

# City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

## MARONG DEEP LEAD MINE

### Other Names

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

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

Victorian Heritage Register No

National Estate Register No

Planning Scheme No



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

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

**Thematic Context** Mining

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

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

**Level of Significance** Regional

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

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

- References**
1. J. Flett, "The history of gold discovery in Victoria." Melbourne, Hawthorn Press, 1979, 495pp.
  2. "Mining intelligence. Mining at Marong." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 21 October 1867, p3, col.1.
  3. "Mining intelligence. New ground at Bullock Creek." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 5 September 1868.
  4. "Mining intelligence. The Bullock Creek diggings." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 11 September 1868, p2, col.1.
  5. "Mining intelligence. New lead at the Bullock Creek diggings." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 12 September 1868.
  6. The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette.
  7. "Mining intelligence. Bullock Creek." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 2 December 1868, p2, col.1.
  8. "The Bullock Creek diggings." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 30 December 1868, p2, col.1.
  9. "Mining intelligence. Deep leads in the Bullock Creek district." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 19 July 1869, p2, col.5.
  10. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
  11. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
  12. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Eaglehawk division.
  13. "Mining intelligence. Marong mining." From our own Correspondent, Tuesday, 31 December 1889; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 2 January 1890, p3, col.2.
  14. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 14 October 1895, p4, col.2.
  15. The Bendigo Advertiser, 5 January 1897.
  16. "Our mines." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 25 December 1897, p5, col.3.
  17. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 25 April 1898, p4, col.1.
  18. Goldfields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the quarter.
  19. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 31 October 1898, p4, col.1.
  20. "Mining intelligence." Marong, 28 November; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 29 November 1898, p4, col.1.
  21. "Mining intelligence." Marong, 10 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 12 July 1899, p5, col.1.
  22. "Our mines." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 1 January 1900, p3, col.6.
  23. The Bendigo Advertiser, 19 February 1910.
  24. "List of nuggets found in Victoria." Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Victoria, no.12, Department of Mines, Victoria, 1912.
  25. Reports by Henry Y North Legal Manager, compiled by H E Wilkinson, August 1989.
  26. Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines and Water Supply, Victoria.
  27. "Mining intelligence. Shamrock Gully rush." Marong, 21 May; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 22 May 1907, p2, col.3.
  28. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 22 May 1907, p2, col.3.
  29. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 5 November 1907, p2, col.4.
  30. Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines, Victoria.

31. "Mining notes." The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 15 September 1932, p2, col.3.
32. Department of Mines, Victoria. Annual Report including gold and mineral statistics for the year.
33. "The Marong alluvial mines." Australian Mining Standard, 9, 1985, 547.
34. "The Marong goldfield." Australian Mining Standard, 13, 1898, 2853.

## Notes

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

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

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

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

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

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

12.09.1868 □ In reference to the discovery of a new lead in the paddock of Messrs Wood and Carter at Bullock Creek, reported in the Advertiser of Friday, Mr Hart, the mining surveyor, has forwarded a report to the Government, in which he states that the new lead is of the same nature as the Epsom and

Huntly lead. The prospectors, who are experienced miners, sank their shaft to a depth of 114 feet to a dry bottom, and found washdirt varying in thickness from 4 inches to a foot. It consisted of a brown gravel, intermixed with mud. 23 loads have been tried, with an average yield of 8dwt per load. The gold is very rough. [5]

□09.1868□A considerable number of miners are profitably employed at the Marong and Leichardt diggings, where the sinking is deep - 100 feet and upwards. At the Whipstick the sinking is from 2 to 14 feet. [10.19-20]  
10.□10.1868□Bullock Creek, Bendigo - very quiet here. The only tangible ground now looked to is Wood and Carter's land, private property, where 50 feet allotments are being let. No doubt there is a lead, but depth of sinking (112 feet) is a great drawback in such small allotments. A company has been formed to prospect ground west of private property, on the flat. Want of water was severely felt until fall of late rains. [6.93]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

□09.1872□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]

- 12.1872□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1873□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1873□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1873□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1873□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- In the west, there has been a revival on the Sunday Morning Reef at Marong,  
... [10.30-31]

- 03.1874□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1874□Marong and Bullock Creek: 130 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1874□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1874□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1875□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1875□Marong and Bullock Creek: 130 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1875□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1875□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1876□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1876□Marong and Bullock Creek: 130 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1876□Marong and Bullock Creek: 120 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1876□Marong and Bullock Creek: 90 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1877□Marong and Bullock Creek: 80 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1877□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1877□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]

Several prospecting claims in alluvial have been taken up in different parts of the district, but the only one of importance is that at Wilson's Hill, Marong, where a considerable number of men are at work, and they appear to be quite satisfied from the results of a few claims bottomed that they have struck a good lead; the sinking is about 130 feet. [10]

- 12.1877□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1878□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1878□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1878□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1878□Marong and Bullock Creek: 150 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1879□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1879□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1879□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1879□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1880□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1880□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1880□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1880□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1881□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1881□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1881□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1881□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1882□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1882□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1882□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1882□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1883□Marong and Bullock Creek: 140 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1883□Marong and Bullock Creek: 80 miners at work. [11]
- 09.1883□Marong and Bullock Creek: 90 miners at work. [11]
- 12.1883□Marong and Bullock Creek: 80 miners at work. [11]
- 03.1884□Marong and Bullock Creek: 80 miners at work. [11]
- 06.1884□Marong and Bullock Creek: 70 miners at work. [18]
- 09.1884□Marong: 60 miners at work. [18]
- 12.1884□Marong: 40 miners at work. [18]
- 03.1885□Marong: 40 miners at work. [18]
- 06.1885□Marong: 40 miners at work. [18]
- 09.1885□Marong: 40 miners at work. [18]
- 12.1885□Marong: 40 miners at work. [18]
- 03.1886□Marong: 60 miners at work. [18]

□06.1886□Marong: 50 miners at work. [18]  
 □09.1886□Marong: 55 miners at work. [18]  
 □12.1886□Marong: 50 miners at work. [18]  
 □03.1887□Marong: 42 miners at work. [18]  
 □06.1887□Marong: 40 miners at work. [18]  
 □09.1887□Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]  
 □12.1887□Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]  
 □03.1888□Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]  
 □06.1888□Marong: 35 miners at work. [18]  
 □09.1888□Marong: 170 miners at work. [18]  
 □12.1888□Marong: 175 miners at work. [18]  
 □12.1888□At Marong, a fair amount of gold is being obtained from the alluvial ground. [12.21]  
 □03.1889□Marong: 200 miners at work. [18]  
 □03.1889□The Marong alluvial rush, party of which is in this division, has yielded a fair quantity of gold, and a second rush of a promising nature has taken place in the same locality. [12.18]  
 □06.1889□Marong: 150 miners at work. [18]  
 □06.1889□The two alluvial rushes, which recently took place at Marong, have up to the present time been the means of giving employment to a large number of men, most of whom are obtaining good wages. [12.17]  
 □09.1889□Marong: 150 miners at work. [18]  
 □12.1889□Marong: 150 miners at work. [18]  
 □02.01.1890□At the close of the old year there are some slight signs of improvement in two or three of our local claims. Cleary and Howard have about 70 loads of washdirt on the surface, and the prospect promises at least good mining wages. They have a wide face of wash to work upon, and as the ground is easy to break, 4dwt per load is not to be scorned. They intend puddling when their paddock contains 100 loads. Quilligan and Duncan junior are raising a large lot which will doubtless afford a handsome return. The heaviest was in this particular and peculiar claim in the heaviest charged with gold. Miller and M'Evoy had applied for permission to work under the road on this line. Anderson and Stewart have had two millfulls puddled, which yielded an average 3dwt 12 grains per load, a result which proved moderately payable. Greenaway and Sons have finished 32 loads for a similar result. Lovie and Billing are again raising a large paddock which is believed to be remunerative. Harley and mate will soon be puddling, and would have done so before Christmas, but for one part of their claim the wash has so far been unremunerative and many loads have been stowed away below as mullock. [13]  
 □13.04.1895□The run being worked so profitably in Carter's claim in the Yorkshire property, and at Wright and Sons', is generally believed to be distinct from that upon which the prospectors, Lovie and J. G. Carter junior, have been so long and profitably working, and it is next door to a certainty that the latter will find this between the ground in which they are now engaged and their eastern pegs. From the company's claim to the north of Wilson's Hill, 32 loads of auriferous wash stone has been cleaned off at the Catherine Company's batteries for the satisfactory return of 20ozs. This is a great improvement. Their dirt is all for the stampers. I have just heard that Osterfield, Gardner and Winzer gave cleaned off a lot of their peculiar wash at the Catherine Company's batteries for the excellent yield of nearly an ounce to the load. ...[\*\*\*]  
 14.10.1895□Marong mines disclose encouraging prospects. [14]  
 □ 1895□Marong- Bullock Creek. There was a new discovery and rush to Fletcher's Creek in 1877, and a number of deep leads were discovered near Wilson's Hill, in the 1890s. Bohillman's Lead was worked there in 1895, Lovie's was re-discovered. The State School Lead was discovered by Duncan and Greenway in 1900. The Racecourse and Greenway's Leads were also opened about this time. About £60,000 worth of gold was taken from the Marong Deep Lead in the period 1901-03. [1.252]  
 04.01.1897□Marong, 4th January - ...A small trial lot has been submitted from the claim in the deep alluvial to the west of Bohlmann's lead. At the deep alluvial to the north of Wilson's Hill the various parties who are concerned in Fletcher's

property, and also in Crown lands, re-commenced work to-day, and on the whole the new year will open with fair prospects of success. . On Wednesday Maybery, Andre and Chris washed a few dishes of dirt from their claim and netted 6dwts of gold out of that small quantity. This is immediately to the south of the private property, and both in the Government and private ground occasional patches are found, which, however, must not be regarded as fair prospects of the general quality of the wash dirt. Charlesworth Bros. and mates are also on wash which promises a goodly yield, and judging from the last returns secured by Osterfield, Smith and party (who own the claim situate furthest to the north-west in Fletcher's) there seems a probability of the lead being traced in the direction of Derby. The foregoing and Messrs Wallace, Duffy and mates, the Fletcher Bros. and Truscott and party have moderately fair prospects to begin the year upon, and although their neighbours to the west had a disappointing return at the close of the last year, we all hope that their future results may be brighter. Work will be generally resumed to-day in the Yorkshire property. Machinery, including a pumping, winding and crushing plant, is now being erected by the Great Eastern at Sedgwick, Strathfieldsaye, and the contractors made a start yesterday. [15]

25.12.1897 □ During the last few months particularly, the development of the quartz and alluvial resources of this district has shown a gratifying improvement in results, and the year's output has been much greater than that of last year. A record furnished by our correspondent shows that during the year there have been treated, in quartz and alluvial, 6560 loads for a return of 2494ozs 15dwts of gold. ... Among the private parties most successful have been Kennedy and Rawiller, Wallace, Duffy and Company, Charlesworth and Company, Truscott and Company, Carter Brothers, Potter and party, Twigg, Pittawny and Rylet, and Wright and Company. ... Steps are being taken to induce the Government to provide a diamond drill for the exploration of the alluvial leads to the northwards of Marong. [16]

25.04.1898 □ ... Thomas and Company (Marong) have an alluvial claim in Wilson's paddock to the west of the Marong racecourse. There is 100 feet of sinking, and three picked dishes were washed for the splendid return of 15ozs. [17]

31.10.1898 □ Cairns and Company, who are working the alluvial near Wilson's Hill, Marong, obtained 36ozs from a crushing put through. [19]

29.11.1898 □ Last week two additional shafts have touched bottom on the deep alluvial north-west of Wilson's Hill, each of them at a depth of about 140 feet, and washdirt, which affords excellent prospects of nice coarse gold has been obtained. They have a soft strata to drive in and a large bouldery wash. Duffy, Ahearn and mates have bottomed to the west and obtained colours, but not as yet payable. Truscott and mates crushed a small trial lot of 8 loads for 1ozs 8dwts. On the Crown land to the east, Mayberry, G. Green and Bevis are raising payable wash, but they have to blast through very hard ground. Watson, Jackson and mates crushed 43 loads; which averaged 3dwts per load, and Rawiller's party 20 loads for about 5dwts per load. [20]

12.07.1899 □ Wright and Company crushed 20 loads for 5ozs 10dwts and M'Cassey and Company 11 loads for 6ozs 14dwts from the deep alluvial north west of Wilson's Hill. [21]

01.01.1900 □ The various alluvial leads at Marong have been kept to the front by the pioneer prospectors of that locality, and although the returns latterly have been poorer, yet in a majority of instances a payable average has been maintained. Towards Leichardt, Woodstock and Derby, a powerful English Company have been putting down a series of bores, and as they have taken up an immense area of country for mining purposes, it is to be assumed that encouraging prospects have been obtained. [22]

1902 □ Where the lead dipped below the water level machinery had to be provided to cope with the water, and the Marong Alluvial Company was formed in 1902. A large lease on the lower extension of the north west lead was acquired. The property is equipped with suitable winding plant, and at present all the water is raised by tanks. There is a 10-head battery with other surface equipment, and the manager states that a yield of 4dwts per person will cover

working costs. [23]

□05.1903□112ozs nugget (No.353) found at a depth of 167 feet by Captain Thomas and party at a site 1½ miles from the township of Marong. [24.22]  
1904-1905□Marong Deep Leads Company, Reports by Henry Y North, Legal Manager:-

7 May 1904: Fixed frame sets on surface and sunk and timbered shaft 10 feet. Also erected charging house. Boiler and machinery have been delivered on mine and will proceed with erection immediately.

4 June 1904: Shaft sunk 30 feet total from surface 75 feet. Have also timbered and centred shaft and fixed ladders. The building in of Boiler is now in progress.

18 June 1904: shaft sunk 29 feet making 104 feet. Also timbered and centred same and fixed ladders. The building in of the boiler is in progress and portion of winding machinery has been delivered on mine.

16 July 1904: Shaft sunk 29 feet total 163 feet and cut a flow of water. Boiler has been built on bed. Foundation and basement for chimney stack completed, and are fixing bed logs for engines.

1 Aug 1904: Contractors for erection of plant and buildings stack making fair progress .

13 Aug 1904: Completed chimney stack. Fixed bed logs for pumping engine and winding plant and will have boiler tested during next week.

10 September 1904: Have almost completed housing of machinery and building in boiler. Are now taking out excavations for balance bob.

24 September 1904: Have purchased poppet heads and shoots and contractor is now engaged removing and re-erecting same.

22 October 1904: Poppet heads have been delivered on the mine and contractors are now erecting same. Have connected steam pipes from boiler to engine, also laid floor of engine house.

17 December 1904: Have placed exhaust tank in position and fixed necessary pipes. Are now putting floor around pumping.

19 January 1905: Completed water race and enlarged dam, and are now filling same. Have also put ropes on drums.

11 February 1905: Resumed sinking shaft, but found water too heavy for bucket. Will now put in pumps, the engine and bob for same being already in position.

25 February 1905: Have sunk bob pit required depth and are now timbering same. Pumps to hand and will put down in position at once.

8 April 1905 Shaft sunk and timbered to a depth of 170 feet in wash showing gold. Have also erected Blacksmith's shop and fenced in bob pit.

3 June 1905: Shaft sunk to 217 feet at which depth will cut chamber and drive east for lead. Nos 1 and 2 bores, situate 233 and 413 feet north east of shaft have bottomed and gold obtained from each.

21 October 1905. West drive off south level driven 58 feet making 147 feet. Nice looking wash but poor. North level from east drive advanced to 111 feet in heavy wash. South level off east drive extended 41 feet, making 55 feet. This is in rough wash, which has given some very good progress. [25]

1905□Bendigo District: At Marong, prospecting works is being carried on with energy in the alluvial mines, which are worked by co-operative parties with varied success. The two large companies have not yet been able to get payable wash. The Deep Lead Company is now erecting puddling machine, and expects to have them ready to work in a short time. [26]

1906□Marong Alluvial: 57ozs 9dwt obtained from 307 tons of stone. [26]

1906□Marong Deep Leads: 26ozs 14dwt of gold obtained. [26]

1906□Marong Deep Leads Company, Reports by Henry Y North, Legal Manager:-

13 January 1906: Bottom east drive extended to 124 feet in good working country. Contractor for erection of puddling machines making fair progress.

24 February 1906: Bottom east drive advanced 44 feet, making 219 feet. East drive off No 1 shoot driven 41 feet, total 167 feet. Engine for puddling machine is on bed and most of shafting is in position.

21 April 1906: Completed new mullock road. Also fixed slum boxes from machines to dam. Expect to start puddling .



19 May 1906: Bottom east drive extended 29 feet making 357 feet. Put up No.5 bore at 350 feet in and reached wash at 7 feet over laths. A lot of wash on the surface with a couple of machines from south and west drives has been put through for 5oz 7dwt gold.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1934□Marong Alluvial: 55ozs of gold obtained from an unspecified