

City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

BARKLY REEF MINES

Other Names Sir Henry Barkly Reef

Location East of township of Neilborough

Map Reference Raywood 1:25,000 - BV538.492

Victorian Heritage Register No

National Estate Register No

Planning Scheme No



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

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

Thematic Context Mining

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

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

Level of Significance Local

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

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

References 1. "Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser,

- Saturday, 22 January 1859.
2. "Resources of Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 25 January 1859.
 3. "Bendigo mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 29 January 1859.
 4. W. Perry, "Tales of the Whipstick: a history of the Whipstick, Neilborough, Sebastian, Raywood and Myers Creek gold rushes, Victoria." Eaglehawk, Perry, 1975, 249pp.
 5. "Mining intelligence. Ironstone Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 22 April 1859.
 6. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 28 April 1859.
 7. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 30 May 1859.
 8. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From a Correspondent, 29 June 1859; The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 2 July 1859.
 9. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 8 July 1859.
 10. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 30 July 1859.
 11. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat reefs." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 6 August 1859.
 12. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 11 August 1859.
 13. "Prospecting at the Whipstick diggings." From a Correspondent; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 31 May 1860.
 14. "Mining intelligence. Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 8 August 1865, p2, col.3.
 15. "Mining intelligence. Auriferous cakes." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 2 September 1865, p2, col.4.
 16. "Gold at Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 12 September 1865, p2, col.4.
 17. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Raywood division.
 18. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, Wednesday, 6 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 7 June 1866.
 19. "Mining intelligence. Raywood." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 12 June 1866, p2, col.5.
 20. "Elysian Flat." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 18 June; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 June 1866.
 21. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars.
 22. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Tuesday, 3 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 July 1866.
 23. "Raywood." From our Own Correspondent, Monday, 9 July; The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 July 1866.
 24. Dicker's Mining Record and Guide to the Gold Mines of Victoria.
 25. "Mining intelligence. Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 3 September 1867.
 26. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat reefs." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 24 September 1867, p2, col.4.
 27. "Mining intelligence. Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 1 October 1867, p2, col.6.
 28. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 14 October; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 16 October 1867, p2, col.6.
 29. "Mining intelligence. Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 5 November 1867, p2, col.1.
 30. "Raywood." From our own Correspondent, Monday, 16 December; The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 18 December 1867, p2, col.1.
 31. "Mining intelligence. Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 11 May 1868.
 32. "Mining intelligence. Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser,

Tuesday, 14 July 1868, p2, col.1.

33. The Mining Record and Public Companies Gazette.

34. "Mining intelligence. Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 17 July 1871, p2, col.7.

35. "Eaglehawk Prospecting Vote." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 9 October 1886, p6, col.2.

36. "The Sandhurst Prospecting Board. The Whipstick tour." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 19 January 1887, p3, cols.3/4.

37. W. H. Cundy, "Second report on Elysian Flat gold field." Progress Report No.10, Geological Survey of Victoria, 1899, 27-29, map.

38. Department of Mines, Annual report including statistics relating to the mining industry.

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

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

Chronology 22. 01.1859... A party have struck a reef at 50 feet deep, which presents some remarkable specimens of auriferous stone. The fortunate proprietors have secured a treble claim and the remainder of the ground on the supposed line has been marked out. The condition of the shaft sunk is about 600 yards from the Sir Henry Barkly Hotel. The line appears to lead through the claims of Messrs M'Nair and Iron, or to the eastward of Mr Benson's dam. It appears to run parallel with the claim at the Flagstaff Hill in which gold is obtained at a depth of 80 feet. ... [1]

25.. 01.1859... Our readers have already been informed that two quartz veins of great promise have lately been opened at Elysian Flat. A paragraph appears in this morning issue by which it will be seen that a splendid parcel of gold from one of them is in the possession of Mr. Bannerman of the Bank Gold Office, View Point. The metal is very heavy, many of the pieces weighing at least half an ounce. [2]

29. 01.1859... Three new shafts are going down on the quartz reef at Elysian Flat, and a large number of claims have been marked out. A ton and a half of stone from this reef yielded at a late crushing a little over 3ozs. ... [3]

01.1859... Quartz mining - Elysian Flat Goldfield. During January 1859 a party of miners sinking a shaft on Elysian Flat struck a rich quartz reef at a depth of 50 feet. The party was known as Oates and Company [named Sir Henry Barkly Reef] . . . Another reef on Elysian Flat, the Nuggetty Reef, which ran parallel to the Sir Henry Barkly Reef, was opened up in August 1859 ... Other reefs worked on and in the vicinity of Elysian Flat were Moore's Reef, Stringer's Reef, Kannobian Reef and Uncle Sam Reef. The Sir Henry Barkly Reef proved the best, and mines on this line worked for many years. [4.62-64]

22. 04.1859... Messrs Oates and Company, the owners of the prospecting claim on the Barkly Reef, have lately raised some capital stone. 27 tin bucketfuls crushed lately at Sailor's Gully yielded 17ozs. The first lot of material for M'Phail's crushing machine arrived within the last day or two. It is to be erected on the Flat, and it is expected it will be completed in about eight weeks. A dray containing the boiler was capsized near Scotchman's Gully, but fortunately no damage was done. [5]

28. 04.1859... The prospecting reef. The stone lately raised by Messrs Oats and Company crushed 17½ozs to the ton. They have about 50 or 60 tons at present on the surface. It is equal in appearance to that already crushed. The proprietors are anxiously waiting for M'Phail's mill to commence operations. About four claims from the prospectors, Bond and Company, have struck gold, but in what quantities has not yet been made known. The other claims are all

registered and the parties gone to Daisy Hill (Back Creek). [6]

30.□05.1859□This place, once the scene of general activity, and residence of many thousands, through the want of water during the summer, and the alluring attraction of Daisy Hill, is now reduced to a few hundreds. ... The two leads of quartz reefs are taken up for a great distance; many claims are registered, and others rapidly going down. The prospecting shaft is producing some splendid stone, in fact after a shower of rain the gold sparkles therein as numerous as the stars in the firmament. 21 buckets of stuff upon being crushed produced 17ozs of gold, thus proving that quartz reefs are to be found on flats as well as on ranges. The stone from this shaft is very peculiar, and more resembles solid blocks of beautiful marble than quartz. A machine and engine of 12 horsepower, are being erected here. ... [7]

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

08.□07.1859□The quartz crushing machine belonging to Mr M'Phail, which is situated near the lately discovered reef called the Sir Henry Barkly, was started for the experimental trial on Tuesday afternoon, with the usual ceremony, in the presence of a goodly number of the residents of the locality. The engine, which has been named the "Wellington", is a compact and well-constructed little affair of 13 horsepower. It is 22 feet long, and about 4 feet in diameter. There are three batteries of four stampers each, the stampers being on the revolving principle, with iron boxes. The machinery has been erected under the superintendence of Mr Horwood, of the Bendigo Iron Foundry. The engineer is Mr Murgatroyd, who is connected with the Union Company, Paddy's Gully. The engine commenced permanently working on Wednesday with crushing some of the auriferous tailings and cement from the workings in Elysian Flat. It crushed at the rate of 14 tons in 12 hours. [9]

30.□07.1859□The Sir Henry Barkly Reef is all the go, gold having been struck in Smith's claim, four claims south of the prospectors, at a depth of 80 feet, and to all appearance will give a fair remuneration to the prospectors. Upwards of 20 claims are taken up; 15 at present working. The precious metal has been found in six claims. ... Mr M'Phail's engine has stopped working for a few days in order to make some trifling alteration in the gold tables etc. ... [10]

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

11.□08.1859□A correspondent send us the following report:-

Good again. The Messrs Oats and Company, proprietors of a prospecting claim on the Sir Henry Barkly Reef, crushed at Mr M'Phail's machine, 100 tons of quartz, which to their agreeable surprise, realized 365ozs of the precious metal. Also Messrs Bennet and Company, from the same reef, 10 tons, the yield of which was a little better than ½ozs per ton. Likewise 10 tons were crushed from the prospecting claim at the head of the shallow diggings, which yield was nearly ½ozs per ton, and may be considered a fair prospect, and along the line of reef there is a busy and lively appearance, particularly the Sir Henry Barkly, which is marked out for a good half mile up the centre of the flat. ... [12]

31.□05.1860□The vast goldfield known under the above name in this district has, since the early part of last summer, when it was nearly totally deserted, in consequence of the almost, indeed it may be said total want of water, and the lead having been lost at the deep sinking, been prospected more or less by isolated parties within a compass of 10 or 12 miles square, with more than the usual success attendant upon the labour of a few hands; for, with the exception

of those 8 or 10 parties working at the Sir Henry Barkly Reef on Elysian Flat, the prospecting parties, for either quartz or alluvial, have numbered generally but one or two pairs of hands. ... [13]

□11.1863□Kamarooka. What was probably the first reference to mining at Kamarooka appeared in The Bendigo Advertiser, 20 November 1863, when the Raywood rush was in its early stages. A brief report stated that two prospectors, James Taylor and Henry Scheffer had opened up a new diggings 18 miles from Raywood and 36 from Sandhurst...Lack of crushing facilities was an expensive inconvenience to the miners early on Kamarooka. During December 1864, quartz was carted some 7 miles to Elysian Flat for crushing...[4]

1863-1867□Raywood. The first known reference to reef mining at Raywood appeared in The Bendigo Advertiser on 7 December 1863, concerning a crushing of five tons which yielded 4ozs 10dwts of gold from a claim aptly named the Pioneer Reef ...The first quartz miners were greatly inconvenienced by lack of crushing facilities. Some reefers had their stone carted to Elysian Flat, some three miles distant, with the cost for cartage seriously depleting profits. [4] 08.□08.1865□A party took up a claim on this reef about 3 weeks ago, which was reported at the time to be a new reef. After clearing out an old shaft they got 5 tons of stone from a depth of 60 feet, which produced 2ozs 6¼dwt or 9¼dwt per ton. [14]

02.□09.1865□Under date of yesterday our Raywood correspondent writes:- 2 cakes of gold were sold at the bank of Victoria this morning, the first weighing 7ozs 11dwt, the produce of 7 tons of stone from Manly's Reef, Phillip's Gully; the other weighed 5ozs 17dwt 12 grains, the produce of 9 tons of stone from the claim of Wyeth Brothers, Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat. A shaft has been sunk on this reef to the east of the old workings, and the reef struck at a depth of 60 feet, 14 feet wide, and gold is plainly visible through 7 feet of it. There has been no crushing yet from this claim, but the owners are in very good spirits at their good luck. [15]

12.□09.1865□During the latter part of last week, Mr Pendlebury, of Elysian Flat, purchased between 20 and 30ozs of gold, amongst which was a nugget weighing 4ozs 3dwt. The claims on the Barkly Reef are all busily worked, and judging from the specimens procured, very good results may reasonably be anticipated. [16]

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

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

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

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

07.□06.1866□Two of the claims on this line have been crushing their stone since the rain came, and the returns have been between 7 and 8dwts to the ton. A great deal of dissatisfaction prevails amongst the shareholders at the returns. This locality is greatly in want of another engine, and could keep two constantly employed, for, in addition to three claims on the Barkly Reef, there are the Austrian, the Hope and Manly's reefs all raising great quantities of stone. Amongst them they could keep two engines constantly employed, but at present they may as well be without an engine, as the one there has only about 3 days' water at a time, and at present is standing still, and hundreds of tons of stuff lying about waiting to be crushed. There are several other reefs close by that would be worked if there were easy facilities for crushing - such are the Masonic and Stringons reefs - and almost all the alluvial dirt from the deep lead is crushed, as it contains a great deal of auriferous cement. [18]

12. □06.1866 □Our Raywood correspondent writes that amongst a very good display of gold in the window of the Bank of Victoria on Saturday last, was a fine cake of 35ozs 8dwt, the produce of 11 tons of stone from Messrs Harding and Brown's claim on the Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat. This quartz was raised from an 80 foot level, and on an entirely new lode, being about 40 feet to the east of the old workings. The stone was crushed at the Shamrock engine, in the Whipstick, as, I am sorry to say, the engine on the flat is still idle, waiting for water. [19]

19. □06.1866 □Harding and Brown had another crushing last week from their claim on the Barkly Reef, which averaged 2ozs 8dwt per ton. The other claims on this reef are busy crushing, as I am happy to say this last rain has given the engine on the flat abundance of water. [20]

□06.1866 □Barkly Reef Company, Elysian Flat: 61ozs 8dwt obtained from 18 tons of stone at 80 feet. [21]

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

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

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

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

04. □07.1866 □Mining affairs at Elysian Flat are looking very well just now. Mr Pendlebury purchased 56ozs of gold last week. A first crushing of 28 tons of stone from the Black Rock Reef gave 2ozs per ton. The Wyeth Brothers obtained a cake of 24½ozs from their claim on the Barkly Reef. [22]

19. □07.1866 □At Elysian Flat the prospects continue to improve. ... Foley and Company are crushing about 20 tons from the Barkly Reef, Elysian Flat, from which are expected good returns. [23]

□12.1866 □Barkly, Manly, Hope and Austrian Reefs, Elysian Flat: 148ozs 10dwt obtained from 170 tons of stone at between 60 and 100 feet. [17.45-46]

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

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

03. □09.1867 □The proprietors of Nos, 1 and 2 claims south, on this reef, are raising some very rich stone. Mr Roberts purchased the No.1 claim a short time ago for £65, and since then he has struck a new lode. On Saturday Mr Roberts showed our reporter some very rich specimens and informed him that he had 20 tons of stone raised for which he had been offered a price equivalent to 6ozs per ton. Cook and Company, of No.2, also showed some very rich specimens they obtained last week. [25]

24. □09.1867 □The reefs at Elysian Flat are beginning to yield richly and mining

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

□09.1867□Roberts and Company, Elysian Flat: 243ozs obtained from 27 tons of stone at between 70 and 90 feet. [17.21-22]

Richard Foley and Company, Elysian Flat: 190ozs 10dwt obtained from 86 tons of stone at between 100 and 150 feet. [17.21-22]

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

01.□10.1867□The last crushing from Foley and Company's claim yielded 1ozs 5dwt per ton. They have now got about 60 or 70 tons ready for crushing, which, from appearances, will exceed the last crushing in the richness of the yield. At 70 feet north of their shaft the stone is making into the ground of the Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company. At the 130 foot level they are getting out stone that surpasses in appearance any stone, for richness, that they ever got out of their claim. It is very much to be regretted that the large quantities of rain that have lately fallen have partially flooded No.2 claim south on this reef; ... [27]

16.□10.1867□I am happy to say that the Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company obtained some promising prospects last week from their ground on the Barkly Reef. Besides washing out some fine gold in the pass they have got some very nice specimens, and the shareholders are very sanguine that the mine they are working now will pay very well. It appears that Foley and Company, of No.1 claim north on this reef, are about taking legal proceedings against the owner of the crushing machine at the flat for stopping the natural watercourse, in order to secure a plentiful supply for his dam, in doing which he caused the water to overflow the flat and do considerable damage to their claim. [28]

05.□11.1867□The reefs at Elysian Flat present very encouraging prospects; a crushing of 63 loads of stone and mullock from Roberts and Company's claim was expected to average 1ozs to the load. The company will not be crushing again until near the end of the year; as the drives are being extended and stone opened out, and a handsome Christmas cake is expected to be turned out as the reef shows splendidly. Cook and Company are putting in drives at the 140 foot level, and anticipate getting a first rate crushing at Christmas. A recent crushing of 14 tons of stone yielded 7ozs. Bannon and Company are sinking, and at 130 feet struck the reef into which they have pierced 11 feet, and are not yet through it. The stone shows a fair prospect of gold. Harden and Hutchinson's claim is yielding fine stone from the reef at the 70 foot level, where

it is 5 feet thick. Something like 12ozs to the ton is calculated as the probably yield of the ensuing crushing. Foley and Company are crushing quartz that promises to yield 2ozs of gold per ton. The Elysian Flat Company are still sinking west of the old workings, and the prospects obtained are promising. [29] 18.□12.1867□... The Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company succeeded in striking some very good stone last week, and anticipate good returns. The gold is got from the reef that was found nearly two years ago; but, as at the level of working, the prospects were unsatisfactory, it was abandoned for the time and drives put in east and west to find another body of stone. But although several spurs were found containing gold, it was deemed advisable to return to the reef, and it is hoped that now it will pay well for all the time and expense that has been bestowed upon it. It is rumoured that their prospects are very good, some of the specimens containing a very heavy show of gold. [30]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

11.□05.1868□Foley and Company crushed 64 tons of stone from their claim on this reef, during the week, and obtained 60ozs 7dwt of gold. Elysian Flat Quartz Mining Company had a crushing of 14 tons of quartz from the same reef which yielded 11ozs 6dwt. The want of water is beginning to be severely felt on the flat. Mr Roberts machine has been idle a considerable time, waiting for the rain to come. ... [31]

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

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

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

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

14.□07.1868□Foley and Company last week crushed 78 tons of stone from their claim on this reef, and obtained 102ozs of gold. They have as much more stone in their paddock ready for crushing, but were forced to discontinue carting it to the machine, on account of the badness of the roads. [32]

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

□09.1868□Foley and Company, Barkly Reef: 66ozs 4dwt obtained from 76 tons

of stone at 70 feet. [17.23]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

17.□07.1871□During the past 4 weeks the shaft has been sunk 47 feet 6 inches. Owing to the difficulty of getting the timber from the mills only 20 feet of the shaft has been timbered up. Arrangements have now been made to get a regular supply on the ground to keep the shaft timbered as they sink. It has been decided to erect a winding engine at once, as by the time it can now be erected on the ground the shaft will be down to water. Tenders for the same will be called for next meeting. [34]

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

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

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

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

09.□10.1886□Barkly Reef, Coulston and Company. This party drove a crosscut at 110 feet from the surface 50 feet; passed through a reef 8 feet wide, and saw a little gold in it. They have been subsidized (by the Eaglehawk Prospecting Vote) to the amount of £110. [35]

19.□01.1887□... After breakfast a start was made for Elysian Flat, where the once celebrated Barkly Reef was visited. The first claim visited was that of T. Crapper. This party had done a good deal of work recently, and was now sinking a new shaft. This was down 40 feet, and it was proposed to sink to 140 feet to cut the "Nuggetty" Reef, a side line. In another shaft the reef had given good prospects; sinking cost 8 shillings per foot, £100 was asked for. G. Coulson and Company, in the same reef, but some distance away, applied for £200. They are endeavouring to trace the continuation of the reef south. To the west there is a shaft down 205 feet, and at 110 feet a crosscut was driven 160 feet east to get the Barkly Reef, but without success. They have now started to sink a new shaft 140 at a cost of from 9 to 10 shillings pe foot. The site has been marked out by Mr O'Dwyer, surveyor. [36]

□ 1899□At Neilborough is the site of the Barkly Reef, from which some very rich yields have been taken ... The fact of a strong body of water being met with seems to have stopped all operations, as at present it is completely abandoned, and the lease forfeited. [37]

- 1947□J. McQualter, Neilborough: 1ozs obtained from 12 tons of stone crushed at the Government battery, Bendigo. [38]
- 1949□E. Hartland, Neliborough: 1ozs obtained from 12 tons of stone crushed at the Government battery, Bendigo. [38]
- 1951□J. McQualter, Neilborough: 2ozs obtained from 12 tons of stone crushed at the Government battery, Bendigo. [38]