

City of Greater Bendigo: Marong Heritage Study Mining Sites

FRÜHLING REEF MINES

Other Names

Location Parcel No. P127171, State Park, east of Loeser Road, Whipstick

Map Reference Epsom 1:25,000 - BV576.414

Victorian Heritage Register No

National Estate Register No

Planning Scheme No



Description A line of seven small mullock heaps, running north-south for a length of about 500 metres. The largest heap lies at the north end of the line and has one dumping line, 30 metres long and 5 metres high. The associated shaft has been filled, and there are no visible machinery foundations.

History Period of activity: 1860-1931. The main period of activity was between 1868 and 1873 when these parties/companies were in operation: Fröhling Reef Gold Mining Company (1868-1873), Harvey (1869), Fröhling Reef Extended (1871), Great Extended Fröhling Reef Gold Mining Company (lease 2216)(1871), Henry Howes (lease 2494)(1871), North Extended Fröhling Reef (1871), Carl Haertel (lease 3305)(1871), J. Haertel (lease 3763)(1871), Prussian Gold Mining Company (lease 1196)(1868-1874), Royal Charter Quartz Mining Company (1871), Royal George Quartz Mining Company (1871) and Bavarian Troop Company/South Fröhling Reef Gold Mining Company (1871-1873).

Line of reef: Fröhling, Summer

Maximum recorded annual production: 103ozs obtained from 164 tons in 1869 (Harvey)

Total production: 729ozs (Fröhling Reef Gold Mining Company); 908ozs (all parties)[4]

Deepest working level: 370 feet

Deepest shaft: 370 feet (below water level)

Thematic Context Mining

Comparative Examples The site is one of a number of representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the study area, namely: Lightning Hill (1852-1907), Old Tom Reef (1857-1898), Black Forest (1858-1907), King of Prussia (1871-1885) and Lancashire Reef (1890-1908).

Statement of Significance The site is representative medium-level low-production mine sites in the Whipstick area (criterion D) and has potential to illustrate these activities because it contains some relatively undisturbed quartz mining of the 1870s (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 site is approximately rectangular in area, 500 metres from north to south and 150 metres from east to west and includes all open cuts, shafts, mullock heaps and house and machinery sites.

- References**
1. "Skylark Gully." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 12 December 1860, p2, col.3.
 2. Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Mining Registrars, Sandhurst mining district, Sandhurst division.
 3. "Mining intelligence. A new reef." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 9 September 1867, p3, col.1.
 4. Department of Mining and Industrial Development Records - Files.
 5. "Mining company meetings. The Royal George Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 15 July 1871, p5, col.7.
 6. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 14 September 1871, p2, col.5.
 7. "Mining intelligence. Prussian Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 19 September 1871.
 8. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 5 October 1871, p2, col.6.
 9. "Mining intelligence. Prussian Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 7 October 1871, p2, col.7.
 10. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 12 October 1871, p2, col.6.
 11. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 14 October 1871, p2, col.6.
 12. "Mining intelligence. Royal Charter Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 30 October 1871, p5, col.3.
 13. "Mining intelligence. Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 30 October 1871, p5, col.3.
 14. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 4 October 1871, p2, col.6.
 15. "Mining intelligence. Royal Charter Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 20 November 1871, p5, col.4.
 16. "Mining intelligence. Royal George Company, Frühling Reef." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 20 November 1871, p5, col.4.
 17. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 28 November 1871, p2, col.7.
 18. "Mining intelligence. Royal George Company, Frühling Reef." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 29 November 1871, p2, col.6.
 19. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 4 December 1871, p2, col.6.
 20. "Mining intelligence. Prussian Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 5 December 1871, p2, col.5.
 21. "Mining intelligence. Royal Charter Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 12 December 1871, p2, col.6.
 22. "Mining intelligence. Royal George Company, Frühling Reef." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 12 December 1871, p2, col.6.
 23. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 29 December 1871, p2, col.1.
 24. "Mining intelligence. South Frühling Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 29 December 1871, p2, col.1.
 25. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company, Whipstick" The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 27 February 1872.
 26. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 18 March 1872, p5, col.7.
 27. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 15 April 1872, p5, col.3.
 28. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 22 April 1872.
 29. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Company." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 22 April 1872, p6, col.4.

30. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 29 April 1872, p6, col.2.
31. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 20 May 1872, p5, col.7.
32. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 27 May 1872, p5, cols.4/5.
33. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 2 July 1872, p2, col.7.
34. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 9 July 1872, p3, col.2.
35. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 15 July 1872, p5, col.7.
36. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 22 July 1872, p5, col.5.
37. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 26 August 1872, p5, col.5.
38. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Thursday, 29 August 1872, p2, cols.5/6.
39. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 7 October 1872, p2, col.5.
40. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 21 October 1872, p5, col.5.
41. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 3 May 1873, p3, col.3.
42. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Quartz Mining Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 12 May 1873, p3, col.3.
43. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 27 May 1873, p3, col.3.
44. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 9 June 1873, p3, col.5.
45. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 23 June 1873, p3, col.3.
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49. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 1 September 1873, p5, col.5.
50. "Mining intelligence. Frühling Reef Company. " The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 1 September 1873, p6, col.3.
51. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday, 9 June 1873, p3, col.4.
52. "Mining intelligence. Review of the share market for the week." The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday, 11 June 1877, p2, col.5.
53. "The Sandhurst Prospecting Board. The Whipstick tour." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 19 January 1887, p3, cols.3/4.
54. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 22 September 1899, p4, col.2.
55. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 20 October 1899, p4, col.1.
56. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Wednesday, 20 December 1899, p4, col.2.
57. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 8 May 1900, p4, col.1.
58. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Tuesday, 21 August 1900, p4, col.2.
59. "Mining intelligence." The Bendigo Advertiser, Friday, 14 September 1900, p4, col.1.
60. "The Whipstick. An historic centre ctd." The Bendigo Advertiser, Saturday,

29 August 1931, p2, col.2.

Notes Frühling" is German for "Spring".
The great majority of the miners on this reef appear to have been Germans.

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

Chronology

12.12.1860 □ The party of men who went out to this gully from Epsom a few days ago have returned. They state that they found Mr Morrice and a number of Germans at work. About 100 holes have been sunk, in many of which payable gold has been obtained, but it is very patchy, and there was a scarcity of water for washing dirt. Every member of the party is satisfied that "if men were residing on the ground, and a few dams were made to retain water, a very good living could be made by the use of the tub and cradle alone". [1]

□ 12.1866 □ Frühling Reef, Whipstick:- The prospectors have discovered a reef about one foot thick, with a fair amount of gold in it. The second claim, north, crushed 14 tons, averaging 22dwt or ton. None of the claims on the south are paying at present. [2.38-40]

□ 09.09.1867 □ A reef has been discovered about 3 miles from Lower Huntly, towards the Whipstick, to which the prospectors, a party of Germans, have given the name of "The Frühling Reef". There is a large body of stone which shows gold freely, and a recent crushing of 50 tons produced a cake weighing 88ozs. The ground on either side has been taken up, with every prospect of successful results. [3]

□ 12.1867 □ With regard to quartz mining in this division, I have the honour to report that the yields for the past quarter are very encouraging; the old reefs are turning out well, and some of the new reefs furnish inducements to prospectors. Of the latter, Wilson's Reef at Marong, and the Frühling Reef, Whipstick, have been the most attractive. One crushing from Wilson's claim yielded 6ozs. per ton, and another crushing from the same claim yielded over 9ozs per ton. [2.17-18]

□ 12.1868 □ Good accounts are also received from Sunday Morning Reef and Pender's Reef, at Marong; Perfect Cure Reef, Crusoe Gully; Diamond Hill Reef; Frühling Reef, Whipstick; Christmas Reef, Kangaroo Flat, and many other reefs. [2.18-19]

□ 15.07.1871 □ Royal George Company: A general half-yearly meeting of this company was held last night [5]

□ 14.09.1871 □ That undiscovered "bourne" the Whipstick country, is evidently likely to become better prospected than it has been for some time. The registration of Ludemann's claim on Frühling Reef, will introduce to the public one of the best properties in the Whipstick. On Tuesday night a very large meeting of shareholders in Ludemann's claim was held, when it was determined to register in 32,000 shares of £1 each, 10 shillings paid up; the name of the company to be the Frühling Reef Company (registered). ... There is a very large extent of auriferous quartz country in the Whipstick, and it is time now that the Sandhurst people paid some attention to the riches so near them instead of going too far to speculate. [6]

□ 19.09.1871 □ Prussian Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The manager (Mr G A. Bernicke) reports - at the general meeting of this company it was (on the suggestion of the inspector of the mine, Mr J Roberts) resolved that the stone in the deep shaft be followed to the south, having yielded at its last crushing, 7dwt to the ton, and that in the same time, 2 men should begin a new shaft, to be sunk on the underlay on a body of stone to the south of the deep shaft, which cropped out on the surface, and which Mr Roberts has traced to the adjoining (Mr Hardell's) claim, who had crushed a short time ago 2ozs to the ton, and had now about 20 tons on the grass, from which he expected the same results. [7]

05.10.1871 □ The Frühling Reef Company (private, not the registered company) struck stone at 80 feet deep that shows gold well. It is 3 feet thick, and gold is seen right through it. [8]

07.10.1871 □ Prussian Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The manager (Mr G A. Bernicke) reports - We have sunk 14 feet on the underlay during the last

fortnight on a spur about 5 inches thick, in which fine gold has frequently been seen. The men have been instructed to sink 24 feet deeper, when we expect to strike the main reef. [9]

12.10.1871 □ The Royal Charter is the name of two amalgamated claims by the side of the Frühling Reef Company, and holding 120 yards along the line. A shaft has been sunk 80 feet down already, and as gold is being got on each side, the company anticipate that they will soon be on gold. [10]

14.10.1871 □ The first meeting of shareholders in the Royal Charter Quartz Mining Company was held ... on Friday October 13th ... The company's ground consists of 100 yards along the line of Ludiman's claim, Frühling Reef. The shaft is at present down 40 feet, and operations will commence at once. [11]

30.10.1871 □ Royal Charter Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: A very good prospect has been obtained in sinking the shaft - a small body of stone about 18 inches wide has been struck, showing gold freely. Depth of shaft 12 feet. [12]

Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The directors visited the ground, and started two men on wages to sink a shaft for the stone already struck by the Royal Charter Company - this claim joins the Royal Charter Company. [13]

□ 04.10.1871 □ A meeting of shareholders in the Bavarian Troop Company, Frühling Reef, was held on Friday last ... when it was resolved to register the company ... (as) the South Frühling. [14]

□ 20.11.1871 □ Royal Charter Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The shaft is down 27 feet, where the reef was struck in the shaft, 12 inches thick, showing good gold. [15]

Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The shaft is down 23 feet. A contract has been accepted to sink a further depth of 80 feet. [16]

28.11.1871 □ A good prospect was washed out from some stone hauled up from the Royal Charter claim, Whipstick, yesterday. They are raising stone, and if it should at all go like that we saw yesterday they ought to pay expenses at all events. [17]

29.11.1871 □ Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: Contractors have sunk 10 feet this week, present depth of shaft 35 feet; sinking continues good. [18]

04.12.1871 □ Frühling Reef Company. We have about 40 loads of stone on the surface, we have seen a little gold in it; we will commence crushing during next fortnight. [19]

□ 05.12.1871 □ Prussian Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The manager (Mr G A. Bernicke) reports - The shaft has been sunk to the depth of 35 feet. We drove to the west 4 feet, where the reef was 5½ feet wide. Gold is freely seen in it, and it is expected that the stone will yield 15dwt to the ton. [20]

12.12.1871 □ Royal Charter Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The prospects of this claim are very good, we have been taking out stone which shows very good gold. The leaders are all dipping to the west. We are continuing sinking the shaft down to a depth of 100 feet, the present depth 40 feet. [21]

Royal George Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: The contractors have sunk 22 feet the last fortnight, good sinking; the present depth of shaft, 45 feet. [22]

29.12.1871 □ Frühling Reef Company. The contracts for the erection of pumping and winding machinery are progressing rapidly towards completion. The dam is finished. Active operations in the mine will soon be commenced. [23]

South Frühling Company, Frühling Reef, Whipstick: During the last fortnight we have driven 1206 feet, the ground getting harder and consisting of sandstone intermixed with quartz spurs. [24]

□ 27.02.1872 □ Frühling Reef Company, Whipstick. The half yearly meeting of the company was held ... last evening. Directors' report - Soon after our appointment as directors of your company we found that the only way to work your mine, so as to bring about a profitable result, was to erect drainage and winding machinery. The advisability or not of buying a second hand plant was fully discussed, and, after making numerous inquiries, and obtaining the fullest information, we came to the conclusion that the cheapest and best way would be to put up new machinery. Plans and specifications were prepared by Mr William Sutton, who in company with Mr Caldwell, proceeded to Melbourne and

purchased a first class engine, 14½ inch cylinder, 20 horsepower, for the sum of £215, also a boiler, from the Langlands Foundry Company, 26 feet long by 6 feet 6 inches in diameter, fitted with Galloway tubes, and mountings complete for £268. A contract was, at the same time, entered into with Messrs Wright and Edwards, for the pumping and winding gear complete, for the sum of £355. The following contracts were also let for masonry, Mr E. Watson, for the sum of £88, carpenters' and engineers' work, Gibson and Francis, £274 5 shillings for engine house, smithy, and erection of poppetheads, O'Meara and Gaffney, £162. A large dam has been made which, when filled, will be of great value to the company. We are glad to say that all the machinery arrived safely on the ground, and that all the various contracts have been most satisfactorily completed, and that we expect to be able to ask you to see the engine started in about 2 weeks from this date. We purpose, as soon as the water is out, proceeding vigorously with the working of the mine, and hope with every confidence of being able in a short time to make a profitable return. A considerable portion of the wages account was expended in opening up the western reef, which will be of great value to the mine when a winding machine is added to our plant. [25]

□18.03.1872□Frühling Reef Company. We have sunk 13 feet during the fortnight; total 213 feet. We expect to get the reef in about another 50 feet. [26]

□03.1872□Great additions have been made to our machinery, perhaps the most important of which are the erection of the Great Comet Company's pumping and winding engine, on the Comet Reef; the Golden Fleece Company's crushing etc engine, on the Stafford Reef; and the Frühling Reef Company's engine, on the Frühling Reef at the Whipstick. These three machines are a considerable distance from any others, and will materially assist in the speedy development of the reefs in the localities in which they are situated. [2.28]

□15.04.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The water was all got out of the shaft by Tuesday last. Ladder way has been completed, and sinking commenced. The machinery is working satisfactorily. [27]

□22.04.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The shaft has been sunk to a further depth of 11 feet 6 inches and timbered, total depth from surface, 260 feet. Tenders have been called for sinking 40 feet deeper. The machinery is all in good working order. We had a slight breakage in the early part of the week with pumps, which was quickly repaired again. [28]

Frühling Reef Company. We have sunk 15 feet, total 208 feet. [29]

□29.04.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The first half-yearly meeting of this company was held ... on Saturday.

Directors' report - Since the registration of the company prospecting has been continuously carried on. A trial crushing of 50 loads out of the western shaft, in which a little gold was seen; not having proved payable, we decided to sink a shaft at the northern boundary; with the intention to try some spurs worked with payable results in the adjoining claim north; we sunk the shaft 37 feet, and put in a crosscut 25 feet west through some small spurs, in which gold was seen. The engine having been erected on the adjoining claim we considered it to the advantage of the company to repair the main shaft, and commence sinking without delay; the shaft has been sunk and timbered 40 feet, total depth 220 feet, and we have no doubt, in about 30 feet more, the reef worked in the adjoining claim will be cut. [30]

□20.05.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The shaft has been sunk and timbered 35 feet; total depth from surface 248 feet. The water is very heavy and seems to increase. [31]

□27.05.1872□Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company. The shaft has been sunk 4 feet, total depth 220 feet, timbered to the bottom. We have cut a strong lava, and a reef in the bottom, but we will not be able to ascertain the quality on account of the influx of water. I have no doubt, as the adjoining engine claim will shortly cut the reef, that we will soon be able to resume sinking. [32]

□02.07.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut has been extended 21 feet, total distance 35 feet; 29 feet from the shaft we cut the western wall, when a very heavy flood of water came in. Expect every day to cut

the reef. [33]

□09.07.1872□Frühling Reef Gold Mining Company. The manager (Mr Carl Mueller) reports - we sunk 10 feet during the fortnight and slabbed 8 feet, total depth of shaft 238 feet. The shaft is quite dry, no water coming in. [34]

□15.07.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at 300 foot level has been extended 20 feet further, making total from shaft 5, 54 feet. We have sunk a winze from 230 feet level, 18 feet; the stone is at present one foot wide, and has ever appearance of widening; the water greatly increasing. The reef was struck on Tuesday, but, owing to the large body of water coming in, we are unable to report on the appearance of the stone. [35]

□22.07.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The shaft has been sunk 8 feet; total depth 240 feet. [36]

□26.08.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut has been extended 18 feet, making the total distance from the shaft 100 feet. At the distance of 90 feet in we had a change of ground. The necessary work to winze has been completed. The sinking of the shaft will be recommenced at once. [37]

□29.08.1872□Frühling Reef Company. The half-yearly meeting of this company was held at Mr Cole's office ...

The directors' report stated:- in laying before you our financial statement for the past six months, we have to express our regret that so far our efforts have not met with the success which we certainly anticipated before this. Since last meeting the shaft has been sunk 63 feet, and the crosscut at the 300 foot level has been put in 100 feet without striking the reef, which is a much greater distance than we expected to have to drive before getting stone. This, however, is accounted for by the underlie of the reef in the winze, which has gone rapidly to the east; in fact at 30 feet from the 200 foot level the stone lies almost flat, and very small. This being the case we determined to stop the crosscut and open out on the stone at 230 feet in the winze, a trial crushing of which will be taken out. We have called for tenders for sinking from 300 foot level in the shaft, but shall not accept any until after your meeting this day. The machinery still continues to work well, and is all in first class order.

The mining manager reports as follows:- in presenting this report, I beg to state that it only extends over a period of 2 3 months, as I was only appointed your mining manager in June last. Since that time the plat has been cut at 300 foot level, and a crosscut driven at 100 feet. Finding but little stone, and that not of a payable character, it was deemed advisable to discontinue driving any further east. We have also sunk a winze from the 270 foot level; to the 300 foot level, knocking through on the back of the crosscut, in sinking the winze we carried the stone down with it to a depth of 30 feet at which distance we cut a slide coming in from the west, varying away the stone with it in a very disordered state. The eastern wall is still going down carrying a lava with it intermixed with a little quartz, when cut in the bottom crosscut it was underlying west, and it has every appearance that when a little deeper it will resume its proper position, and the probability is you will get the second make of the stone that has been worked so profitably above. I have 6 men engaged at present breaking stone in the winze referred to above. The machinery and pumps are all in good working order. It was decided to sink the shaft 60 feet further by wages men. ... [38]

□07.10.1872□Frühling Reef Company. We have been engaged driving on the stone north and south of shaft. A crushing has been taken from the same, which yielded 14ozs 10dwt from 69 loads. A trial crushing will be taken from the 180 foot level. [39]

□21.10.1872□Frühling Reef Company. We have been engaged breaking down stone at the 180 foot level, but have not been able to engage a battery to crush with. The stone is dipping north, and has very much improved in appearance. [40]

□03.05.1873□Frühling Reef Company. The half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held on the 30th. April. ...

Directors' report - As you are aware that no work has been done during the past six months, on account of the Frühling Reef Quartz Mining Company having suspended work, which flooded your mine, there is but little for us to say, but as the said company is in active work again, and your mine drained, we would

strongly recommend to commence sinking your shaft, which is down 256 feet from the surface, and a nice body of stone making in the bottom of shaft, which is showing gold. [41]

□12.05.1873□Frühling Reef Quartz Mining Company. The shaft has been sunk 14 feet, timbered up 18 feet, total depth from plat 40 feet, no change of any importance to note. [42]

□27.05.1873□Frühling Reef Company. The manager (Mr Carl Mueller) reports:- during the last fortnight we sunk shaft 8 feet and timbered 8 feet; no water, very good sinking ground. Stone is still going down and widening out. [43]

□09.06.1873□Frühling Reef Company. During the last fortnight the shaft has been sunk 7 feet and slabbed 7 feet; total depth from brace 278½ feet. [44]

□23.06.1873□Frühling Reef Company. Mr Carl Mueller reports:- during the last fortnight we sunk 2 feet, and commenced cutting a plat at the 270 foot level. [45]

□21.07.1873□Frühling Reef Company. During the past fortnight the eastern crosscut, at 370 foot level, has been driven 15 feet; total from shaft, 55 feet. Ground composed of hard bars, sandstone and slate. Have finished timbering plat at western crosscut, and driven from thence 4 feet. [46]

□04.08.1873□Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at the 370 foot level has been driven --- feet, total distance from shaft 80 feet. The ground is composed of slate and sandstone, intermixed with a large number of spurs. The water is coming in very fast. The western crosscut at the same level has been driven 10 feet, total distance 14 feet; driving all through slate. [47]

□18.08.1873□Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at 370 foot level has been driven 39 feet; total; from shaft 119 feet. Cut one spur about 6 inches thick, carrying mundic and galena. The western crosscut has been driven 10 feet, total distance 24 feet. Ground composed of slate. [48]

□01.09.1873□Frühling Reef Company. The eastern crosscut at 370 foot level has been driven 17 feet; total distance from shaft, 136 feet; ground hard slate. The western crosscut at same level is now in 27 feet; driving through sandstone bars. Water very strong. [49]

Frühling Reef Company. The half-yearly meeting of shareholders in this company was held ... on Monday last. ...

Mining Manager's report: Since my appointment as mining manager of your mine in March last, work has been pushed on as vigorously as possible. After thoroughly overhauling machinery and pumps, and cleaning out the boiler, I commenced to pump out the water, which was forked in a little over a week. Sinking of shaft was then proceeded with, which has been sunk a further depth of 70 feet, making total depth from surface 380 feet, all of which is well and securely timbered. I then commenced a crosscut to the east and to the west at 370 foot level, in expectation of cutting the same run of stone that has been hitherto worked with such profitable results. The eastern crosscut is now in to the distance of 146 feet; the driving has been through slate and sandstone, intermixed with quartz sours and lava veins, all of them underlying to the east, which I consider a favorable indication. The ground in the western crosscut is composed of slate and sandstone. I regret to say that as yet I have not succeeded in striking a payable reef, but at the same time I would urge upon you the advisability of continuing on both crosscuts, when I believe we shall yet discover stone of a payable character. ... [50]

□12.1875□Ground that has for some time been unworked has been taken up by small parties of working miners on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick, and the Lightning Reef, Eaglehawk, and on each reef several adjoining claims have proved payable. [2.31-32]

□09.06.1877□It is reported that 7ozs to the ton has been struck on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick. It was found in a body of quartz left by the former workers in the mine. [51]

□11.06.1877□It was ... reported that stone which had yielded 7ozs to the ton had been struck on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick, but no details are yet to hand. [52]

□06.1877□At the Whipstick, the Frühling Reef and Old Tom Reefs have been yielding better, and payable gold has been found in the Alexander Reef at Lockwood. [2.28-30]

□12.1877□A few claims at the Frühling and Blue Jacket reefs, at the Whipstick, are yielding well, but are not worked energetically. [2.29]

□06.1886□Some parties are working on the Frühling Reef, and have met with some encouragement. [2]

□19.01.1887□The next claim visited by (the Sandhurst Prospecting Board) was the Frühling Reef, for which William Thompson asked £1000. The company, which includes several Sandhurst shareholders, intends to resume work with vigor and to further prospect the ground, which was very rich in the early days. They are at present carting machinery. There was a plant here before, but it was removed. They are now about to erect a winding and pumping plant in such a position as to be able to work from two shafts. The old main shaft is down 330 feet, but there is a lot of water to be baled when the machinery is erected. The other shaft is 100 feet deep. It is intended to sink further. The original claim paid £36,000 near the surface. [53]

22.09.1899□A prospecting party, working on the Frühling Reef (Whipstick), are breaking a crushing from the reef at a depth of 50 feet from the surface, where the stone is 18 inches wide, and showing fair gold. The latest crushing taken out early in the month averaged half an ounce per ton. [54]

20.10.1899□A party of prospectors (Louie Toma, Tussup and Company), working at the old Summer mine on the Frühling Reef, Whipstick, cleaned off 13 tons for 2ozs 15dwt. The reef is 2 feet wide. [55]

20.12.1899□... another party Louie Toma, Tussup and Company, working on the Summer Reef, cleaned off 14 tons for 11ozs 2dwt. The latter has stone 4 feet in thickness, at a depth of 50 feet, and the dirt is easily obtained. [56]

08.05.1900□Loui Toma and party crushed 35 tons for 5ozs 10dwt, while a return of 7ozs 5dwt was obtained from the plates. [57]

21.08.1900□Loui Toma and Company (Whipstick) have crushed 29 tons for 7ozs 16dwt. The stone was obtained from a small reef 12 inches in thickness at a depth of 980 feet. [58]

14.09.1900□Loui Toma and Company (Whipstick) crushed 35 tons for the satisfactory return of 14ozs 3dwt. The stone was obtained at a depth of 90 feet from the Summer Reef, which has already been worked extensively in the locality. [59]

29.08.1931□In the scrub to the east and north (of Flagstaff Hill) there are numerous gullies where gold has been found in considerable quantities. Among these are the Whipstick, Beehive, Phillip's and Skylark. All these gullies, however, are being exploited by the fossickers at the present. ... [60]