

# City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

## BLACK ROCK ROAD EUCALYPTUS DISTILLERY

### Other Names

**Location** Freehold Land, 400 metres north of Black Rock Reef, west side of Black Rock Road, Whipstick

**Map Reference** Summerfield 1:25,000 - BV570.486

Victorian Heritage Register No

National Estate Register No

Planning Scheme No



**Description** In-situ 3-pass Cornish boiler, 6 feet diameter and 19½ feet long, with an offset flue 3 feet in diameter. The date of its last inspection - 20-12-1939 - and the maker's name - Hampton and Halliday, Engineers, Footscray - is cast on the furnace end of the boiler. At the east end of the boiler is a square brick chimney base and a collapsed iron stack made from the fire tube of a Cornish boiler with Galloway tubes. Nearby is an intact crane (constructed of bush timber) positioned above two circular, 7 foot diameter brick vats. A brick-lined drain leads from the vats to a long brick condensing pit. There are two shallow dams nearby.

**History** Period of activity: Inspector's stamp on the boiler suggests the distillery was operating in 1939.

**Thematic Context** Rural Industry

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

**Statement of Significance** The site contains a rare example of a Cornish boiler with an offset flue (criterion B), displays a representative collection of plant, machinery and equipment (criterion D) and by its proximity to Black Rock Road and eucalyptus thickets has potential for illustrating aspects of the eucalyptus distilling industry (criterion C).

**Level of Significance** Local

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

**Heritage Boundaries** The essentially square site is bounded on the east by Black Rock Road and on the south by the eastern extension of Palmer Road and extends northwards from this road and westwards from Black Rock Road for a distance of 100 metres.

## **References**

## **Notes**

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

## **Chronology**