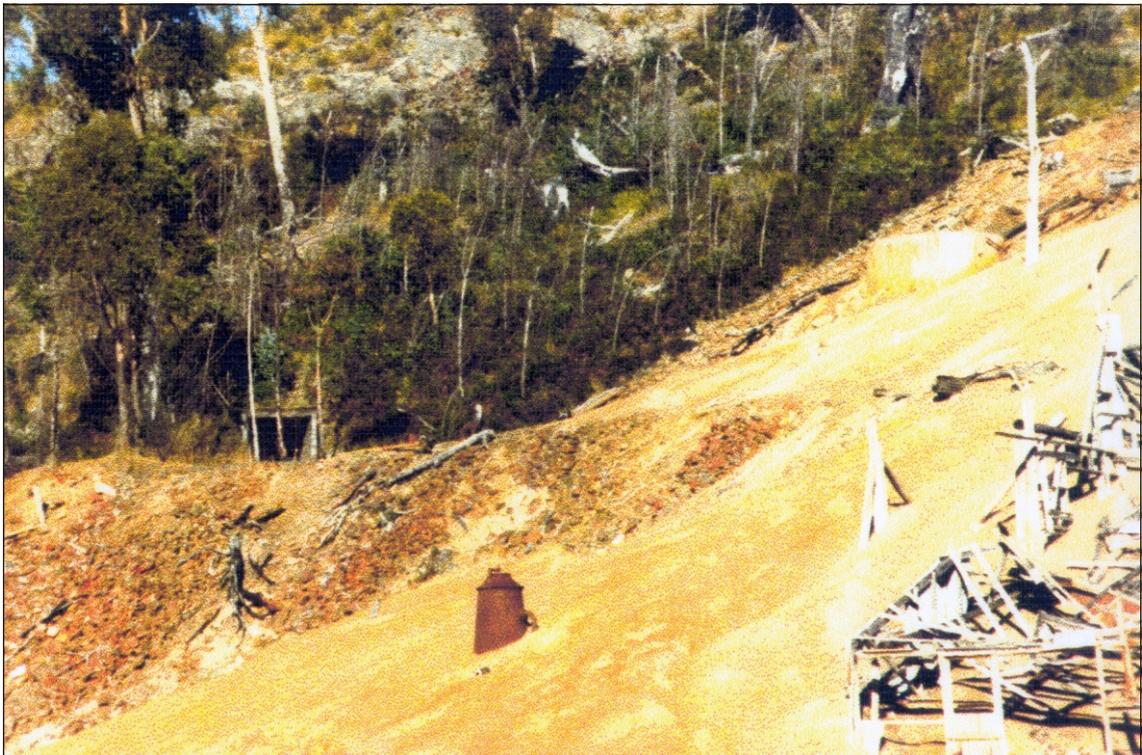
Appendix Plate 5

*Remains of the original mill, c. 1980.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



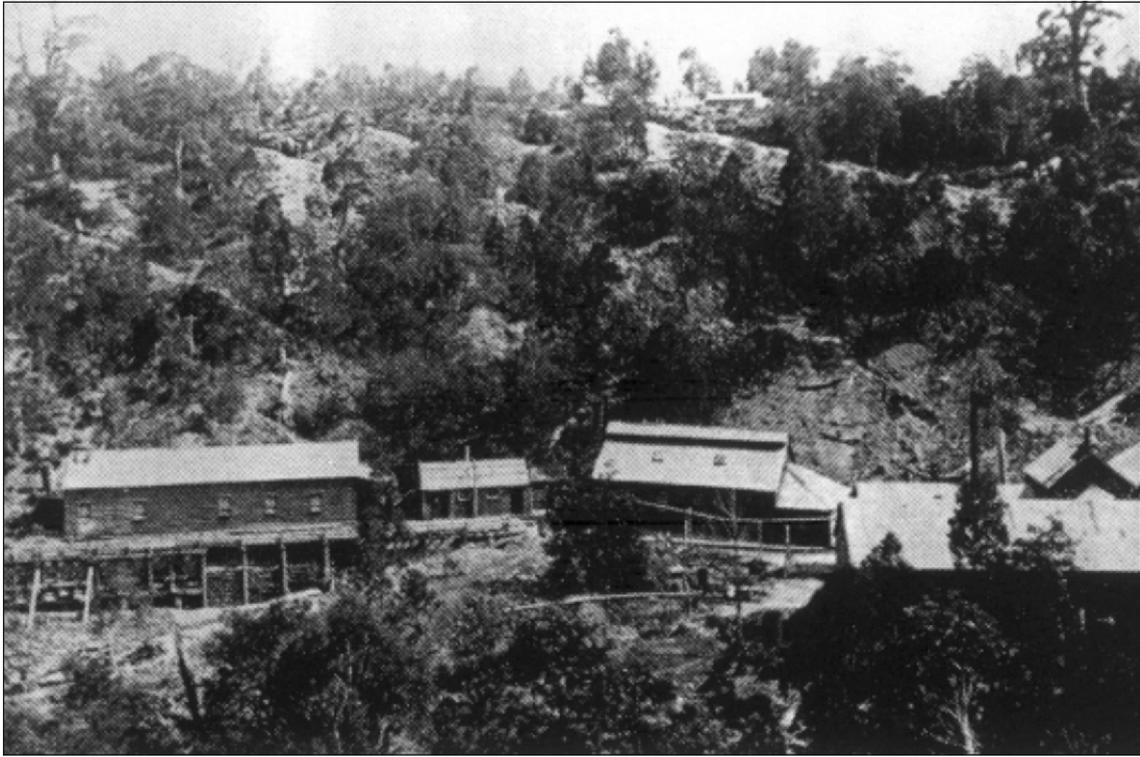
Appendix Plate 6

*Southerly view of original mill, 1970s.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 7

*View of Number 3 adit, gas producer, water tank and original mill section in 1970s.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 8

*Westerly view of main mine yard (No. 1 adit) buildings in the early 1920s.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



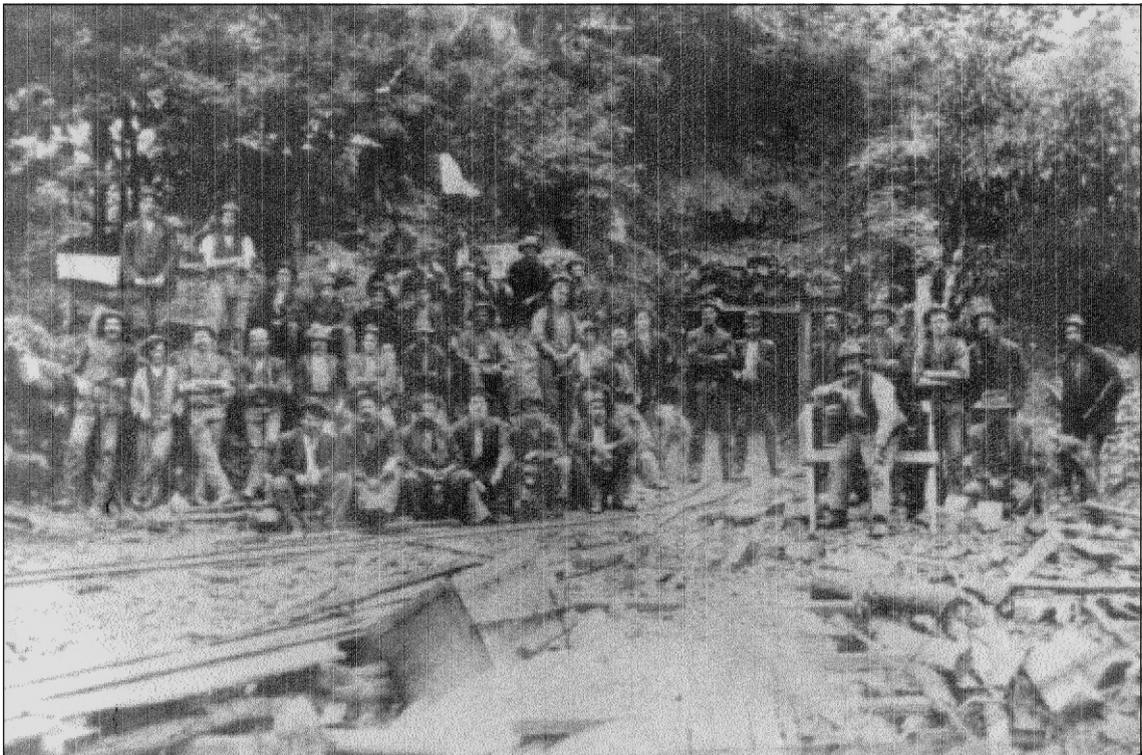
Appendix Plate 9

*Detail of buildings around main number 1 adit in mine yard in 1931. Change house at left, shift boss' office centre and blacksmith's shop at right. Note steps leading up the bank in rear centre.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 8

*Workers outside workshop in front of No.1 adit, mid-1940s.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



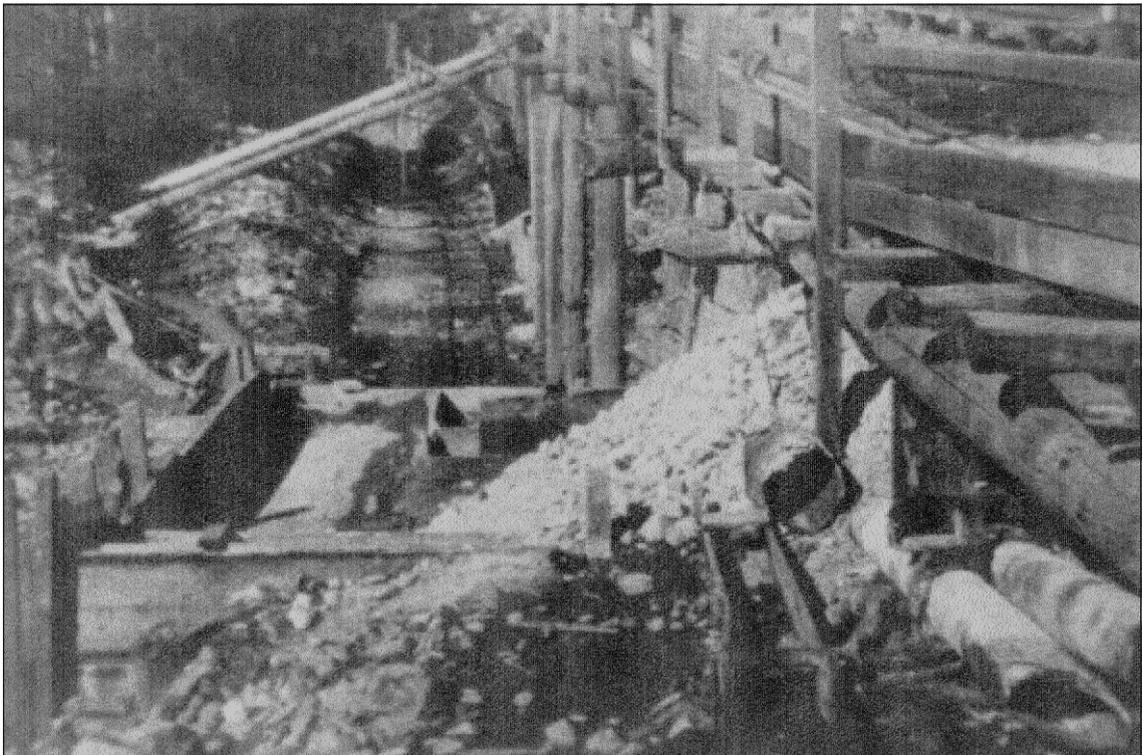
Appendix Plate 11

*Workers outside No.1 adit in c.1915.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 12

*Abandoned No. 1 adit in the 1970s.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



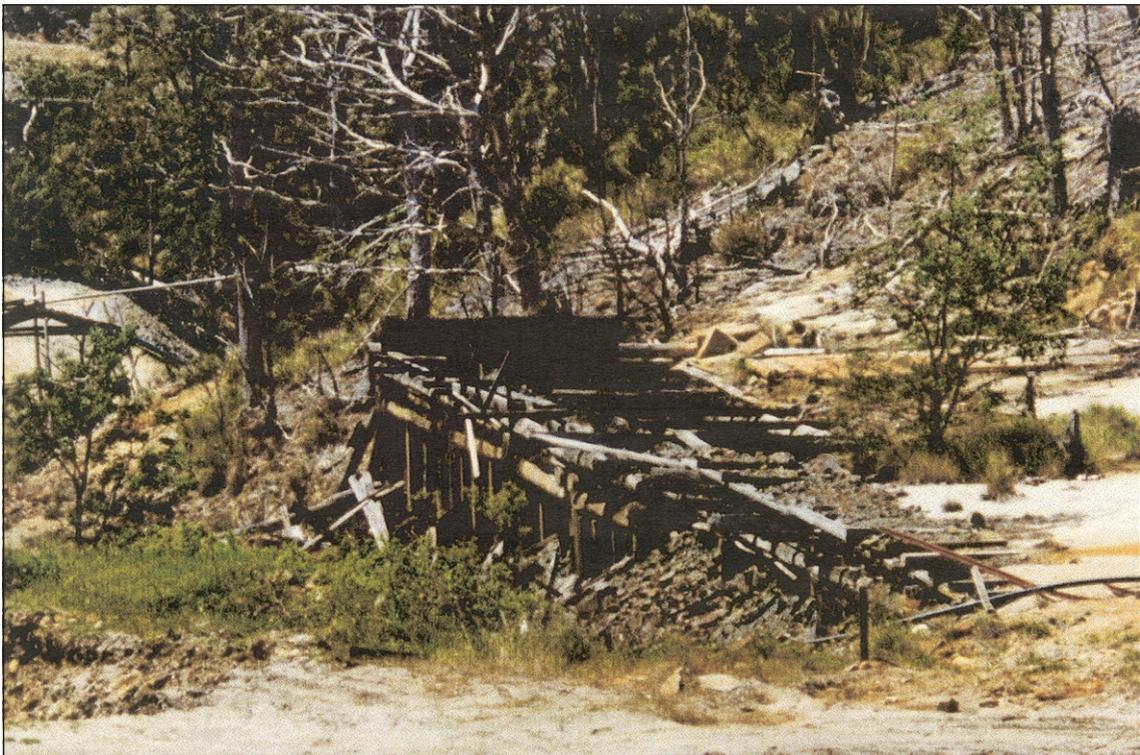
Appendix Plate 13

*Ore bin and adjacent tram terminus outside No. 1 adit.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



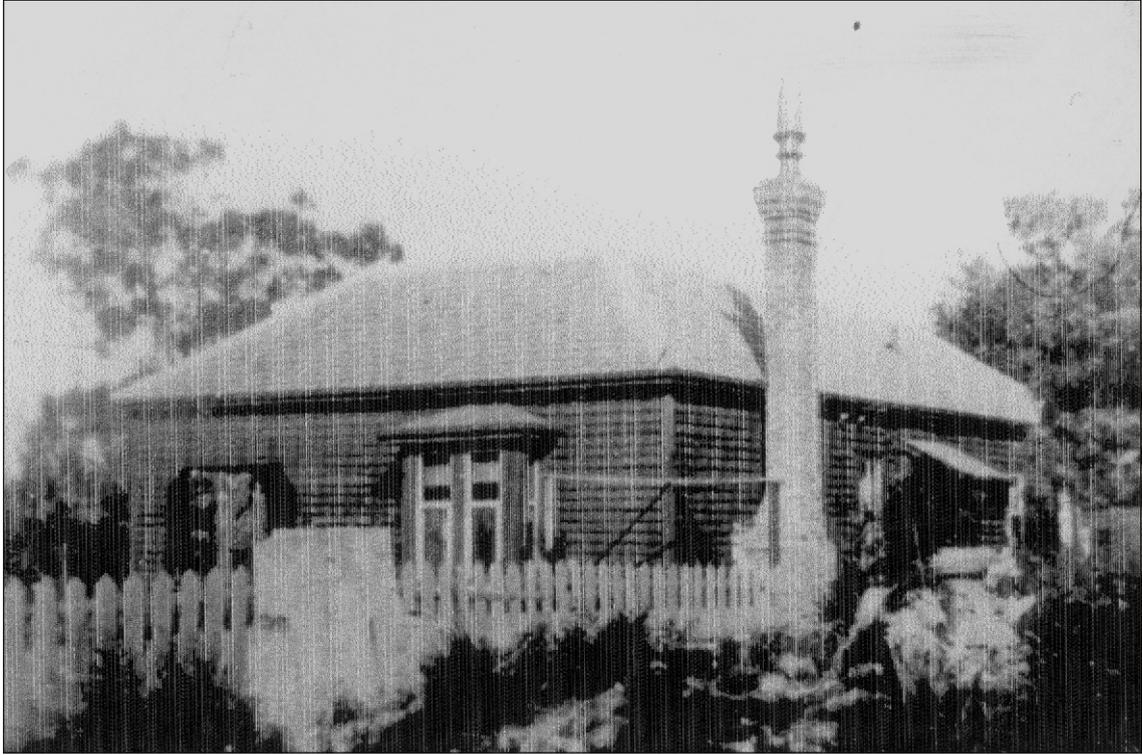
Appendix Plate 14

*Detail view of ore bin and adjacent change house in the mid 1950.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 15

*Remains of ore bins in 1977 prior to their destruction by bushfire.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 16

*Undated view of original managers house.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 17

*Undated view of main street at main company-built housing precinct.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



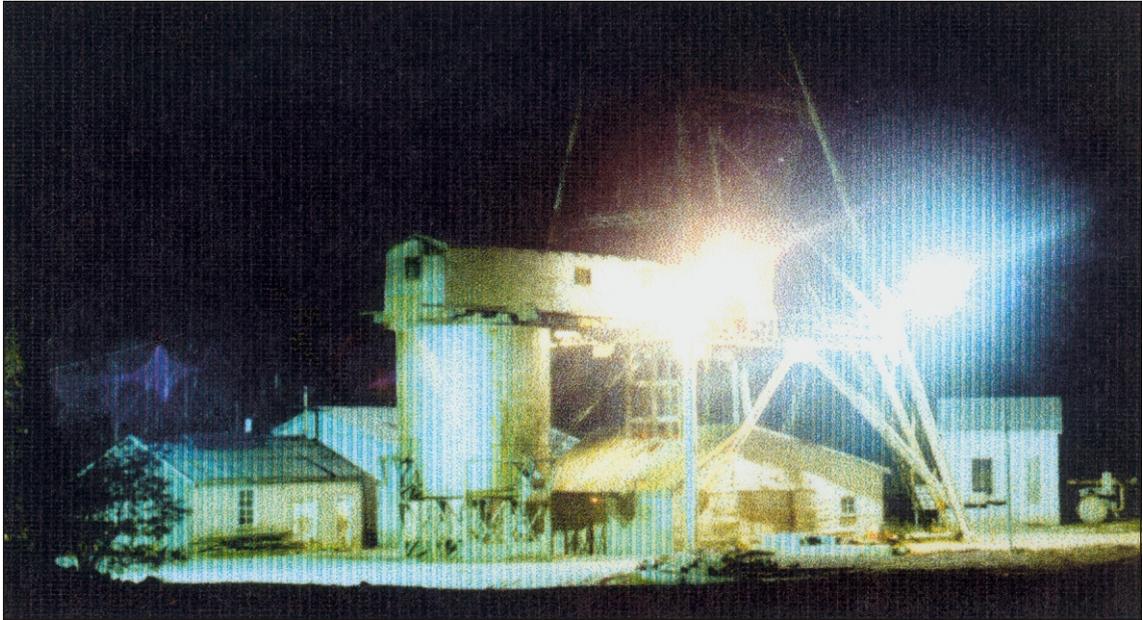
Appendix Plate 18

*Undated colour view of main street.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



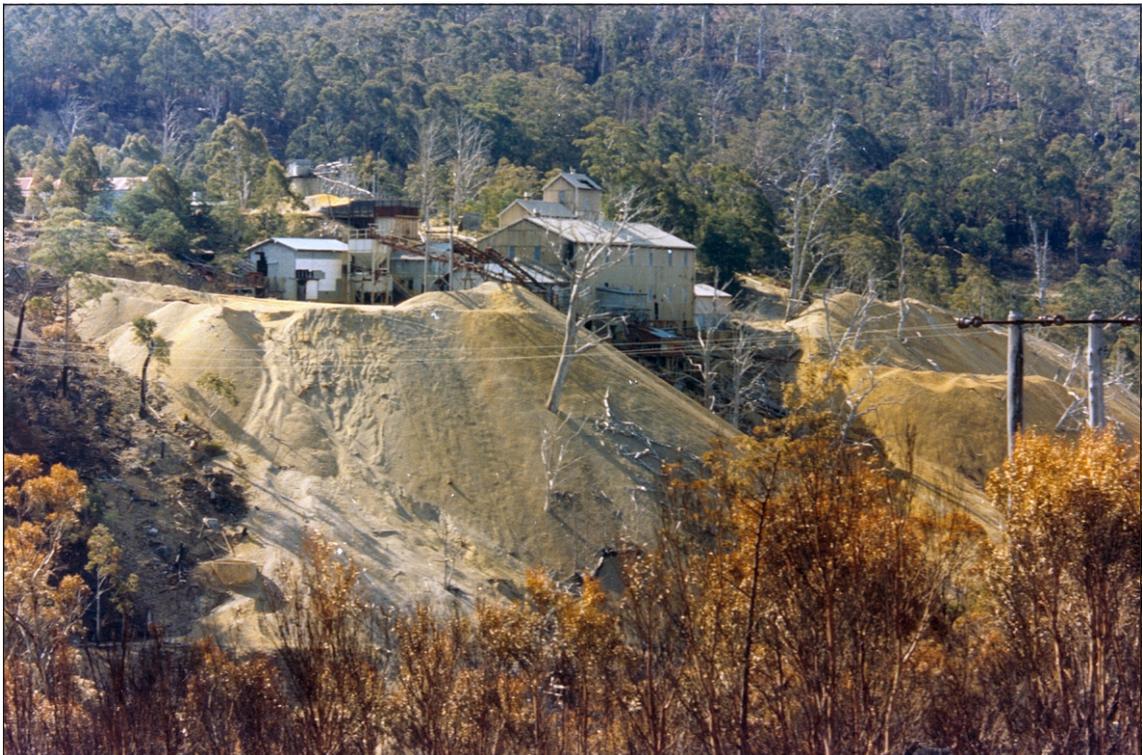
Appendix Plate 19

*1970s view of head frame, ore bin and adjacent office buildings, main shaft.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 20

Night view of main shaft head frame, ore bin and adjacent buildings including repair shop and shift boss' office. [Courtesy Volker Hah]



Appendix Plate 21

1970s view of second mill precinct and jig tailings dump. [Courtesy Volker Hah]



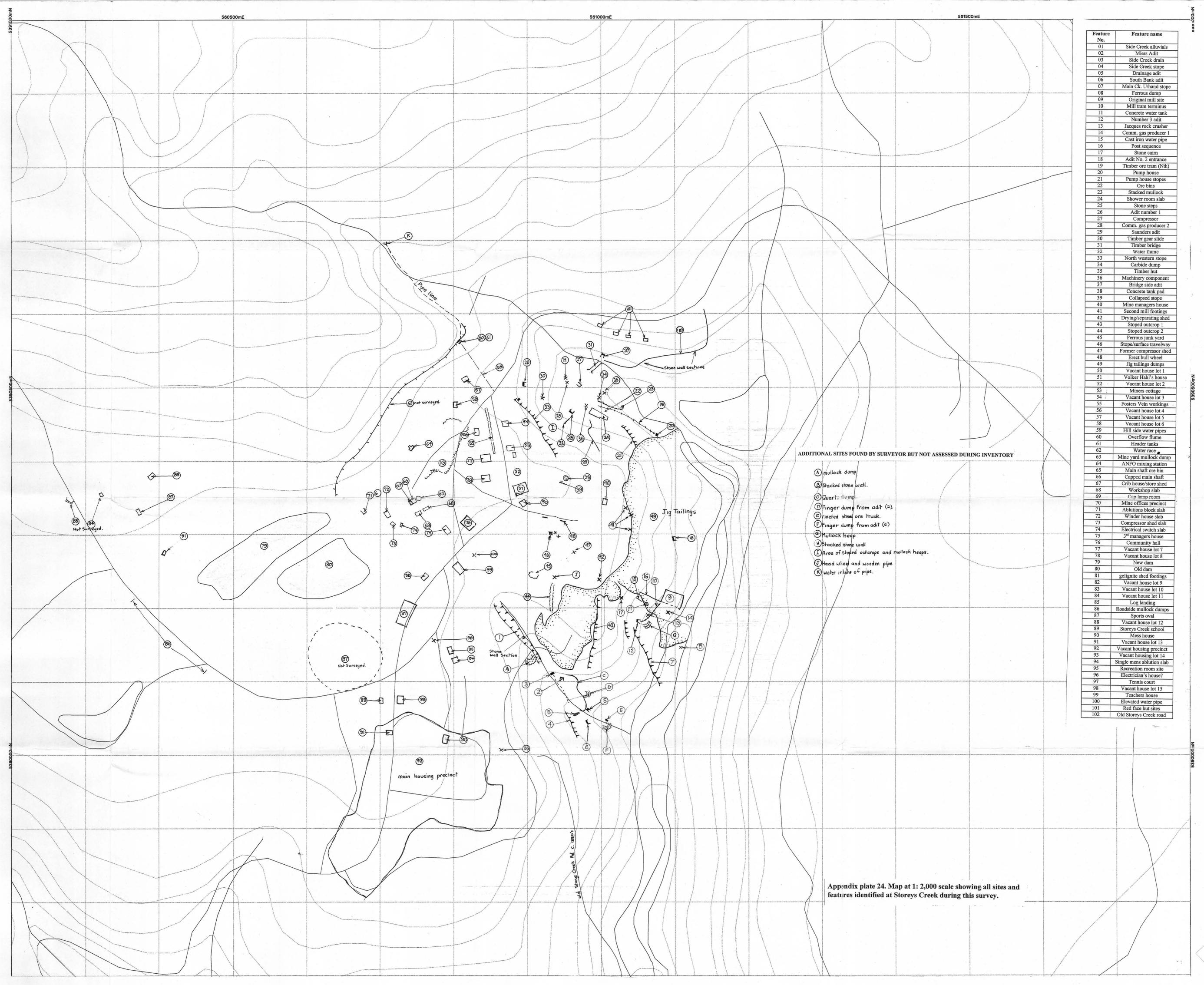
Appendix Plate 22

*Close up view of second mill shed and jig tailings
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Appendix Plate 23

*Interior view of second mill c.1977.
[Courtesy Volker Hahl]*



Feature No.	Feature name
01	Side Creek alluvials
02	Miers Adit
03	Side Creek drain
04	Side Creek stope
05	Drainage adit
06	South Bank adit
07	Main Ck. U/hand stope
08	Ferrous dump
09	Original mill site
10	Mill tram terminus
11	Concrete water tank
12	Number 3 adit
13	Jacques rock crusher
14	Comm. gas producer 1
15	Cast iron water pipe
16	Post sequence
17	Stone cairn
18	Adit No. 2 entrance
19	Timber ore tram (Nth)
20	Pump house
21	Pump house stopes
22	Ore bins
23	Stacked mullock
24	Shower room slab
25	Stone steps
26	Adit number 1
27	Compressor
28	Comm. gas producer 2
29	Saunders adit
30	Timber gear slide
31	Timber bridge
32	Water flume
33	North western stope
34	Carbide dump
35	Timber hut
36	Machinery component
37	Bridge side adit
38	Concrete tank pad
39	Collapsed stope
40	Mine managers house
41	Second mill footings
42	Drying/separating shed
43	Stoped outcrop 1
44	Stoped outcrop 2
45	Ferrous junk yard
46	Stope/surface travelway
47	Former compressor shed
48	Erect bull wheel
49	Jig tailings dumps
50	Vacant house lot 1
51	Volker Hahl's house
52	Vacant house lot 2
53	Miners cottage
54	Vacant house lot 3
55	Fosters Vein workings
56	Vacant house lot 4
57	Vacant house lot 5
58	Vacant house lot 6
59	Hill side water pipes
60	Overflow flume
61	Header tanks
62	Water race
63	Mine yard mullock dump
64	ANFO mixing station
65	Main shaft ore bin
66	Capped main shaft
67	Crib house/store shed
68	Workshop slab
69	Cap lamp room
70	Mine offices precinct
71	Ablutions block slab
72	Winder house slab
73	Compressor shed slab
74	Electrical switch slab
75	3 rd managers house
76	Community hall
77	Vacant house lot 7
78	Vacant house lot 8
79	New dam
80	Old dam
81	gellignite shed footings
82	Vacant house lot 9
83	Vacant house lot 10
84	Vacant house lot 11
85	Log landing
86	Roadside mullock dumps
87	Sports oval
88	Vacant house lot 12
89	Storeys Creek school
90	Mess house
91	Vacant house lot 13
92	Vacant housing precinct
93	Vacant housing lot 14
94	Single mens ablution slab
95	Recreation room site
96	Electrician's house?
97	Tennis court
98	Vacant house lot 15
99	Teachers house
100	Elevated water pipe
101	Red face hut sites
102	Old Storeys Creek road

ADDITIONAL SITES FOUND BY SURVEYOR BUT NOT ASSESSED DURING INVENTORY

- (A) mullock dump
- (B) Stacked stone wall.
- (C) Quartz dump.
- (D) Finger dump from adit (a)
- (E) riveted steel ore truck.
- (F) Finger dump from adit (c)
- (G) Mullock heap
- (H) Stacked stone wall
- (I) Area of stoped outcrops and mullock heaps.
- (J) Head wheel and wooden pipe
- (K) water intake of pipe.

Appendix plate 24. Map at 1: 2,000 scale showing all sites and features identified at Storeys Creek during this survey.