

**NORTH WEST VICTORIA HISTORIC MINING PLOTS**

**(CASTLEMAINE)**

**1850-1980**

**Historic Notes**

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<b>3.31</b> Shicer's Hill/Gully		

### **ZONE 4: MOPOKE/STRATHLODDON/GUILDFORD**

<b>4.1</b> Nil Desperandum Reef	<b>4.2</b> German Gully Tarr's Reef	<b>4.3</b> Cornish & Spanish or
<b>4.4</b> Mopoke Reef/Gully	<b>4.5</b> Frenchman's Reef	<b>4.6</b> Champion Reef
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**ZONE 5: CAMPBELL'S CREEK**

<b>5.1</b>	Campbell's Ck (General)	<b>5.2</b>	Preshaw's Flat	<b>5.3</b>	Winter's Flat
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<b>5.7</b>	Seventy Foot Hill/Flat	<b>5.8</b>	Hard Hill	<b>5.9</b>	Forty Foot Hill
<b>5.10</b>	John O'Groat's Flat	<b>5.11</b>	Cemetery Flat	<b>5.12</b>	White Hill/Flat/Rf
<b>5.13</b>	Crow Gully	<b>5.14</b>	Little/Specimen Gully	<b>5.15</b>	Bolivia/Ajax Reef
<b>5.16</b>	New Chum Gully	<b>5.17</b>	Dead Horse Gully	<b>5.18</b>	Specimen Flat
<b>5.19</b>	Cumberland Reef	<b>5.20</b>	Nuggety/Poverty Reef	<b>5.21</b>	Little Nuggety Reef
<b>5.22</b>	Tarr's Gully	<b>5.23</b>	Dutch/Diechman's Reef	<b>5.24</b>	Nuggety Gully
<b>5.25</b>	Railway Gully	<b>5.26</b>	Poverty Flat	<b>5.27</b>	Slaughteryd Hill/Gully
<b>5.28</b>	Cabbage Garden Flat	<b>5.29</b>	Red Hill/Flat	<b>5.30</b>	Italian Hill/Gully
<b>5.31</b>	Hobby's Flat	<b>5.32</b>	Cheshire Flat	<b>5.33</b>	Poverty Gully
<b>5.34</b>	Skeen's Gully/Reef	<b>5.35</b>	Victoria Reef	<b>5.36</b>	New Year's Gully
<b>5.37</b>	Heard's Reef	<b>5.38</b>	Mysterious Reef	<b>5.39</b>	Burial Hill
<b>5.40</b>	Blanket Hill/Gully	<b>5.41</b>	Doctor's Hill	<b>5.42</b>	Switzerland Reef
<b>5.43</b>	Hargrave's Hill	<b>5.44</b>	Volunteer Reef	<b>5.45</b>	Wightman's Flat

**ZONE 6: CASTLEMAINE/FOREST CREEK**

<b>6.1</b>	Town of Castlemaine	<b>6.2</b>	Forest Creek (General)	<b>6.3</b>	Town or Commercial Reef
<b>6.4</b>	Forty Foot Hill	<b>6.5</b>	Clinker's Hill	<b>6.6</b>	Victoria Gully/Caledonia Reef
<b>6.7</b>	Ten Foot Hill	<b>6.8</b>	Aberdeen Hill/Gully	<b>6.9</b>	Scott's Hill
<b>6.10</b>	Scott's Gully	<b>6.11</b>	Meredith Reef	<b>6.12</b>	Champion Reef
<b>6.13</b>	Little Bendigo Gully	<b>6.14</b>	Humbug Gully	<b>6.15</b>	Little Bendigo Reef
<b>6.16</b>	Coombs' Gully	<b>6.17</b>	Wesley Flat/Hill	<b>6.18</b>	Red Hill
<b>6.19</b>	White Hill	<b>6.20</b>	Little White Hill	<b>6.21</b>	Kampf's Gully/Reef
<b>6.22</b>	White's Gully	<b>6.23</b>	Montgomery Hill/Gully	<b>6.24</b>	Rubio Reef
<b>6.25</b>	Iron Hill	<b>6.26</b>	Steel's Flat	<b>6.27</b>	Steel's Gully
<b>6.28</b>	London Reef				

**ZONE 7: SPECIMEN/MOONLIGHT/PENNYWEIGHT**

<b>7.1</b>	Barker's Creek (General)	<b>7.2</b>	Specimen Gully/Reef	<b>7.3</b>	Launceston Flat/Gully
<b>7.4</b>	Capper's Reef	<b>7.5</b>	Aplin's Reef	<b>7.6</b>	Long Gully
<b>7.7</b>	Belltopper Reef	<b>7.8</b>	Cranky Ned's Reef	<b>7.9</b>	Shellback Reef
<b>7.10</b>	Turnbull/Warren's Reef	<b>7.11</b>	Hermits Reef	<b>7.12</b>	Lauriston Reef
<b>7.13</b>	Gordon's Reef	<b>7.14</b>	Lady Barkly Reef	<b>7.15</b>	Granite Reef
<b>7.16</b>	Specimen Flat	<b>7.17</b>	Rigby's Hill	<b>7.18</b>	Union Gully
<b>7.19</b>	Hard Hill	<b>7.20</b>	Wattle Gully	<b>7.21</b>	Launceston Reef
<b>7.22</b>	Heinrich/Henrick's Reef	<b>7.23</b>	Devonshire Gully/Reef	<b>7.24</b>	Tongue's/Fortuna Reef
<b>7.25</b>	Nathan's Gully	<b>7.26</b>	Milkman's Flat/Gully	<b>7.27</b>	Mosquito Gully/Reef
<b>7.28</b>	Black Jack/Hickman's Gy	<b>7.29</b>	Uncle Billy's Gully	<b>7.30</b>	Harcourt
<b>7.31</b>	Mount Alexander Reef	<b>7.32</b>	Chinaman's Flat		

**ZONE 8: MOONLIGHT/PENNYWEIGHT FLATS**

<b>8.1</b>	Napier's Reef	<b>8.2</b>	Lady Gully	<b>8.3</b>	Nicholson's Gully
<b>8.4</b>	Racehorse Gully/Reef or German Banner Reef	<b>8.5</b>	Nicholson's Reef	<b>8.6</b>	Lucknow/Nthumberland Rf
<b>8.7</b>	Dog Leg Gully/Reef	<b>8.8</b>	Sebastopol Reef	<b>8.9</b>	Shicer Gully/Hill
<b>8.10</b>	Lever/Lion Point	<b>8.11</b>	Moonlight Flat	<b>8.12</b>	Moonlight Reef
<b>8.13</b>	Hundredweight Gully/Hill	<b>8.14</b>	Fiddler's Reef	<b>8.15</b>	Pennyweight Flat
<b>8.16</b>	Burns's Gully	<b>8.17</b>	Cemetery Gully/Reef	<b>8.18</b>	Great Britain Reef
<b>8.19</b>	Greaterox Reef	<b>8.20</b>	Jumper's Reef	<b>8.21</b>	Dirty Dick's Gully
<b>8.22</b>	Magenta Reef	<b>8.23</b>	Shicer's/Cadzow Reef		

**ZONE 9: GOLDEN POINT/CHEWTON**

<b>9.1</b>	Quartz Hill/Reef	<b>9.2</b>	Scotchman's Gully or Little Quartz Hill/Reef	<b>9.3</b>	No Name Reef
<b>9.4</b>	Trewartha Reef	<b>9.5</b>	Sailor's Gully/Flat	<b>9.6</b>	Little Sailor's Gully
<b>9.7</b>	Englishman's Gully/Reef	<b>9.8</b>	Dead Cat/Sailor's/ Garfield Reef	<b>9.9</b>	South American Reef
<b>9.10</b>	Sheepshead Gully/Reef	<b>9.11</b>	German Gully/Reef	<b>9.12</b>	Walker's Reef
<b>9.13</b>	Vale's/Tambaroora Reef	<b>9.14</b>	Manchester Flat	<b>9.15</b>	Manchester Reef
<b>9.16</b>	Argus Hill/Central Reef	<b>9.17</b>	Golden Point (General)	<b>9.18</b>	Expedition/Mitchell's Pass
<b>9.19</b>	Nimrod/Donkey Reef	<b>9.20</b>	Burns/Welcome Reef	<b>9.21</b>	Little Burns' Hill/Rf
<b>9.22</b>	Diamond Reef	<b>9.23</b>	Golden Gully	<b>9.24</b>	Donkey Gully
<b>9.25</b>	Deadman's Gully	<b>9.26</b>	Shicer Gully	<b>9.27</b>	Commissioner's Gully
<b>9.28</b>	Tipperary Flat/Gully	<b>9.29</b>	Trapp's Gully	<b>9.30</b>	Trapp's Reef
<b>9.31</b>	Black Monday Reef	<b>9.32</b>	Coach Flat	<b>9.33</b>	Esmond's Reef
<b>9.34</b>	British American Reef	<b>9.35</b>	Bonnet Flat	<b>9.36</b>	Scramble Gully
<b>9.37</b>	Town of Chewton	<b>9.38</b>	Break-of-Day Reef	<b>9.39</b>	Pioneer Reef
<b>9.40</b>	New Chum Gully	<b>9.41</b>	Argus Flat	<b>9.42</b>	Chewton Reef
<b>9.43</b>	Poverty Gully	<b>9.44</b>	Poverty Reef	<b>9.45</b>	Poverty Hill
<b>9.46</b>	Little/Red Hill/Gully/Rf	<b>9.47</b>	Golden Gully	<b>9.48</b>	Chapel Hill Reef
<b>9.49</b>	Old P.O. Hill Gully/Reef	<b>9.50</b>	Brice's Hill	<b>9.51</b>	Hard Hill/Reef
<b>9.52</b>	Prospect Hill	<b>9.53</b>	Charcoal Gully	<b>9.54</b>	Surveyor's Reef
<b>9.55</b>	Adelaide Flat	<b>9.56</b>	Adelaide Hill	<b>9.57</b>	Butcher's Gully
<b>9.58</b>	Adelaide Gully	<b>9.59</b>	Wattle Flat	<b>9.60</b>	Wattle Gully
<b>9.61</b>	Deadman's Gully	<b>9.62</b>	Deadman's Reef	<b>9.63</b>	Long Gully
<b>9.64</b>	Mona Reef	<b>9.65</b>	Three Speck Gully	<b>9.66</b>	Whitehorse Gully/Flat/Reef or Reservoir Reef & Dinah Flat
<b>9.67</b>	Crocodile Reef	<b>9.68</b>	Blarney Reef		

**ZONE 1: GOLDEN GULLY/FRYERSTOWN****ZONE INDEX:**

1.1 Golden Gully	1.2 Golden Point (Fryers Ck)	1.3 Heron's Reef
1.4 Ferron's Reef	1.5 Clark's Reef	1.6 Crocodile Gully Reservoir
1.7 Crocodile Creek	1.8 Lucky Strike	1.9 Commissioner's Flat & Gully
1.10 Cattle's Reef	1.11 Fryerstown	1.12 Windlass Hill and Flat
1.13 Deadman's Flat/Gully	1.14 Bellevue	1.15 Nuggetty Gully/Irishtown
1.16 Burying Ground Flat	1.17 Long Gully	1.18 Paddy's Gully
1.19 Brown's Gully/Reef	1.20 Rocky Gully	1.21 Devil's Gully

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**1.1 GOLDEN GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Golden Gully, Heron's, Ferron's, German, Cattle's Reefs

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**DATE HISTORY**

- 8 March 1852** The Golden Gully is nearly worked out, and the carriage to the Loddon is far more trouble and expense than the general value of the remaining soil warrants. A few holes here, however, do well. [83: 8/3/1852: p.2]
- 1853** Washdirt at Miner's Point realised 4 to 5 ounces per tub. [56]
- 6 June 1853** The Port Philip and Colonial Gold Mining Company have advice from their resident director at Melbourne. He was in negotiation with the Government for the lease of a tract of mineral land at Golden Gully, Fryer's Creek [see also Windlass Hill and Golden Point], under the new regulations which had just been issued, enabling public companies to carry on their operations... [11: 20/8/1853: p. 513]
- 12 July 1853** PORT PHILIP AND COLONIAL GOLD COMPANY  
 SIR, - In your Journal of the 9th inst., there appears what is called a "memorandum" of the Port Philip and Colonial Gold Company; it does not, however, appear to me by any means a satisfactory account of the affairs of the company. The superintendent states, what he terms "the results of six weeks' gold digging, ending the 6th of March;" he says, "an average of 16 Cumberland men produced 175 1/2 oz., and an average of about 24 Cornishmen gave in 82 oz." he proceeds to say, "that he has no doubt that a considerable amount of gold has been secreted by the latter party" - that is, the Cornishmen; and this, he comfortably assures us, cannot be avoided. I, for one, would like to know the reason why it cannot; and I think it worth a little more trouble to know the why than our worthy superintendent seems to take about it; the difference between the Cumberlandmen and the Cornish secreters (I won't call them "thieves," although I cannot see much difference between the two), is so large as to be worth a very full investigation. For instance, we will suppose the Cumberlandmen to be honest fair workmen, and we will suppose the Cornishmen to be equally clever, and equally well situated for gold finding, the result of the first 16 men is 175 1/2 oz.; the result of the second gang, of 24 men, by the same rule, ought to be 263 1/4 oz. On the whole, I consider the account or memorandum (whatever it may be) to be extremely unsatisfactory, and

would suggest the following queries for the consideration of the management: - 1. Whether there are no means to detect dishonesty and no law to punish it when detected. - 2. Whether it is not possible, and much more to the interests of the company, to discharge such men, their produce not being much more than 1/2 oz. per week each man, in all probability less than the wages they are receiving for their labour; and, lastly, whether it would not be possible to employ a quantity of Chinamen, as is done by some other company or companies, at a much cheaper rate, and in lieu of lazy or dishonest Cornishmen... W.P. [11: 16/7/1853: p. 428]

**23 July 1853**

**PORT PHILIP AND COLONIAL GOLD COMPANY**

The alluvial washing has been sufficiently proved to pronounce high success upon the removal of certain local and legal difficulties, which compel them to sink fresh pits every 8 ft., instead of pursuing Hopkins's system of cutting a drainage at the dip, and by carrying a broad excavation before them, clearing the whole of the gold from the bed of its deposit.

The gold melting and assay offices are now in full and successful operation, and will doubtless prove a source of great revenue.

The machinery for mining-proper, or crushing, is fixed, and its results will speak for themselves... [11: 23/7/1853: p. 445]

**6 Aug 1853**

One of the English companies [have] done more than buying gold, excepting the Port Philip Company, which, under the management of Mr Hopkins, has attempted to work alluvial soil. The rate of wages in the colony for both skilled and unskilled labour prevents any successful operations on the part of companies. [11: 6/8/1853: p. 481]

**5 Nov 1853**

At Fryer's Creek, Mount Alexander, the miners were petitioning against the lease of land there (worked by 500 persons) to the Port Philip and Colonial Gold Company; while in summer as many as 1500 persons reside there for the benefit of the water. It is to be feared the miners would offer forcible opposition to the company, and it is evident the authorities will have to be on the alert. [11: 28/11/1854: p. 56]

**1853-4**

Next day we reached Fryers Creek, and got permission to occupy a hut close to Windlass Hill, the property of the Port Phillip Gold Mining Company. This company was formed of English capitalists who had subscribed £100,000 to work the goldfields of Victoria. The company had camps at Clunes, Fryers and Forest Creeks, and, I believe, other places. They employed men to prospect many of which they brought from the old country, giving them 20/- and 30/- per day.

About the time we reached Fryers the camp there was about to be abandoned on account of non-success. The same ill-luck attended the company in their operations elsewhere, and it was only when the whole of the capital was absorbed and orders were on their way from England to abandon all stations and sell everything saleable that gold was got in the quartz at Clunes in payable quantities, which has recouped the shareholders their original outlay, I suppose, fifty-fold. [20: pp. 37-8]

**26 Aug 1854**

Golden Point and Golden Gully still retain their usual number of inhabitants, and no person seems to be complaining. [47: p. 4]

**6 April 1855A**

Monster Nugget - We have for some time been looked upon as an exhausted and impoverished field, but...the finest and most complete nugget of solid gold ever found, has been taken out of an old hole in Golden Gully, Fryer's Creek. It weighs 1022 ounces, and is worth about £4000, completely eclipsing all former nuggets. It was found in an old pillar in 20 ft sinking, by two young men named Davis and Harris, who have only been out about eight months... they had offered the hole in the morning for two ounces of gold, but could not sell it... The owners of the nugget, out of courtesy to our worthy Commissioner, Mr Heron, named it the 'Heron nugget'... The place where it was found was turned over very hastily two or three years since, and...there are several pick-marks observable on the

nugget... There seems to be a general inclination to try hill sinking in the vicinity and, from what we can gather, all the hills will pay for working, and will, in all probability be opened this winter. [47: p.2]

*2 Nov 1855* There are many parties working in Golden Gully, but it is impossible to arrive at anything like an accurate conclusion as to the richness of the claims. [47: p.2]

*29 Feb 1856* Fryer's Town - The Quartz Reefs in the neighbourhood are abandoned... the one that promised so favourably on Golden Gully, is also vacated. [47: p.4]

*13 May 1856* 66.5 oz from a reef on Golden Gully. [37]



- May 1859** Golden Gully. - Pelcher and party, who have been working quartz-reefs for the last three years with some degree of success, are now erecting an eight horse-power horizontal steam-engine, and to drive 12 heads of stamps, weighting 4 1/2 cwt. each, and three shaking-tables. They will have sufficient power to crush 80 tons of quartz a week, 24 hours a day. This party will be in a position to crush for the public to the extent of 40 tons per week, at the rate of £1 per ton, exclusive of cartage... The prospects of the Golden Gully Reefs [Ferron's, Heron's & Clark's] are not particularly flourishing at the present time. [10]
- June 1859** Pilcher and Co. (16 men in party) - one 18hp expensive steam engine, 12 heads of stamps; crushes 30 tons in 24 hours. Employing 11 men at average rate £3 per week. Crushed 300 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 5 dwt. Depth from surface - 70 & 100 feet.  
 Holywell and Co - one horizontal high-pressure engine 10hp engine, 8 stamps, and Chilian mill; crushes 8 tons in 24 hours.  
 Andrews and Co. (1 in working party) - one 6hp high pressure engine, 4 stamps, crushes 10 tons in 24 hours. Crushed during past month - 70 tons. Yield per ton - 11 dwt. Depth from surface - 25 feet.  
 Andrews & Co. prospecting an abandoned claim. Crushed 25 ton in past month. 2 1/2 dwt. yield per ton. Depth from surface - 85 feet.  
 Andrews & Co. employing 14 men by contract, raising stone at 9 shillings per ton. Crushed 20 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 6 1/2 dwt. Depth from surface - 20 feet.  
 Andrews & Co. Crushed 15 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 3 dwt. Depth from surface - 60 feet.  
 Pilcher and Co - one 2hp steam engine, 4 stamps; crushes 6 tons (calcined) in 24 hours.  
 Brown and Co. (5 in the party) - one 5hp portable engine, 4 stamps, crushes 6 tons in 24 hours. Crushed in the past month - 50 tons. Yield per ton - 1/2 oz. Depth from surface - 4, 10 and 30 feet.  
 Glew & Co. (2 in the party). Crushed 25 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 1 oz. 14 3/4 dwt. Working a surface leader. [10]
- June 1859** 18 puddling machines operated by 90 non-Chinese  
 35 non-Chinese involved in ordinary mining  
 65 non-Chinese involved in quartz mining. [10]
- July 1860** Golden and Spring Gullies appear at present to be the favoured localities [for puddling], there being scarcely a foot of ground in these places unoccupied. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz reefs actually proved to be auriferous [include]:  
 Golden Gully (German Reef)  
 4 miners employed. [10]
- Nov 1861** Tyack and Co. - getting between 4 and 15 pounds per week for the past six months. [52]
- Jan 1862** Most puddlers doing exceedingly well; those working with tub and cradle are meeting with very indifferent success. [52]
- 10 July 1862** Returns from the puddlers now negligible. [51]
- June 1864** Most puddlers making good wages. [52]
- June 1865** Puddlers able to work making good wages. [52]
- June 1866** Adequate supplies of water now for puddling. [52]
- March 1867** These gullies have ever been remarkable for apparently inexhaustible mineral wealth. Alluvial mining operations are, as heretofore, confined to puddling. The claims have been in work for some years, and from the systematic and energetic manner in which the operations were conducted, the permanent dwellings erected, and the blocks of ground cultivated, it is not unreasonable to suppose the average earnings of the puddlers are satisfactory. [10]

*March 1867* Stevens and Company, Golden Gully, are erecting a 10-horse power engine, with 8 heads of stamps. This having proved one of the best paying claims in the neighbourhood, it seems worthy of remark, that this will be the third engine erected upon the same site, for crushing purposes, during the past few years. [10]

- June 1867* The only changes or addition in machinery consist in the erection of a new engine by the Free Italian Company, Guildford, and another by Stevens and Davis of Golden Gully; the latter has been well employed during the past two months, to the benefit both of owners and quartz miners in the locality. [10]
- June 1867* In the neighbourhood of Golden and Spring Gullies, places that have been most prospected, from time to time veins or spurs have been struck which for a short period have paid well, but ultimately had to be abandoned.  
The ranges between and on either side of these gullies are intersected by innumerable quartz veins, apparently almost at equal distances apart. It is to be hoped that the day is not far distant when prospecting at a great depth will be carried on with energy and spirit; previous returns establish the fact that nearly all our best crushings have resulted from the deeper workings... [10]
- Sept 1867* The Golden Gully reefs have now been worked successfully for the past ten years, to a depth not exceeding 100 feet; several distinct lodes running parallel and nearly coincident with the magnetic meridian, have been traced and found richly impregnated with gold. One of these lodes [Cattle's Reef], now being worked by Mills, Hilton, and Company, is yielding brilliantly. The quartz veins in this part of the district have never been fairly tested below the water level. The want of powerful machinery and lack of mining enterprise has hitherto prevented the solution of a problem, which has been solved in other districts with astonishing effects. [10]
- 1867* Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
Rowe and Company, Cattle and Company, Stevens and Company, Little and Davis [10]
- March 1868* During the past three months the returns show an improvement in this branch of mining, more particularly on Cattle's Reef and Ferron's Reef, Golden Gully. Messrs. Rowe give an average of 9 dwts. to the ton, while Stevens and Co. have realised 1 1/4 oz. to the ton. Mills and Co., who occupy the adjoining claim to Messrs. Rowe have been principally engaged sinking a new shaft during the past two months, with the view of striking the reef below the hill, and so trace the main lode intersecting Commissioner's Flat. [10]
- June 1868* Messrs. Mills, Hilton and Co., who occupy a claim about 200 feet to the south of the Duke of Cornwall, have already sunk a shaft to a depth of 140 feet, and 76 feet below the water level [10]
- Dec 1868* A reef or lode (in continuation of Clark's or Ferron's) has been struck in Golden Gully, which yielded 7 dwts. to the ton; there is a good body of stone, and the quartz now being raised looks well. [10]
- 1868* Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
Rowe and Company, Stevens and Company, Cattle and Company, Mills and Company [10]
- June 1870* The Anglo-Australian Company [see HERON'S REEF]
- 4 Jan 1871* The Fryer's Creek Reefs  
On Monday last I made a tour of inspection of the Fryer's Creek mines, and returned highly pleased with the result of my inspection. The first mine I visited was the northern one of the Anglo-Australian, an English proprietary; this claim is managed and supervised by J. Lamb, Esq., an English gentleman of easy manners, and who did the agreeable on the occasion of my visit. This company is erecting a beam engine of about 100-horse power, which is in an advanced state of completion and the prospects of the company I should consider are very fair, judging from some of the stone shown me, taken from a leader struck in the cross-cut. They have a large number of men employed on the works, and are building their own boiler on the ground, for the which Vivian and Co., of Castlemaine are the contractors and all on this claim is bustle and activity.



South-east of the Anglo is the claim of Stephens and Company, on the Ferron's reef. The yields from this claim are very irregular, sometimes paying handsome dividends to the shareholders. Latterly the yields have declined, but never below the wages point. One year since this was one of the first claims in the district, and I doubt not before long it will be up the front again. And then passing over a few small claims of lesser note we come to that of the Australian United. This also is an English company under the directorship of R.L.M. Kitto, Esq., M.P. On this is erected a beam engine, a horizontal engine, and a small winding engine. The stone now being crushed from the claim is of good quality, and at the south-east boundary of this claim a downright shaft sunk to the depth of 300 feet would strike the large body of stone now being worked by Rowe Bros. with such brilliant results. This claim if persistently worked cannot fail to yield handsome returns, and will repay the large outlay invested.

Next south of the slide comes the claim of Cattle and Co. This claim has been famous for its steady yields, and still continues to give very fair returns whenever they are working in quartz, but being so near the slide the lode is rather abrupt and broken. This party have called in the aid of a few other working men; they are now sinking a down right shaft to intercept the eastern reef, worked by Rowe Bros., which they expect to strike at a depth of 250 feet.

Next south in a direct line is the famous claim of Rowe Bros, the yields from which are so well known I need not recapitulate them here. This much I may state, it is challenged to be the first claim of the colony, ie. for durability, extent of stone, and average yield, and I think it would carry off the palm.

Then I must say south-west from Rowe Bros. (for here south-east comes in another chain) comes the rich claim of Hilton, Mills, and Co., from which at a very recent date there was exhibited in the window of a storekeeper at Fryer's Creek two tin dishes of stone valued at £600 sterling, and only a few days since there were taken from the claim lumps of gold weighing nine, six, and three ounces respectively. Intersecting, or dividing this claim east and west is the road-claim of 99 feet from north to south of Rowe, Kitto and Co. The average yield from this claim has been over one ounce per ton with 99 feet of stone. They are now sinking a downright east of their present shaft to strike the lode of Gill and Co. This claim, on the private property of C.L. Cartheries, quite of recent date, and considered by men well up in mining to be outside the line altogether, has turned out very good yields. They struck the eastern lode at a depth of 120 feet, nine feet rise, underlay east, easy to break, and the yield fully up to one ounce per ton. This lode traverses the road-claim of Rowe, Kitto and Co., then into the southern portion of Hilton, Mills and Co.'s claim, and then into the large claim of the Fryer's Company. This claim is under the limited liability act, launched on the Ballarat and Castlemaine markets about twelve months since; the proprietary are of Castlemaine and Ballarat. They have commenced work on this mine with something like system, sinking a downright 300 feet, and then extending cross-cuts east and west at the several levels; they have a large area of ground on the line of the eastern and western lodes. About 20 days since some very good stone was struck at the 180 feet cross-cut west with gold throughout the entire stone. The stone thus struck is precisely similar in appearance to that of Rowe Brothers, Small and party, and Hilton, Mills and Co. Stone that in any other part of the Castlemaine district would be considered worthless is on the line of reef gold bearing. They are still continuing the cross-cut west to intersect the lode worked by Small and Co., whose claim adjoins them on the west. Taking all the circumstances of this company into consideration, with gold surrounding them at every point, I have no hesitation in saying

that eventually, and not very far distant, this claim will excel any claim within a radius of many miles held by a public company. In taking a casual survey of the eastern line of lode from the claim of Gill and Co., through that of Hilton, Mills and Co., to that of the Fryer's Company I should say this company would strike the eastern lode at about 150 feet cross-cut.

At the 180 feet level, and supposing the underlie to continue the same as that in the claim of Gill and Co., I am of opinion this claim will give a healthy and enduring impetus to mining by public company in this district and will tend to disperse the fallacy that in Castlemaine we have no reefs of any note.

Small and Co.'s claim is to the west of the Fryers Co., and does not embrace any portion of the eastern reef. Notwithstanding they have a rich claim, a steady yield, a large body of stone, and easy of access, and a splendid battery of their own to boot, all of which has been erected out of the profits of their mine during the last fifteen months. In fact the whole of Commissioner's Flat is studded with lodes of more or less richness, and all are paying well for being worked. Next, south-east of the Fryers Co. is the claim known as the Black Hawk, held by Kitto, Lamb and Co. They are not sufficiently deep in this mine to intersect any of the lodes in the foregoing claims.

West of the Black Hawk is the claim of the Cumberland Co. I have not yet inspected this claim, but will write of it anon.

As I have enumerated all the claims on this line of reef, I must wind up by saying I was never more prepossessed in favour of a reef than that of the Commissioner's Flat line at Fryer's Creek. This lode is durable, and of great thickness, inexpensive to work, and the average yield is excellent. [37]

**1872-5** Between 1872 and 1875 Neilson and Company removed almost 13,000 tons of material for a return of about 230 oz. of gold. Their operations seem to have been hampered by the lack of an adequate source of cheap water. [50: p.43]

**March 1873** Little alluvial mining at Golden Gully. [52]

**Dec 1877** Duke and Duchess United, Golden Gully. - This company has been a long time working with considerable spirit and energy, and payable gold has been struck. [10]

**June 1885** New Era Gold Mining Company, Golden Gully [see FERRON'S REEF] [10]

**11 May 1889** If any of the people, who at one time, not many years back, were to visit Fryerstown at present, they, no doubt, would be very much surprised to see the condition of the mining industry at that place. What was once a long line of reef, employing large numbers of men, is now one succession of idle machinery and solitary chimney stacks. At the most southern end of the line is the Burdett-Coutts Company, which swallowed up a large sum of money. A little further north is the Golden Eagle mine, with two engines, one for crushing, and one for winding, both standing idle. Continuing north is the old Cumberland mine, from which the machinery was recently removed to Newstead; adjoining, is the Hope Tribute Co., from which two or three good yields were obtained, and about two years ago was partly purchased by a Melbourne syndicate. Then there is the Fryers Company's claim, upon which many thousands of pounds were expended. Almost alongside of the Fryers is the site of Small's plant, but latterly called the Enterprise, which yielded a large amount of gold. Then comes the New Perseverance Tribute Gold-Mining Company, which has only recently suspended operations, and on which there are most powerful winding, crushing, and pumping engines. Opposite the Perseverance is the famous Mosquito mine of Rowe Brothers, from which tons of gold have been obtained, and there is no doubt if sufficient capital was judiciously expended, the Mosquito would yield up its wealth as of yore. On the top of the hill, over the Mosquito is a powerful winding engine. Continuing south is the famous Duke of Cornwall mine, with one of the most powerful engines in the colony upon it, capable of pumping and hauling from almost any depth. On the same lease is another winding engine, but which has been idle for many years. Northward again, alongside of the main road, is a large brick

stack, which marks the site of the Duchess mine. A little eastward of this are the remains of what was once the Ferron's Reef Company, and is the property of Rowe Brothers. Then we come to the New Era, which was the pride and hope of Fryerstown, and also of the whole of the Castlemaine district, but which decided a couple of weeks ago to suspend operations, and they are now engaged drawing the pumps and other movables out of the mine preparatory to winding up the affairs of the company.



Upon it there is a most complete and powerful plant, capable of doing any work. Adjoining the New Era lease is that of the Fryers Creek Gold Mining Company, but which is mostly called by its old name as the Anglo. This is the most northernmost claim on the line of reef that is working, and it is to be hoped that the shareholders, who reside in England, will ere long be repaid for the large amount of capital they have expended on the mine. Consequently, on the suspension of work in the mines the miners have been obliged to seek work elsewhere, which, of course, tends to draw the population away from the district. [37]

- March 1898** Sanger and Party (sluicing): 94oz gold [10]  
**June 1898** Sanger and Party (sluicing): 5oz gold [10]  
**1903** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]  
**1904-14** In 1904 the Golden Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Company began pumped sluicing operations. This was a co-operative party of 13 working shareholders who used gravity feed of water to their nozzle from a raceway constructed along the western side of the gully, and then pumped the resulting slurries over the sluices with an 8 inch gravel pump driven by a 20 horsepower portable steam engine. To the end of 1914 they treated well over 14 acres of ground... The return was just over 3,700 ounces of gold. [50: p.43]  
**1904** Ford's Dredge or Ford Brothers: Pumped sluicing plant operating at Fryer's Creek (also at Campbell's Creek) [12: p.53]  
**1904** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.54]  
**Dec 1904** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 106oz gold [10]  
**1905** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.84-5]  
**1905** Ford's Dredge or Ford Brothers: Pumped sluicing plant operating at Fryer's Creek and Campbell's Creek [12: pp.92-3]  
**Jan 1905** Ford's Dredge or Ford Brothers: 184oz gold [10]  
**Feb 1905** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 63oz gold [10]  
**1906** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.92-3]  
**1906** Ford's Dredge or Ford Brothers: Pumped sluicing plant operating at Fryer's Creek and Campbell's Creek [12: pp.92-3]  
**1907** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: gravity feed of water, 8 inch gravel pump, 20 horsepower portable engine [12: pp.112-3]  
**1908** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]  
**1909** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.106-7]  
**June 1909** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 16oz gold [10]  
**June 1909** Ford's Dredge or Ford Brothers: 30oz gold [10]  
**1910** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]  
**March 1910** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 88oz gold [10]  
**March 1910** Ford's Dredge or Ford Brothers: 32oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1910** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 128oz gold [10]  
**1911** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.106-7]  
**Sept 1911** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 177oz gold [10]  
**1912** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.84-5]  
**1913** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.80-81]  
**June 1913** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 77oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1913** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 60oz gold [10]  
**Dec 1913** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: 78oz gold [10]  
**1914** Golden Gully Hydraulic Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.74-5]  
**1990** Site of Heron's nugget find - on western side of Chewton-Fryerstown Road, opposite southern boundary fence of property on south corner of Taradale Road intersection... Dad showed me the spot when I was a boy and his dad showed him...my grandfather saw the actual nugget when it was found. [map ref 55HBU]  
 Duchess of Cornwall - west side of road, near the Duke of Cornwall - they never went very deep there. [72]

## 1.2

## GOLDEN POINT

Mining Division Fryer's Creek  
Associated Fields/Reefs

DATE	HISTORY
<i>Nov 1851</i>	Another citizen wrote - "With my mates I reaches Fryer's Creek on the 9th November, and found three parties there before us who had gathered plenty of gold. We started work on Golden Point, where gold was plentiful..." [15: p. 49-51]
<i>Jan 1852</i>	It was about Golden Point, Fryer's Creek, that many of the fabulously rich pockets of gold had been found during the preceding three months, and round that favoured centre a large number of amateur diggers made their first essay at gold-finding... The riches of the locality were simply amazing, for as much as three hundredweight of gold was taken out of one hollow in the rocky bottom of a claim not seven feet deep. Many a man found ten to twenty pounds' weight of gold loose upon the surface of his claim, and gathered or swept up hundreds of pounds' worth before he commenced any excavation. So freely could gold be found on the surface and about the grass roots, that until men arrived in such numbers that one could no longer pick and choose the spot to excavate, the digger would not sink anywhere until he had found so much gold about the surface in any locality as to justify him in expecting to find it in great abundance beneath. For the most part the washdirt lay at a depth of four to eight feet, and the sinking was quite easy, but in cases where a layer of wash was traced into deeper ground, there was a stiff layer of quartz conglomerate to pierce, which took two or three days' hard work to sink through... [15: pp.61-2]
<i>26 Aug 1854</i>	Golden Point and Golden Gully still retain their usual number of inhabitants, and no person seems to be complaining. [47: p. 4]
<i>3 Nov 1854</i>	Public Meeting at Fryer's Creek - Leasing or Letting 'Worked Out' Lands. Mr Brocklehurst came forward and said that, about twelve months ago the Port Phillip Gold Mining Company wished for some ground at Golden Point, Fryer's Creek, but they were resisted by willing men and strong hearts, and successfully resisted too, because it was considered highly objectionable that a company should possess that which belonged to the community... [47: p.7]
<i>12 Jan 1855</i>	Storekeepers and residents on Fryer's Creek are desired to notice the advantageous opportunity presented by the unreserved sale of the extensive stores of Messrs. Rogers and Harper, at Golden Point, on Monday the 15th instant. Lunch is offered. [47: p.5]
<i>5 Feb 1856</i>	In consequence of complaints from miners that the dams at Golden Point, Fryer's Creek, were injurious, and prevented the working of flats in the neighbourhood, the warden, Mr Heron, ordered them to be cut away... Middleton's Creek has proved a failure... [47: p.5]

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**1.3 HERON'S REEF**


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Mining Division Fryer's Creek  
Associated Fields/Reefs

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<i>May 1859</i>	Heron's Reef, which has been worked during the past two years, is now comparatively deserted. [10]
<i>July 1859</i>	[Table of monthly returns] lists Brown and Co., Stock and Co., Sullivan and Co., Redhouse and Co., Tait and Co., Fincher and Co., as working Heron's Reef. [10]
<i>Dec 1860</i>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous [include]: Heron's Reef, 10 miners employed [10]
<i>April 1861</i>	The Turon's [?] Reef Company is at a standstill. [10]
<i>July 1861</i>	Jackson and Company crushed 70 tons for 3oz/ton. Dagleish and Company crushed 58 tons for 3oz/ton. [10]
<i>August 1861</i>	Jackson and Co. - crushed 120 tons of debris from the surface for 2 dwt/ton.  Dagleish and Co. - crushed 33 tons of seconds from near surface for 4 dwt/ton. [10]
<i>Sept 1861</i>	Dagleish and Company (This party is sinking a new shaft) Jackson and Company (engaged in repairing machinery) [10]
<i>1865</i>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Rowe Brothers (crushing for hire) [10]
<i>1868</i>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Davis and Company, Redhouse and White, Stock and Company, Ferron and Company [10]
<i>March 1869</i>	Cattle's, Ferron's Heron's Prince of Wales, Cemetery, and Specimen Hill Reefs constitute nearly one continuous, unbroken line of reef, although there are what are denominated the eastern and western lodes, 9 or 10 chains apart, with numerous veins and leaders running at different angles between them... [10]
<i>16 Oct 1869</i>	ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY. - The prospectus of this company has been issued today. It is brought out under the auspices and management of the Australian United Company, the property being in the same district and on the same rich auriferous reefs. [11:16/10/1869: p.772]
<i>23 Aug 1870</i>	[Claim] No. 15 does Mr Lamb, the agent for the English capitalists, lately form the Sir Roderick Murchison, belonging to the Anglo-Australian Company? The machinery here is to be like that at the Duke of Cornwall, and part of it is now on the ground, where an engine-house is being erected. Two shafts are being sunk, that at the eastern end is 180 feet down, and is being worked by a whim, while that in the western is 60 feet down and stopped by water. [11: 5/11/1870: p.924]
<i>28 Feb 1870</i>	Anglo-Australian. - Mr Kitto forwards the following report on the works from Capt. Raisbeck, Feb. 28. - By your request I have honour to report upon the different works of the Sir Roderick Murchison Mine. The smiths' shop and the reservoir are completed according to instructions given by you. The contractors of No. 1 shaft have sunk 66 feet, and secured 30 feet with timber... The contractors of No. 2 shaft sunk 60 feet, and secured it with timber, as required by contract. Operations are suspended for the

present at this shaft on account of too much water; struck quartz at bottom of shaft. I have commenced to take out the earthworks for the foundation of engine-house, &c., and will be finished in about eight days. I have also, as you ordered, opened a quarry convenient to the engine-house, and am pleased to report that you will have good stone for the buildings. [11: 22/4/1870: p.351]

- June 1870** The Anglo-Australian Company. This company has commenced operations. They are preparing everything necessary to erect machinery, which is shortly expected from England. The miners are employed quarrying and sinking. [10]
- Sept 1870** The Anglo-Australian G.M. Company have erected (or nearly so) a stone engine-house to receive a 200 horse-power engine now on the ground, are sinking shaft to depth of 200 feet, and generally preparing for extensive operations. [10]
- 5 Dec 1870** Anglo-Australian. Mr Kitto writes: the whole of both consignments of machinery, ex Merrie Monarch and Mikado, has arrived, and is in good condition, except the piston of the 25-engine, which had to be taken to the local foundry for the purpose of being fitted with rings. The engine-house is nearly finished; the bob is in position, as also are the cylinder and well-work." Capt. Raisbeck writes. The engine and boiler house is finished, so far as the mason work is concerned. The stack will be finished today, and the outside loading will be completed in the course of eight or nine days. [11: 28/1/1871: p.80]
- Dec 1870** The Anglo Australian Company. This Company have already completed the erection of a splendid plant. A Cornish beam-engine, 75 horse-power, nominal, with pumping and all other appliances; also a 40 horse-power engine, with ordinary winding gear. At a depth of 93 feet they struck a lode 18 inches thick; the stone is supposed to be of a highly auriferous character, yet the proprietors intend sinking until a depth of 300 feet is attained before they raise any quartz for crushing. [10]
- 27 Feb 1871** Anglo-Australian - ...Mr Kitto reports - "The engine is in good order, and works capitally; the cost of erection is much less than could be reasonably anticipated; this is in consequence of the workmen beginning to understand this kind of engine... The principal engine is fixed, and works well. The engine-house is finished, with exception of doors, windows, painting, &c. Pumps have to be placed in the two principal shafts, and these carried down another 100 ft. or so; another shaft deepened to cut the eastern lode... The stamping-house we need not commence until we raise sufficient quartz to test is paying qualities. There are the rods to make and fix from the engine to the two main shafts, and the winding-engine to erect after the loading is built up." [11: 22/4/1871: p.347]
- March 1871** The Anglo-Australian Company has not yet completed their plant... [10]
- 29 Sept 1871** Duchess of Cornwall Gold Mining Co. - lease is 900 ft on the line of the reef, which traverses Rowe Brothers' claim...and extends into Anglo-Australian Co. [37]
- Sept 1871** In [quartz] mining a further inducement is advanced by the successful operations of the Anglo Australian Company, situated between the Golden and Blacksmith's Gully. [10]
- 6 Nov 1871** Anglo-Australian. -... Mr Kitto writes:- "... The engineers are rather slow in preparing their plans of stamps, but as they are very careful, painstaking men a little delay is, perhaps, not to be regretted." [11: 30/12/1871: p.1174]
- 4 Dec 1871** Anglo-Australian.- Mr Kitto writes - "Since I last wrote you we have discovered what appears to be a good lode about 100 feet from the southern boundary of our mine (within) at a depth of 40 feet from the surface. Tradition said that some 17 years ago a Mr O'Sullivan obtained 20 oz. from

1 1/4 ton from this spot, and it appears quite likely, judging from the appearance of the stone struck by us. Tenders have been called...for the supply and erection of 15 heads of revolving stamps with amalgamating apparatus, together with the necessary buildings and connecting gear of sufficient strength to drive 50 heads." [11: 27/1/1872: p.190]

*Jan 1872* Anglo-Australian. - Mr Kitto writes: "...I am informed that the successful tenderer [for a battery of 15 heads of stamps] is proceeding rapidly with his work, the whole is to be delivered on the ground by Feb. 6th. We have a large quantity of quartz to crush, so that in another six months I hope to be obtaining remunerative returns..." [11: 24/2/1872]

*1 Feb 1872* Anglo-Australian.-...Mr Kitto writes:-"...No. 2 engine shaft west has been sunk 12 feet since last report, and secured with timber to a depth of 31 ft., including a frame set of timber, 8 in. by 8 in., for bearers. Shaft now timbered to a depth of 192 ft. [11: 23/8/1872: p.298]

- 29 Feb 1872** Anglo-Australian. - Mr Kitto, Fryerstown, Feb. 29 writes - "The contractors are getting on well with the stamping batteries. Vivian and Sons have delivered nearly the whole of the castings, and the contractor for the erection (Summerland) has already nearly finished the building, in addition to having the foundation for the 'horses' bedded in concrete....  
Capt. Raisbeck, Feb. 28, reports - "...The contractor has delivered most of the ironwork for the 15-head battery, and it appears quite satisfactory. The contractor for the erection of the stamp-house and machinery has got the house covered in, most of the bed logs laid, and has commenced with the iron work; when finished we shall have a first-rate little battery, easily added to if required." [11: 20/4/1872: p. 374]
- 28 Mar 1872** Anglo-Australian - John Raisbeck, mine agent, March 28 ... Tailings done for reserving water for battery will require an additional 2 feet to complete, and clay-faced to waterproof it. [11: 18/5/1872: p.470]
- 23 April 1872** Capt. Raisbeck, April 23: "...In clearing out some of the old workings we have come upon a fine-looking spur from 12 to 18 in. thick; as the spurs immediately above this have yielded above 2 oz. per ton, it is very probable that this will prove equally good. There will be a large amount of stone ready for the battery from the south end of the claim (open cutting). The tailing dams will be completed in two or three days. Several old shafts have been lately cleared out, and in all these there have been found several gold-bearing spurs, which have been worked to great profit in olden days at a higher level." Mr Kitto writes - "...There are...on the ground scores of small shafts by former workers, and in two or three places open cuttings. From these points (unavailable for future extensive workings) we shall obtain the principal supply of quartz for a year or two to come... The little shafts referred to by Capt. Raisbeck in his report are old ones sunk by former proprietors very many years ago. The battery will be at work in a fortnight." [11: 15/6/1872: p.572]
- 10 Sept 1872** Anglo-Australian. - Mr Kitto writes - "Operations have not been actively resumed at the mine. A party of tributers (two) has, however, been working on some branches in the shaft immediately to the east of the east shaft (engine), and obtained 25 oz. of gold from 34 tons of quartz... I think it will be a good plan to sink only the eastern engine-shaft, and drain the numberless branches there, for the purpose of letting them on tribute pending the thorough development of this lode at (say) the 600 feet level." [11: 2/11/1872: p. 1054]
- 2 Jan 1873** Anglo-Australian. - Capt. Raisbeck reports to Mr Kitto:- "...East Shaft: The men have sunk since [5th Dec] 12 ft., put in a frame set 8 in. by 8 in. for carrying lift, and secured with timber 21 ft. of shaft; present depth of shaft 234 ft. [11: 22/2/1873: p. 216]
- 27 Mar 1873** Anglo-Australian. - Capt. Raisbeck: ...I have let on tribute a portion of ground adjoining Redhouses's claim, at 12s. in £1. [11: 17/5/1873: p.528]
- 13 July 1873** Anglo-Australian. - Capt. Raisbeck:... We have crushed for the public during the month 10 tons. I have had the boiler cleaned and the machinery thoroughly examined, which is now in excellent working order. I have also cut through the embankment on the south water dam, put in box drain and floodgate, to tap dam when required. This is extra expense, but necessary work. [11: 5/9/1873: p.979]
- 3 Nov 1874** Anglo-Australian. - Cap Raisbeck reports - We have crushed for the month 25 tons of stone; result, 5 oz. 7 dwts. retorted gold. We have also crushed for the public 20 tons of quartz. As we did not succeed in purchasing a suitable winding-engine, we have contracted with Mr Vivian, ironfounder, to make and erect a suitable winding-gear for £38 2s 9d in connection with the present engine, but we shall not be able to crush and wind at the same time...I shall be able to haul 5 tons per hour from the 400 ft., which is more

than we can break with the men we shall be able to employ. We can then crush 18 hours per day if required... I expect to be ready for winding in three weeks if we can purchase good second-hand trucks and cages. [11: 26/12/1874]

- 30 Dec 1874** Anglo-Australian. - Capt. Raisbeck:... Mr Vivian has finished his contract very satisfactorily, but we did not get the pit head pulleys until the 16th inst. We have purchased second-hand trucks, cages, flat sheets, and 500 ft. of iron rails, all in good condition, very cheap. These will be sufficient for our present use. I expect to haul with the engine in six days from date... We have crushed for the public during the month 31 tons of stone. [11: 20/2/1875: p.212]
- Dec 1874** The Anglo, Golden Gully. - The company are driving at the 300 and 320-foot levels, and erecting winding machinery. [10]
- 19 April 1875** Anglo-Australian - J. Raisbeck, Fryerstown:... On the 9th and 10th inst. we cleaned the boiler and flues, and had the engine and machinery thoroughly examined and rectified. We have crushed for the public during the month 74 tons of stone. [11: 12/6/1875: p.652]
- 17 May 1875** Anglo-Australian. - Capt Raisbeck, Fryerstown:... We have constructed 100 ft. of tramway from east shaft to the battery, and will put in catches as soon as convenient. When finished we shall have a good road from the underground workings to the battery. - Rise 200 ft. Cross-cut: ...The contractors do not give entire satisfaction with the work, but I think they will finish it, as the ground will be more favourable for them as they proceed. I have been obliged to put in a water-blast and air-pipes from the surface to the rise, as the contractors could not get on without it. [11: 10/7/1875: p.765]
- 14 June 1875** Anglo-Australian. - Capt Raisbeck: ...Probably you think we have spent a large sum of money in getting to our present workings, but we had no alternative. When commencing operations on the mine our working plan was laid out upon too large a scale for the capital, and, unfortunately, our engine-shafts were placed in wrong positions, our east shaft being too far west for our present depth... [11: 7/8/1875]
- 5 Oct 1875** Anglo Australian. - Captain Raisbeck:... I have 45 tons of stone in the battery, which does not look so well, but I think is good payable stone... The rings in the piston are getting weak, and consequently lose steam, and we are placing steel rings inside to strengthen them. There will be no extra cost beyond wages, as I think we can do the work ourselves. We have crushed for the public during the month 35 tons of quartz. [11: 27/11/1875: p.1305]
- Dec 1876** Parties reporting yields of gold from quartz crushed:  
Anglo Mine [10]
- Sept 1877** Anglo-Australian G.M. Company has lately been re-organised, sufficient English capital having been imported to enable the manager to open out and develop the mine in a satisfactory manner... [10]
- March 1880** English Australian Gold Mining Company. - The company are making good progress in their underground operations, and preparing for a more extended field for the employment of labour, by erecting additional steam machinery... From a recent inspection, the mine appears to be well managed, all kinds of improved appliances being in use to ensure the safety of the men employed on the works... [10]
- June 1880** English-Australian Gold Mining Company. - A new winding engine is now in course of erection, which will greatly facilitate the underground operations; and mining will be pushed on with increased vigour, now that the reef is better defined, and its direction more clearly indicated. The main shaft is 430 feet in depth, and preparations are now being made for sinking another 100 feet. [10]
- March 1881** English Australian Gold Mining Company, Golden Gully. - ...The company has not sufficient stamping power to clear away the immense quantity of quartz available for crushing purposes. [10]



- Sept 1881* English-Australian Company, Golden Gully. - The returns from this company have proved highly satisfactory for the past three months, which will, no doubt, be very gratifying to the English shareholders. [10]
- Dec 1881* The English-Australian Gold Mining Company... The company has nearly 30 acres of land on the main line of reef connected with the New Era, Royal Saxon, and Rowe Brothers, &c., &c. [10]
- June 1886* Diamond Drill. - The drill is still engaged on the English Australian Company's ground, having attained a depth of 714 feet (No. 4 bore) during the past quarter. [10]
- Dec 1886* The English, the Australian, Rowe Brothers, the Perseverance, and the Golden Eagle Companies are all likely to make a fresh and energetic start before many weeks have elapsed. All these companies have been languishing for a long time past, but English capital is expected to arrive shortly, when new life and vigour will be imparted; and the different managers will have ample scope for testing the deep and untried ground by diverging more to the westward than has hitherto been considered advisable or expedient. The diamond drill has done something well calculated to guide and encourage those who are disposed to take advantage of its discoveries. [10]
- March 1887* The Fryer's Creek Gold Mining Company (formerly English Australian).- This company have got into fair working order again...there are 16 men employed at the present time. The manager reports that they have now attained a total depth of 500 feet... There appears to be a great deal of vitality in the management of this hitherto unfortunate mine... [10]
- March 1889* Fryer's Creek Gold Mining Company, Heron's Reef (late Anglo-Australian). - The ground held under lease by this company has been worked by English capital during the past twenty years. Messrs. R.L.M. Kitto and H.W. Lamb originated the first company - the Anglo-Australian - and succeeded in placing a splendid plant on the ground; but, notwithstanding the large amount of capital expended, skill employed, and perseverance shown in the development of the mine, the results have been so far unsatisfactory. It may be stated that the various re-constituted companies in connection with this mine have dispensed with the aid of Victorian capital throughout, excepting in the instance of the present company - Fryer's Creek Gold Mining Company - who have availed themselves of the assistance afforded by the Prospecting Board... Touching the early history of this reef, the information available is of a meagre character, as no reliable records can be found or traced. Messrs. Tate, Scotson, and others, operated on a large extent of ground, now described as worked out, from surface down to 50 feet... The strike or bearing of the eastern line of reef is N. 2° 30'W... The reef has been worked continuously about 700 feet to a depth of 420 feet. The main engine-shaft (east) is 628 feet; western shaft, 320 feet in depth. The water level is represented as 100 feet from surface... The yields at various depths are as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 642oz.; to 100 feet, 529oz.; to 150 feet, 360oz.; to 200 feet, 895oz.; to 300 feet, 868oz.; to 400 feet, 4,980 oz. Total 41,855 tons, averaging 4dwt. to the ton. [10]
- Dec 1889* The New Era, Chapel Hill, and Fryer's Creek G.M. Companies have had a long struggling career, and it is not from any simple reasons that they have been reluctantly compelled to stop work, and in some cases to sell and remove their plant. [10]

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**1.4**


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**FERRON'S REEF**


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Mining Division

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Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<i>23 July 1858</i>	Yielding well. [37]
<i>10 Sept 1858</i>	Stabbing and Co. - 10 ton from 120-ft level yielded 8 oz. [37]
<i>8 Oct 1858</i>	Pilcher and Co. - 102 oz. [37]
<i>May 1859</i>	The claims upon Ferron's Reef are furnishing good wages to those employed. [10]

- June 1859** Ferron's & Heron's Reefs -  
 Pilcher & Co. 8 in the party. During the past month this party has been erecting a new engine, machinery, etc., and is making a new dam.  
 Sullivan & Co. Crushed 30 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 15 dwt.  
 Depth from surface - 30 feet.  
 Davis & Co. Crushed 3 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 1 oz. 2 dwt.  
 Depth from surface - 10 feet.  
 Stock & Co. Crushed 32 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 1 oz. 3 dwt.  
 Depth from surface - 20 feet.  
 Matthews & Co. (party prospecting).  
 Grodge & Co. Crushed 12 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 17 dwt.  
 Working surface leader.  
 Ferron & Co. In this claim there is an immense body of quartz, or series of connected leaders, all more or less auriferous, so the whole is raised and crushed. They have already worked to a depth of 70 feet... The yields of the last month indicate the general patchy nature of this gold. [10]
- July 1859** [Table of monthly return] lists Matthews and Co., and Rowe and Co. as working Ferron's Reef. [10]
- July 1860** Ferron's Reef Company - This Company is also doing nothing pending the settlement of a lawsuit in the Court of Mines between the former claim holders and the present proprietors. [10]
- August 1860** The Ferron's Reef has been also the scene of a small rush, in consequences of Pilcher's party having struck a leader, which produces 1 1/2 oz. to the ton. [10]
- Sept 1860** Ferron's Reef - The claimholders on this reef are doing well; and most of the ground, at one time either registered or entirely abandoned, has been again taken up. [10]
- Oct 1860** Ferron's Reef - This has also made a start, having, I trust a splendid future. They have not as yet cleaned up their crushing, but the stuff looks well. [10]
- Nov 1860** The Ferron's Reef Company has been doing remarkably well, some of the quartz producing over 1 oz. to the ton. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous [include]:  
 Ferron's Reef, 50 miners employed [10]
- March 1861** There is only 1 quartz claim within the area [of Fryerstown], and that employing only 4 men. This reef, although little in this particular locality, is I believe as much worked as any reef in Victoria. It is a southerly continuation of Ferron's Reef, and the latter is believed to be a continuation of Blacksmith's, El Dorado, Wattle Gully, (in the Castlemaine Division), Chewton and Sailors' Gully Reefs, and thence goes on to Barker's Creek... it is a remarkable fact that all the alluvial deposits around this line of quartz reefs have been extremely rich. [10]
- May 1861** The Ferron's Reef Company is still idle... [10]
- July 1861** Monthly quartz crushing returns lists - Pilcher and Company, and Ferron's Reef Company as obtaining quartz from Ferron's Reef [10]
- August 1861** Monthly quartz crushing returns lists - Pilcher and Company, and Ferron's Reef Company as obtaining quartz from Ferron's Reef [10]
- Sept 1861** The Ferron's Reef Company is busy, as also are Pilcher and party. [10]
- Sept 1861** Quartz crushed & gold obtained in past month:  
 C. Pilcher, 110 feet from surface, 150 tons yielded 6 dwt.  
 Ferron's Reef Company, 70 feet from surface, 360 ton yielded 4 dwt. [10]
- Dec 1861** The Ferron's Reef Company is showing faint signs of improvement. [10]
- 17 Oct 1862** Ferron's Reef Co. - getting gold. [37]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865:  
 Ferron's Company, Rowe Brothers (crushing for hire) [10]

- Sept 1866** Stevens and Company, of the Old Ferron's Reef, have just struck that reef, to the north of the old workings, and expect a yield of at least one-ounce to the ton. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Davis and Company, Ferron's Company, Stephens and Company, Little and Company [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Wyatt and Company, Davis and Stevens, Rowe Brothers, Steven and Davis [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Stevens and Company, Davis and Little, Bear and Company, Rowe and Company, Stephens and Company, Little and Company [10]
- March 1869** Cattle's, Ferron's, Heron's, Prince of Wales, Cemetery, and Specimen Hill Reefs constitute nearly one continuous, unbroken line of reef, although there are what are denominated the eastern and western lodes, 9 or 10 chains apart, with numerous veins and leaders running at different angles between them... [10]
- 23 Aug 1870** [Claim] No. 12 is the second claim of Rowe Bros., including the claim of Ferron, Mathews, and others, from which such rich returns were once realised. At present it is just paying. Next in order to the west, and parallel, is the claim of Redhouse and Co., on the western line of reef, and embracing the old Golden Gully. It was in this claim that the celebrated Heron nugget of 1008 oz. was found. No. 14 is the claim of Stephens and Co., where is an engine of 12 horse-power and 12 stampers. There, too, water has been a visitor, and the claim may be said to be just paying. [11: 5/11/1870: p.924]
- Dec 1870** Another shaft, about 300 feet east is being sunk, in order to work the eastern lode of Ferron's Reef. [10]
- 2 Aug 1871** Ferron's Reef Gold Mining Co. - shaft has been sunk to 150 ft. Tributaries are working the old workings to the south of the company's claim. [37]
- 29 Sept 1871** Duchess of Cornwall Gold Mining Co. - lease is 900 ft on the line of the reef, which traverses Rowe Brothers' claim...and extends into Anglo-Australian Co. [37]
- June 1872** The Ferron's Company is working their mine to advantage. The average yield is 6 dwts. to the ton. The reef underlies easterly; and the manager contemplates that, as a greater depth is attained, the eastern lode of Ferron's will amalgamate therewith. This company is sinking a new shaft northerly. [10]
- Dec 1872** The Duke and Duchess Extended (between Ferron's and Anglo Company's ground), at a depth of 111 feet in their main shaft, struck a reef about 3 feet thick containing gold; and as the leaders or feeders thereto were all gold-bearing, it is expected that the lode when developed will prove payable; this will not, I believe, be tested for a time, as the company are anxious to proceed with their main shaft. [10]
- Sept 1873** The Ferron's Reef company are also erecting a 25 horse-power, horizontal engine, with 20 heads of revolving stamps, for crushing only; their present engine to be exclusively employed in pumping and winding when present one is completed. [10]
- Dec 1873** The Ferron's Reef Company has erected a fine 25 horse-power engine and battery of 10 revolving heads, with single friction winding gear; the house is erected to contain a battery of 30 heads. The entire plant has cost over £3000. [10]
- 8 Jan 1874** Ferron's claim was worked by Ferron and party for about four years. The party commenced breaking stone from the surface, and attained a depth of 2-1/2 feet, where a leader was three inches thick, and which yielded 11-3/4 oz per ton. They sank to a depth of 35 feet, where they struck the lode, which was from 20 to 24 feet thick, dipping west, and gradually tapering to a thread. I cannot do better than quote Mr Ferron's statement,

given to me many years back:- "Our washing of quartz was by ordinary tub and cradle process, and we obtained £40 per week for 3-1/2 years. Most of the refuse we stacked, although hundreds of tons were buried up that yielded 1oz to the ton. We afterwards crushed with an imperfect battery that was only capable of putting through one ton at most per day, the average yield of which was 4oz to the ton. We crushed a great quantity from the eastern lode - in the writer's opinion, Clarke's reef - varying from 2oz to 5dwt to the ton. The latter yield was got at a depth of 60 feet; the lode varied in thickness at that depth of from six inches to 2-1/2 feet. We paid £4 per week wages, and £4 per ton crushing, in addition to cartage, and we were compelled to well burn the stone ere crushing."

Upon its abandonment, Pilcher and company, who had been working ground adjoining from the opening of the reef, took possession, and, for a period of six years or more, crushed therefrom to a depth of 60 feet on the eastern lode and 70 feet on the main lode. Excellent returns were obtained by this party, and it seems somewhat remarkable that at the time they - a co-operative party - could barely make 5 dwt to the ton pay expenses, when we now have a public company declaring dividends upon an average yield under 4.5 dwt. Rowe and company's crushings during the long period they had possession obtained from 3 dwt to 5 oz to the ton from the eastern lode, which varied in thickness from 9 to 30 inches. From the main lode the party crushed about 1000 tons, varying from 3 dwt to 4oz to the ton, and averaging 9 dwt. Stevens and party, the predecessors of the present company, in four years crushed about 7000 tons, averaging 9 dwt to the ton, and only attained a depth of 80 feet, which in other localities would simply be regarded as shallow workings... The new plant of the company consists of a 25 horse-power horizontal engine, 16-1/4 inch cylinder, 3 feet stroke, fly-wheel 12 feet diameter, boiler 28 feet long and 6 feet diameter, single friction winding-gear, 10-head battery of revolving stamps, horses of best Sandhurst timber, ripple tables of 20 feet 6 inches. The whole substantially and neatly covered in with a house adequate for receiving 30 head of stamps. [37]

- 27 Jan 1874** Ferron's Reef Co. - The various plant contracts have been carried out in a highly satisfactory manner by Messrs Horwood Bros., ironfounders; Jorgensen and Co., carpenters, and Curtis and Co., bricklayers, under the able supervision of Mr P. Wright, engineer, and your directors are gratified to be able to congratulate you on the possession of one of the best and most efficient plants in the district, consisting of a 16-1/4-inch cylinder engine, with 20 head of stamps, to which 10 more will be added whenever required, and a 10-inch cylinder engine for pumping and winding. The total cost will be about £3500. [37]
- 28 Jan 1874** Ferron's Reef Co. - The new engine is from the foundry of Messrs Wright and Edwards, Melbourne, and is a model of a horizontal pattern. [37]
- 2 Feb 1874** Ferron's No. 1 - New shaft down 42 feet. [37]
- 2 March 1874** The Ferron's Co., having driven to their north boundary, have granted No. 1 permission to work from this level and send the stone up engine shaft. In the new shaft near Anglo boundary a west cross-cut is being put in. [37]
- 30 April 1874** Ferron's No. 3 Tribute Co. - half-yearly meeting - ...I have every confidence that...this leader will bring us on to a body of quartz, some of which was worked years ago from an old shaft... when I found that there was a big block of stone left alongside of old workings, which have all the appearance of being payable, I thought it would be advisable to take out a trial crushing, and commenced last week with two men to break quartz. The Ferron's Company having a battery available, started crushing at once... [37]
- 11 May 1874** Ferron's No. 3 Tribute Co. - Rowe Bros., to south, have struck gold near the boundary at 240 feet. [37]
- 1 June 1874** Ferron's No. 1 - Half-yearly meeting - New shaft was commenced at northern boundary - sunk to 50 feet then cross-cut west. Then worked Ferron's Co. level... The tributers working adjoining ground recently struck stone east of engine shaft yielding 8 to 10 dwt to the ton, which they have followed to our boundary. [37]
- 1 Sept 1874** Ferron's No. 3 Tribute - The tribute agreement has been cancelled by the directors as the tributers did not employ the required no. of miners - the area will be let on 'pitches'. [37]
- 14 Sept 1874** Another 'pitch' has been let to Bennett and party who have commenced stoping at the 200-ft level, north of No. 2 shaft. [37]

**Sept 1874** The Ferron's are opening out in an easterly direction, having discovered good indications outside their present workings. [10]

- 18 May 1875** Ferron's No. 1 Tribute Company - Half yearly Meeting. The quantity of stone raised was 1954 tons, yielding 345 oz 19dwt. Great difficulty and delay has been experienced in working, owing to the extraordinary amount of timbering required in a portion of the ground, otherwise even the low yield obtained, averaging 3 dwt 13 gr. per ton, would have proved profitable.  
Mine Manager's Report ... I would like to have done something more in the shape of prospecting the mine, but our means being so limited, we failed to do so. I believe if the mine had been fairly opened up our prospect would be good, but this cannot be until the Ferron's Company sinks their engine shaft. [37]
- 22 Nov 1875** A new tribute has been let to Hill and party (Southern) comprising the ground previously held by No. 3 Tribute Co. [37]
- 31 Jan 1876** Ferron's Reef Co. - There has passed through the battery 4725 tons of stone, for a gross yield of 711 oz 11 dwt 12 gr retorted gold as follows:- For the Company, 2389 tons, for 374 oz 1 dwt; No. 1 Tribute, 1052 tons, for 161 oz; Bennett's Tribute, 516 tons for 112 oz 11 dwt; Eastern Tribute, 606 tons, for 54 oz 15 dwt 12 gr; Southern Tribute, 145 tons, for 8 oz 9 dwt; and Hill and party, 17 tons, for 15 dwt. [37]
- 2 June 1876** Ferron's No. 1 Tribute - Half-yearly meeting - ...sufficient stone can now be raised, with the present number of men (twelve) to keep 10 head of stamps constantly going... [37]
- June 1876** The Ferron's Reef Company. - This company have been very energetic and prosperous during the past three months, having crushed over 4,000 tons of quartz, yielding on the average 3 dwts. to the ton, and employed regularly forty-three men. Their engine shaft has been sunk to a depth of 284 feet from the surface, or about 50 feet below the level where the gold has been obtained... [10]
- Sept 1876** Ferron's Reef Q.M. Company. - This company have been very successful during the past three months, having crushed 3,700 tons, yielding 726 oz., and employing 44 men. [10]
- Dec 1876** The Ferron's Reef Company are working at the 280-foot level, in payable stone, which is likely to continue in a northerly direction, intersecting the Duke and Duchess and Anglo claims. [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties reporting yields of gold from quartz crushed:  
Ferron's Reef Company, Ferron's Reef  
Rowe Brothers, Ferron's Reef [10]
- June 1877** The Ferron's Reef Company. -...The company have now suspended crushing operations, and discharged about 30 men, in order to cut down the engine shaft from the surface, and make it the full size of 9 feet x 4 feet in the clear; this will enable them to work two cages, and make provision for more extended mining operations underground. The directors have also decided on erecting new winding engine, poppet legs, gangway, &c., which will probably occupy two months in completion... It appears there is an unlimited supply of auriferous stone within this claim, and years of profitable labour in prospective. [10]
- Sept 1877** The Ferron's Reef Company. - This company have completed the various additions and improvements alluded to in last report, viz, erected a new winding engine of 25 horse-power, new winding gear, poppet legs, two new cages (with coverings), enlarged and cut the main shaft down 200 feet; the total cost being about £900. [10]
- 17 Dec 1877** Ferron's No. 1 Tribute - Sinking a new shaft on northern part of ground down to 50 feet. [37]
- Dec 1877** The Ferron's Reef Company. - This company temporarily suspended mining operations during a crisis, owing to a law-suit, but recently has been reorganised, and is now proceeding with vigour... Various improvements and additions have been effected in connection with the machinery and plant



during the past six months, viz., a new boiler and winding-engine erected; the main shaft (9 feet x 4 feet) has also been cut down from the top to a depth of 354 feet; and new poppet-heads, gangway, &c., have been constructed. The company...has crushed during the past quarter 3,345 tons, at an average of nearly 5 1/2 dwts. to the ton. [10]

- March 1878** The Ferron's line of reef appears now to be more profitably worked than the Cattle's, the latter having generally been considered the more important line, and better defined. [10]
- Dec 1878** Rowe Brothers and the Ferron's...can succeed with a low average, in consequence of their splendid mechanical appliances, the vast quantity of stone at command, and the economical mode of working the ground. The Ferron's (New Era Company) employ 67 men and boys, and have used during the past twelve months 4,000 tons of firewood, at a cost of £1,100; they have raised during the past three months 5,477 tons of quartz from the 380-foot level, averaging 3 dwts. 14 grs. per ton. Rowe Brothers have crushed 1,508 tons of quartz, averaging nearly 9 dwts. to the ton, from the 175-foot level, and the general prospects of the mine are highly favourable... This company, in their Ferron's Reef claim, is now driving at the 300-foot level, but are not progressing so satisfactorily as might be desired. [10]
- 20 Jan 1879** New Era - You are aware that considerable difficulty was formerly experienced in disposing of the tailings, your directors are pleased to inform you that an arrangement has been made with the Water Supply department, by which the company now obtain a constant supply of water for sluicing away the sand from the batteries, and a considerable saving will thus be effected, not only in labour in shifting the sand, but in steam power, the tailings pump having been dispensed with. [37]
- 2 June 1879** Ferron's No. 1 Tribute Co. - half-yearly meeting - ...There has passed through the battery 3848 tons for a yield of 530 oz smelted gold, being an average of 2 dwt 18 gr. to the ton. [37]
- Sept 1879** New Era Company...gives good dividends to the shareholders... The total depth of the main shaft is now 514 feet... [10]
- 13 Oct 1879** New Era Co. - ...Such...was the impression conveyed by an examination of the 230 feet level, which when being driven 70 feet to cut the eastern lode passed through several bodies of quartz. These were followed upwards by rises till within 100 feet of the surface, and all to good purpose. The Tribute Co. also found them profitable for a distance of 340 feet, which brought them to the boundary of the Anglo Co. [37]
- 1 Dec 1879** Ferron's No. 1 Tribute Co. - half-yearly meeting -... An application was made by George Wilde for assistance, he having been injured last March, when working for the company. His medical adviser informed he would be unable to do mining work for two years, and he was recommended to learn shoemaking. It was resolved to allow him 10s a week for twelve months. [37]
- 19 Jan 1880** New Era Co. - From the sale of pyrites a sum of £443 8s 7d has been obtained. A valuable addition has been made to the property of the Company by the purchase from the Duke and Duchess United Company Limited, of the northern portion of their lease, comprising an area of 10 acres 1 rood 13 perches... [37]
- March 1880** New Era Company. - ...The company has been very fortunate during the past quarter, the yield of gold having greatly increased, principally from having struck payable stone in their new ground, formerly held by the Duke and Duchess Extended Company.... Seventy men are constantly employed, and preparations are now being made for the employment of a large additional number of miners. [10]
- 17 May 1880** Messrs Tolstrup and Elsbury have taken up a claim on tribute from Messrs Rowe Brothers in which a shaft is sunk and which they intend sinking still deeper from 80 ft to 100 ft - to the south of the New Era...

- The lease taken up by Tolstrup and Elsbury is between the New Era and the mine of Messrs Rowe Brothers... [37]
- 31 May 1880** Ferron's Reef Company (Messrs Tolstrup, Elsbury & Co.) - First crushing for the new company (between New Era and Rowe Bros. claims) [37]
- June 1880** Ferron's Reef Company. - A new company has been recently started, working, on tribute, on an area of ground held by Rowe Brothers (under the Leasing Regulations) contiguous to and in direct line with the New Era Company's workings. Tenders are being called for supplying a winding engine, to be erected at once. The main shaft has been sunk to a depth of 315 feet. [10]
- 19 July 1880** Ferron's Reef Company - Putting main shaft in order - timbered to 225 feet and soon finished to bottom at 315 feet. [37]
- 26 July 1880** Ferron's Reef Co. - Let blocks to tributers. [37]
- 26 July 1880** New Era Mining Co. - At the 184 feet level the No. 1 Tribute Company has extended the north drive to their boundary, when it was continued by us through to the 'Duchess' shaft for ventilation.... [37]
- 16 Aug 1880** Ferron's Reef Co. - About to commence sinking another 40 feet. Crushing for Royal Saxon Co. [37]
- 25 Oct 1880** Ferron's Reef Co. - erecting engine. [37]
- 26 Jan 1881** Ferron's Reef Co. - half-yearly meeting - Shaft repaired and two opening sets put in at 320-ft level. It has been divided into three compartments. Present depth 370 feet. Have let several tributers. [37]
- 25 July 1881** Ferron's Reef Co. - half-yearly meeting - Shaft 430 feet deep. There has been crushed for the Company and Tributers 760 tons of quartz, for a yield of 92 oz 7.5 dwts of retorted gold, being an average of 2.5 dwts to the ton; also 434 tons for the public. [37]
- 1 Dec 1881** Ferron's No. 1 Tribute Co. - half-yearly meeting - There has passed through the battery 3547 tons of quartz for a yield of 949 oz 17.5 dwts of melted gold, being an average of 5 dwts 8 gr. per ton. [37]
- 6 Jan 1882** At the south end of the New Era is the Ferrons. [37]
- March 1882** New Era Company has had very good returns of late, no signs of exhaustion in the mine, and 80 men constantly are employed. The company has crushed nearly 5,000 tons quartz, yielding about 900 oz... Fifty tons of pyrites have also been operated on, yielding 1 oz. 8 dwts. to the ton; the proportion of pyrites is equal to about 1 per cent. on the total amount of quartz crushed. [10]
- 24 April 1882** Ferron's No. 1 Tribute Co. - final crushing. [37]
- June 1882** New Era Company...[have]...procured and erected a new pumping engine of 25-horse power, at a cost of £800, which will enable them to attain a depth of 1,000 feet, and thoroughly drain the mine at all the lower levels. Messrs. Thompson and Co have supplied the machinery, which works admirably. [10]
- Sept 1882** The Ferron's Reef Company... The ground occupied by the company is held on tribute from Rowe Brothers, and immediately adjoins the New Era Company on the south. [10]
- Dec 1882** The New Era Company have sunk their main shaft a further depth of 56 feet during the past year it has now attained a total depth of 569 1/2 feet from the surface... From the mining manager's statement, it would appear that the underground workings are in good condition, well ventilated, and securely timbered; and considering the large number of men (88) working within an area not exceeding 7 1/2 acres it is a matter for congratulation that so few accidents have occurred. [10]
- 29 Jan 1883** Ferron's Reef Co. - half-yearly meeting - H.O. Rowe presided. ...a marked improvement has taken place in the prospects of the Company during the half-year just terminated. The Company's share of the gold amounted to £1624 3s 1d, of which the first dividend of 6d per share, amounting to £500, has been declared. It is the painful duty of your directors to report

that a fatal accident occurred in the mine on the 2nd December last, to a youth by name, Samson Thomas, through a fall of quartz... Your directors beg to inform you that they have since the termination of the half-year paid £120 as compensation to the father of the young man alluded to... [37]

*29 Jan 1883* New Era Co. - Your Directors were fortunate enough to secure a very valuable addition to the Company's property, by the purchase of Finney's freehold for the sum of £317 2s 6d. The acquisition of this property, situate as it is in the heart of the company's lease, is of great importance to the Company, not only for mining, but also for surface purposes... The main shaft has been sunk a further depth of 56ft, making 569-1/2 ft. from the surface... The No. 3 (or 330 ft) level has been extended south on very large stone to the Ferrons Co.'s boundary... During the half-year about 99 men and boys have been employed, all in the day shift, with the exception of those at the battery and those sinking the shaft. [37]

- March 1883** Two of the more important companies have, comparatively speaking, suspended operations, viz., the "New Era", and "Rowe Brothers"; the manager of the former company, unfortunately, had a dispute with one of his workmen, which led to the discharge of the latter, when a general strike took place among all the miners employed; various attempts to adjust the difficulty have been made, but hitherto without success, so that a large number of men are out of profitable and permanent employment. A miners' association has been organised at Fryerstown, which assumes to itself the right to dictate terms, and regulate the proceedings between employer and employed. [10]
- June 1883** The New Era Company...has recently purchased the Duke and Duchess Company's lease block, which had been idle for a very long time. The mine (New Era) is again in full working order, the recent difficulty with the workmen on strike having been satisfactorily adjusted. There are 85 men employed...but, as the adjoining block of over 20 acres has been secured, it is anticipated more men will be employed... [10]
- 30 July 1883** New Era Co. - Your Directors have much pleasure in informing you that they have effected a purchase of the southern portion of the lease formerly held by the Duke and Duchess United Company, together with the machinery on it. [37]
- Sept 1883** New Era Gold Mining Company. -...the mining manager has no difficulty providing employment for a large number of miners, and keeping fifteen heads of stamps constantly going. [10]
- 28 Jan 1884** New Era Co. - The mine is in first-class working order, and about sixty men in the day shift carry on the whole of the underground work. [37]
- March 1884** Ferron's Reef Co. wound up and plant &c. disposed of by tender or auction. [37]
- June 1884** New Era Company. - Some two months since, this company considered it expedient to suspend mining operations, and discharge all the workmen, 80 in number, representing that the mine had ceased to be payable. The action taken by the directors caused a considerable amount of surprise and consternation amongst the miners and different tradesmen interested. However, after a few days, it was proposed to work the mine on the tribute system; but the terms submitted were not acceptable to the workmen, and it was feared the works would be stopped for an indefinite period; but, as it was foreseen that the stoppage would entail great hardship on a number of hardworking and industrious men, the directors, on further consideration, determined to re-commence operations under the old system, the number of men to be reduced. There are now about 40 miners employed, and recent crushings show that, by careful management, the mine is still capable of paying expenses. [10]
- June 1885** New Era Gold Mining Company, Golden Gully, have now sunk their main shaft a total depth of 645 feet... [10]
- Sept 1885** New Era Gold Mining Company. - This company has now succeeded in sinking their main shaft a total depth of 671 feet, the greatest depth yet attained in the Fryer's district. [10]
- March 1886** The diamond drill at Fryerstown is now engaged on the New Era Company's lease, the depth bored during the quarter being 725 feet, but up to the present time (March 31st) no bodies of quartz have been intersected...  
...Cowling's patent safety cage and appliances have been recently tested at this mine (New Era) in the presence of many practical miners, and found to work admirably. The cage, when disconnected from the rope, was immediately arrested in its descent by the grippers securely adhering to the guides in the shaft; two or three experiments proved highly satisfactory. [10]
- 25 July 1887** New Era Co. - The main object for the past half-year has been to push on the sinking of the shaft as energetically as possible. A depth of

- nearly 900 ft has now been attained, and...no payable stone has yet been discovered... [37]
- Dec 1887** New Era Gold Mining Company. - This company have now reached a total depth in their main shaft of 1,000 feet, the greatest depth ever attained in the Fryer's district...but the prospects are not particularly encouraging so far. [10]
- 23 July 1888** New Era Co. - The present depth of the shaft is 1078 ft, and 22 ft more will finish the present contract, which will make the total of 1100 ft... [37]
- March 1889** The original discoverer of Ferron's reef, now an inmate of the Castlemaine Hospital, declares that himself and party realised from the reef, which bears his name, £20,000 worth of gold, which was squandered away in the most reckless manner during a period of two or three years...  
New Era Gold Mining Company (formerly Ferron's Reef Quartz Mining Company). - The ground occupied by this company was taken up in the year 1871, but prior to this date several parties had possession and worked the ground to considerable advantage, viz., D. Ferron (the original discoverer), followed by Messrs. Pilcher, Jac Jung, Wyatt, Davis, and Stephens; but no reliable returns can be furnished at the present time, touching the various yields prior to the year 1867. The New Era Company has been very successful up to a certain period, but more particularly during the years 1878, 1879, and 1880, viz., 11,566oz. being realised, and dividends paid, £16,400. during the years 1871 to 1877 inclusive, the total yield was 10,531 oz.; dividends, £6437. The present company has worked the reef 700 feet in length, in separate shoots, to a depth of 330 feet. The strike of the Reef is N. 7° W.... The depth of the main shaft is 1,100 feet, but nothing payable has been found at that depth. The depth of water level is 50 feet. Although this claim has been remarkable for the vast quantity of quartz raised and crushed, and payable at a low average, still no properly defined reef has yet been discovered. The mining manager (Mr. Bell) is very sanguine of making some startling discoveries, touching a so-called *second formation* below 1,000 feet... The yields from various depths are as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 946oz.; to 100 feet, 1,138oz.; to 150 feet, 2,485oz.; to 200 feet, 3,296oz.; to 300 feet, 3,986oz.; to 400 feet, 2,453oz.; to 600 feet, 748oz.; to 800 feet, 594 oz. Total number of tons, 202,517; average 3.7dwt. to the ton. the reef is in work at the present time (March, 1889), driving and cross-cutting, but very little quartz is being raised and crushed from the higher levels. [10]
- 29 April 1889** Seeing that enough money was not procurable from call paying shareholders, the directors felt unable to sink another 100 feet as proposed, so that they recommend that steps be made to wind up the company. [37]
- June 1889** New Era and Perseverance Gold Mining Companies. - After being in existence a great many years, these companies have collapsed through an inability to pick up the lost lead in other claims. The New Era...main shaft has been sunk to a depth of 1,100 feet; but in reaching that depth, some 800 feet of barren country had to be passed through... ..it is to be hoped that a new company will be started to work the higher levels (with a new shaft) more to the westward, where in all probability the Cattle's line of reef will be intercepted. The plant should not be removed unless under very pressing circumstances. [10]
- 9 Jan 1899** Ford & party are working on stone along the New Era Line at a mine called the Saxon adjoining the Blacksmith Gully Extended Co. [37]

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	northerly continuation of Heron's Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<i>7 Dec 1857</i>	New reef discovered near Golden Gully. [37]
<i>May 1859</i>	The prospecting claim of this reef, which was remarkably rich, is now entirely deserted. [10]
<i>Dec 1864</i>	Parties crushing quartz: Rowe Brothers. [10]
<i>1866</i>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: H. White [10]
<i>Dec 1870</i>	Redhouse and Company, who hold a claim within the above lease, obtained at about 100 feet level 43 oz. from 40 tons; this was from line of Clark's Reef. [10]

- June 1880** Royal Saxon Company. - The ground taken up by this company under the Leasing Regulations has been previously lying idle for a considerable period. A large body of quartz, about 7 feet in thickness, runs through the centre of the block, and stone is being raised from a depth of 95 feet; 130 tons have been recently crushed, averaging 19 dwts. to the ton. In this mine there is an immense quantity of stone in sight, which can be easily obtained, so that the future prospects of the company may be considered highly satisfactory. The reef intersecting the ground was formerly known as 'Clark's' and many years ago was worked from the surface to a depth of from 30 to 40 feet, with indifferent management and expensive crushing appliances; some splendid returns, however, were realised, viz., from 20 to 30 oz. to the ton. Several parties have worked this reef at different periods during the past twenty years with more or less profitable results. The present party have simply resumed operations at a point where their predecessors left off, and are extending the workings in a northerly direction; the line of reef is no doubt identical with that running through the Ferron's and English-Australian Company's ground. Several new leases have been recently applied for on ground lying to the north, which includes the line of reef running through the Royal Saxon Company's claim, so that prospecting is now likely to be carried on in an energetic manner, and some important discoveries made ere many months shall have elapsed. [10]
- 5 July 1880** Royal Saxon - Abundance of stone available for crushing - the adjoining ground has been taken up by Tolstrup and party and a shaft commenced to get same run as Royal Saxon. [37]
- 12 July 1880** North Royal Saxon Co. - This Company formed by Tolstrup and Co. - sinking a shaft 100 feet to north of run of stone in Royal Saxon Mine. [37]
- March 1881** The Royal Saxon Company are about erecting machinery on their ground, having a large quantity of stone to operate of, which is expected to pay well, the expense of cartage being done away with. Arrangements are also being made for cutting a water race to supply the engine, &c., from the head of Crocodile Creek. [10]
- 18 April 1881** Royal Saxon Co. - have purchased a plant with a 10-head battery. [37]
- 25 July 1881** North Royal Saxon - Mining Manager's Report - During the past six months I have opened out at the 170 feet level... [37]
- 30 Aug 1881** Royal Saxon Co. - Whim shaft sunk an additional 25ft until all underground work was stopped in order to complete battery. [37]
- Sept 1881** Royal Saxon Company. - ...a fine plant has been erected on the ground, comprising a 24 horse-power steam engine, working 10 heads of stamps, with an unfailling supply of Coliban water... The total cost of the plant is £1,500. [10]
- 22 Nov 1881** The Ancient Britain Co., Fryers Creek, north of the Royal Saxon Co., cleaned up a trial crushing of 51 tons for 8 oz 6 dwt. The reef is 3 to 4 ft thick, and looking very well. [37]
- Dec 1881** The Royal Saxon Company...The ground occupied by the present company proved highly auriferous in the early days, when Clark and party made their £40 and £50 per week per man by simply scratching the surface. The ground is now being opened out both north and south, with very favourable indications; and the line of reef extending north to Specimen Hill may be said to have a fair chance of being properly tested and opened out during the ensuing twelve months. [10]
- 9 Jan 1882** North Royal Saxon - Shaft sunk to 216 feet. On the next claim, the Royal Princess, a shaft is being sunk - down 50 feet. [37]
- 23 Jan 1882** North Royal Saxon - ...the mine has been thoroughly prospected from the surface to the 170 ft level and the result is that a number of leaders have been discovered varying in thickness from a few inches to 6 or 8 ft. Several trial crushings have been taken out yielding 2 to 3 dwts per ton, a

yield too low to pay except by having a large crushing plant on the ground. Under the circumstances...directors deemed it most advisable to sink the shaft and search for better stone, and tenders were therefore called for sinking 50ft. That of W. Quick at 19s per foot was accepted... [37]

- 28 Feb 1882** Royal Saxon Co. - The machinery is in good working order. A small boiler was procured for exhaust pipe to get hot water to supply engine, thereby saving at least a tone of wood a day. Seeing the cost of water, £12 10s per month, to be a very serious item, your directors are constructing a dam to use the water over again, and had accordingly applied to the Water department to receive half-a-million gallons at half the cost, £6 5s per month. [37]
- 7 March 1882** Royal Prince[ss?] - shaft is down 90 feet - several leaders passed through - expect to cut North Saxon stone in another 70 feet. [37]
- 15 Aug 1882** Royal Saxon Co. - Hope to cut the eastern lode and open up new country on the same line as the English Australian Co. and New Era. [37]
- 27 Feb 1883** Royal Saxon Co. - An offer has been received from the adjoining company, North Saxon, proprietors, to amalgamate the two leases, and your directors have for that purpose secured the forfeited shares, and offered 4000 to the shareholders of the North Saxon Company for their lease, which offer as yet has not been accepted.  
The ground is broken, and tumbled about, showing similarity to country in view in the New Era and English Australian Mines... The water race has been repaired, preventing leakage to White and Readhouse's claim by putting in boxes round the rocky points about 600 feet. The machinery is in good working order, repairs to piston having been completed. [37]
- 27 Aug 1883** Royal Saxon Co. - Your directors have the honour to report that the purchase of the North Saxon lease and plant under offer at last half-yearly meeting has been completed, and part of the ground let on tribute to Wind, Meyer and party, for a term of three years. To facilitate working it direct from the company's shaft, the 130 feet level north has been extended 104 feet, driven by the tributers, and subsidised by the company giving them 5s per foot... A block in the company's ground was let to Wm. Jenkin and party, but after taking out a small crushing it was abandoned. [37]
- 28 Feb 1884** Royal Saxon Co. - A tribute has been let of the southern portion of your lease to the Royal Saxon No. 2 Tribute Company... [37]
- June 1884** The Royal Saxon Company, Clark's Reef...has...been compelled to temporarily stop their works, owing to the unremunerative character of the crushings during the past twelve months. [10]
- March 1889** Royal Saxon, Clark's Reef. - This reef was remarkably rich during the early days of quartz mining, but the original prospectors (Clark, Featherston, and party) never worked the mine in a *bonâ fide* manner, and they only paid periodical visits when their funds were exhausted. The richer workings were from the surface to a depth of 20 feet, but payable ground extended to a depth of 100 feet. It was a common occurrence to knock out 10 or 12oz. of gold with a hammer from a ton of quartz, previous to the stone being sent to the crushing machine. The reef was first opened out in about 1855 or 1856; but there are no means at the present time of estimating, even approximately, the vast quantity of gold which was obtained by the original prospectors. Since 1867, several parties have taken up the ground, worked it for a certain period, and then abandoned it as not payable. Messrs. Rowe, Conrad Frank, C. Tolstrop, and others, have more or less tested the ground at different levels, viz., 100, 150, 200, and 300 feet, respectively; but the gold has proved, so far, to be very sparingly diffused through the stone and laminae. The strike of the reef is N. 2° 30' W.... The depth of the main shaft is about 300 feet. The yields of gold, as recorded from 1871 to 1884, are as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 54oz.; to 100 feet, 946oz.; to 150 feet, 286oz.; to 200 feet, 30oz.; to



300 feet, 126 oz. Total number of tons 6,718; average, 4 1/4 dwt. to the ton. The reef has not been abandoned, but is not being worked at the present time; the claim is protected by being held under lease. [10]

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**1.6**


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**CROCODILE GULLY RESERVOIR**


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Mining Division Fryer's Creek  
 Associated Fields/Reefs Smart's Reef

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**DATE HISTORY**

*June 1871* A new (so-called) reef has been discovered in the neighbourhood of Crocodile Gully Reservoir... there are three separate parties working. The original discoverers obtained gold in the red clay and a small quartz vein near the surface; they realised something like 2 oz. to the ton from their first crushing; at a depth of 6 or 7 feet the crushing stuff is equally promising... There are three or four claims working north and south of the prospectors, but nothing of consequence has yet been discovered. [10]

*Sept 1884* SITUATION AND CAPACITY OF RESERVOIRS:  
 Crocodile Gully 5,407,462 [10]

*25 May 1903* On the other side of Fryerstown towards the Elphinstone Tunnel, and near the Crocodile reservoir, Smart Bros. have come on a body of stone at shallow depth, and last week a crushing of 5 tons yielded 23 oz 14 dwts. The Smart Bros. have been prospecting in the Fryers district for a number of years, generally with success, and their present show promises well as there is a lot of similar value stone in sight. [37]

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**1.7**


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**CROCODILE CREEK**


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Mining Division Fryer's Creek  
 Associated Fields/Reefs Reservoir Reef

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**DATE HISTORY**

*March 1881* The Royal Saxon Company [Clark's Reef] are about erecting machinery of their ground.... Arrangements are also being made for cutting a water race to supply the engine, &c., from the head of Crocodile Creek. [10]

*March 1889* A new company have started, the scene of operations being the large heaps of quartz tailings in Crocodile Creek belonging to Rowe Bros., which have accumulated to the extent of thousands of tons during the past twenty-two years. The Gold and Pyrites Concentrating Company, Golden Gully, Fryer's, have started a new industry in Victoria, their object being to extract the pyrites and fine gold from old abandoned sand and tailings heaps. The machinery and appliances are of a very interesting character; there are twelve concentrating tables (Alve's patent), and the total cost of the entire plant is £600. It is stated by the manager that 100 tons of tailings per day of twenty-four hours can be disposed of in so satisfactory a manner that the sand is left absolutely destitute of any valuable minerals. The party has only been at work about four weeks, but during that time it is estimated that 2,770 tons of sand and tailings have been sluiced. The net result of gold has been 50oz. from 15 tons of pyrites. The total expenses of working are £19 8s. per week. Should the prospects continue favourable, there will be two years' employment in the neighbourhood for twelve or fifteen men...

Reservoir Reef, Crocodile Creek. - This so-called reef was discovered by J. Morrison in 1872, 60 tons of stone taken from a depth of 20 feet averaging 1oz. 7dwt. to the ton; no subsequent efforts have been made to trace the reef or extend the workings. [10]

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**1.8 LUCKY STRIKE REEF**


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**MINING DIVISION** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE HISTORY**

- 7 Nov 1898** Smart and Sanger's discovery of the reef, 2-1/2 miles distant from Fryerstown, just beside the boundary of the Riding has been named the 'Lucky Strike'. The stone they crushed yielded 2 oz. to the ton. The reef is 2-1/2 feet wide, and the prospectors have been driving a tunnel to intersect. Another party, Brown and McKay, have commenced work to the south of them. [37]
- 26 Dec 1898** Lucky Strike, Fryers: Sunk a shaft 15 feet below the tunnel, and now driving south. [37]
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**1.9 COMMISSIONER'S FLAT AND COMMISSIONER'S GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Fryerstown, Cattle's Reef

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**DATE HISTORY**

- 13 May 1854** Dr Tassell, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England...[&c]...may be consulted daily, at his Medical Tents, Commissioners' Flat, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.3]
- 13 May 1854** John Denny, Baker, late of the Bald Hill, Forest Creek, Begs to inform...that he has removed...to the Commissioner's Flat, Golden Gully... [47: p.3]
- 26 Aug 1854** The Commissioner, J. Heron, Esq., has had a first-rate house erected, within the Camp enclosure, which does credit both to the architect and the builder. [47: p. 4]
- 1 Feb 1856** The old Commissioner's Flat is also to be sold; this is a very choice spot for a free homestead... [47: p. 4]
- July 1859** The Ballaarat Gold-Mining Company - This Company owes its origin to some Ballaarat miners, who had been travelling about the diggings in search of a suitable place for the investment of labour, combined with capital. The Commissioner's Flat so far attracted their attention as to induce them to make an application for a grant of 7 1/2 acres, in which they have been successful. The party consists of 30, all working partners, and they propose to work the ground (which is very wet) by a system of paddocking; having a steam engine and a washing cylinder. This flat had been very much worked by Europeans and Chinese - some very fine patches having been discovered on different occasions. The sinking varies from 12 to 18 feet, comprising black loamy soil, loose drift, gravel and boulders; and the gold is of a very nuggetty character. [10]
- July 1860** The Old Pennyweight Hill, Strathloddon, Windlass Hill, and even the Ballaarat Company, are defunct, the latter's plant having been sold off some weeks since. [10]

- 17 Aug 1860** Late Ballarat Company scarcely able to wash 200 loads per day. [51]
- Oct 1860** There has been a new rush at the head of Commissioner's Gully, near the township of Fryers, at which the tub and cradle men have been doing exceedingly well. [10]
- Sept 1868** Small and Co... have struck very promising leaders at a depth of 70 to 80 feet - gold exists of apparently payable extent. [10]
- March 1869** Small and Co., ...working both the alluvial and the quartz. - This party have most promising prospects; they have hitherto crushed about 112 tons, averaging 12<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> dwts. to the ton, from the 135-foot level, but a separate crushing of 55 tons realised 63 oz. This lode runs through the centre of Commissioner's Flat, towards Nuggetty Gully... [10]
- June 1869** Small and Company have not crushed during the past three months, but are raising large quantities of stone... The party is about purchasing and erecting an engine and battery. [10]
- June 1869** Boyle and Company - The Cumberland Company (Commissioner's Flat) have sunk the main shaft to a depth of 90 feet, but have not yet struck the main lode. [10]
- June 1869** The Grand United Company, now called the Fryer's Quartz Mining Company (adjoining Small and Co.), is about to commence active operations, the site for the main shaft having been selected. The company consists principally of Melbourne and Ballarat shareholders, having a large capital at their disposal; the main line of reefs is supposed to run through their ground. [10]
- Dec 1869** The Fryer's Company has completed the erection of their plant, an engine of 32 horse-power, with winding and pumping gear complete. [10]
- March 1870** Messrs. Small and Co., who occupy one of the richest quartz claims in the district, are about erecting powerful machinery for working their mine. They have already purchased a 25 horse-power vertical engine to work twelve head of stamps; the machinery, plant, &c., when erected, will cost £3,000, the whole to be completed in about fourteen weeks. [10]
- June 1870** Messrs. Small and Co. have not been crushing or raising stone during the past quarter, but they have an unlimited supply of auriferous quartz to operate upon so soon as they have finished their crushing appliances. They are now engaged sinking pump-shaft and erecting machinery. A 25 horse-power engine, with 12 revolving stamps, are in course of erection; a commodious and extensive engine-house has already been erected. The whole plants when complete is estimate to cost £3,500.  
The Fryers Quartz Mining Company - The company are still engaged sinking their main shaft; they have reached a depth of 272 feet ... Provision has been made for cross-cutting; and, at a depth of 300 feet, it is intended to open out on the eastern and western sides... The present contract is for sinking shaft to 310 feet, thus allowing a well from lower level.  
To those who hold upon the course of the reef or lodes, it should suffice to read the returns from this claim - Cattle and Co., Small and Co., Mills and Co. - from time to time given, and the expenditure of Small and Co., the Fryers, the Black Hawk, the Bonshaw, and the Cumberland Company, all upon or near the same line. [10]
- June 1870** The Cumberland Company. - There are eight men engaged in connection with this company. The main shaft has been sunk to a depth of 105 feet. A contract has recently been entered into to drive 50 feet in a westerly direction at the 80-foot level, so as to intersect the main body of quartz, which is supposed to continue from Small and Co. through their ground. [10]
- Sept 1870** The Fryer's Company, after opening out, or attempting to do so, at a depth of 300 feet, found the water too strong, and had to commence at the 180-foot level. They are now cross-cutting both east and west at that level, and it is almost certain that, ere many weeks have passed, this company

will strike either the highly auriferous lodes of Small and Co., to the west, or Mills and others in the east, as at present being worked.

The Cumberland Company, south and west of the Fryer's and Small's, are doing but little in developing their mine.

Small and Co. have (two weeks since) completed their plant, and no one I think can deny that it is not [sic] one of the best constructed in the colony...

A 25 horse-power engine, horizontal; three batteries of four revolving stamp-heads each; weight of shank and head, 3 cwt.; three sets of tables, about 30 feet long, with a pitch of (say) 1 in 7, iron double ripples in each; the length of lift of heads is 10 inches; the pressure in general work is about 22 lbs. to the inch; a patent tailings-pump; an engine-house of capacious dimensions, and all necessary appliances.

I have from time to time alluded to the reefs or lodes, which generally are instituted as the Fryerstown Reefs. In some of my previous reports I described the tract or belt of country between Cattle's Reef and some chains both east and west as auriferous. [10]

- Dec 1870* The Fryer's Company - This company some weeks since cut a lode (about 20 inches thick) from their main shaft westerly; it is supposed this stone will yield 1 oz. per ton, as very fine specimens were obtained. [10]
- Dec 1870* Small and Company have been working at a depth of 160 feet, taking crushing stuff 10 feet wide, which is comprised of three lodes, making beneath to a compact body. [10]
- March 1871* Small and Co. have had no stone crushed, being engaged sinking main engine-shaft; they are now down 160 feet, and purpose continuing to 200 feet, in order to thoroughly drain their mine.  
The Fryer's...have called for tenders for a new battery. [10]
- March 1871* The Cumberland Company is vigorously prospecting their mine, and, being adjoining the Fryer's and Small's, it is only reasonable soon to expect good stone being struck. [10]
- June 1871* A crushing plant is about being erected in connection with the Fryer's Quartz Mining Company. [10]
- Dec 1871* The Fryer's Company is vigorously working their mine. A new contract is now let to sink 100 feet deeper; cross-cutting will probably strike the eastern reef, now worked by Rowe Brothers and Mills and Hilton with such good results. [10]
- Dec 1872* The Cumberland Company is at last erecting machinery. With the excellent yields they obtained (considering the body of stone), and the well-defined character of the lode, it is more than probable that ere long this ground will prove remunerative  
The Fryers Company may be regarded as one of the most tenacious under difficulties; by faith in the situation of their ground £14,902 10s. have been expended, without any results satisfactory hitherto; at their 265-foot level they are now obtaining stone that may pay handsomely for raising and crushing, as the company has excellent appliances. [10]
- June 1873* The Cumberland Company has now completed the erection of a 35-horsepower, vertical engine with patent boiler and patent winding gear, and the ordinary pumping gear. They have a battery of 12 revolving heads. The actual cost to the company has been £1700. It is confidently expected that this southernmost battery will not be idle for want of crushing stuff as, in addition to their own, the Black-hawk Company contemplate crushing with them as the cartage will be but 10 to 12 chains. The prospects of this (the Cumberland Company) were long back sufficient to warrant the erection of proper machinery; and, in addition to the Black-hawk, we have the Burdett Coutts adjoining, south, who have an immense amount of crushing stuff untried [10]
- 25 Dec 1873* Fryers Co - The machinery, consisting of one 18.25 cylinder engine for pumping and winding, and a 16-cylinder engine for stamping, together with

the two large boilers, 8 inch pumps with plunger workings, battery of ten heads, surface, tailings, pump, house-lift, etc. [37]

*23 Feb 1874* Fryers Co. - Still driving east from Cumberland shaft at 265 feet, to cut Black Hawk lode. [37]

*15 June 1874* Fryers Co. - Expect to hole through to Cumberland claim in a few days, which will ventilate the mines. [37]

*26 June 1874* Fryers Co - Half-yearly meeting - Veins of payable quartz...the yield from which has not only paid several dividends, but also provided funds for carrying on to completion three heavy jobs, viz., the finishing of sinking the Cumberland engine shaft, and opening out a drive from there to the east for 100 feet, and the driving of the main south level to connect the eastern drive before mentioned; these works have been finished a few days since, and we are now laying a tramway to the engine shaft which will enable the quartz to be brought cheaply to the plat at the 265 feet level... The mine is now well ventilated, and the miners will not be prevented by foul air, as they have previously frequently been. [37]

*June 1874* The Fryers, Cumberland, Black Hawk, Small's, Rowe Brothers', and Cattle's claims are now nearly all connected by underground workings, well ventilated and drained. [10]

*Sept 1874* The companies which are doing well may be enumerated as follows:- Rowe Brothers, the Fryer's, Black Hawk, Hope Tribute, the Ferron's, and Wilson and Macdonald.  
The Hope Tribute are working a small leader, varying in thickness from 6 inches to a foot, and yielding about 1 1/2 oz. to the ton at the 70 foot level, having a westerly underlie; it is expected this will lead to something very rich, as well as some well-defined reef at a depth of 200 feet. [10]

- 23 Dec 1874** Fryers Co. - half-yearly meeting - Mr H.O. Rowe, chairman of the board of directors... We have crushed from the mine with five heads, since the last half-yearly meeting, 1341 tons for 374 oz 5.5 dwt. retorted gold. The other five have been fully employed crushing quartz for the Black Hawk Co. P. Rowe, Mining Manager. [37]
- Dec 1874** The Hope Tribute Company, Commissioner's Flat, are now crushing about 40 tons from the 70-foot level, and expected to return 30 oz... [10]
- March 1875** The Fryers Company have suspended operations, pending re-organisation, or other arrangements for the more economical working of the mine. [10]
- July 1875** Fryers Co. - In July 1875, your company purchased for £850, a mining leasehold known as the Cumberland claim, together with one engine, boiler, and battery of 12 heads adjoining the south portion of the Fryers leasehold. [37: July 1877]
- Sept 1875** The resumption of work by the Fryer's Company...[is]...suggestive of increased confidence. [10]
- 1 Jan 1877** Fryer's Co. - half-yearly meeting - No mining had been done during the last six months. An adjoining piece of land was purchased. [37]
- July 1877** Fryers Co - In July 1875, your company purchased for £850, a mining leasehold known as the Cumberland claim, together with one engine, boiler, and battery of 12 heads adjoining the south portion of the Fryers leasehold. These two properties have since been connected at the 265 feet level. The No. 2, or Cumberland shaft, being 296 feet deep. In January 1876, it was considered advisable to stop all works at the mines, and in consequence of this the smaller claims were drowned out, and negotiations were commenced for the purchase of the piece of land about 300 feet long on the line of country where the rich quartz were uncovered, and ultimately your company became the purchasers of this land. The area of ground now occupied by your company contains 33 acres or thereabouts. [37]
- Sept 1877** The Fryer's Company. - This mine is now getting into fair working order again, some 34 men being employed, the manager contemplating engaging more during the present quarter... Many of the men are now occupied driving cross-cuts, putting up rises, and sinking winzes; altogether, the mine is opening up well, and looks very promising. Some extra good crushings would be highly acceptable, infuse new life and vigour into the management, and afford encouragement to other claimholders in the vicinity. [10]
- Dec 1877** The Fryer's Company. - This company has been very active during the last quarter, the present manager, Mr W. A. Marshall, having determined to follow the course laid down by his predecessor, Mr Philip Rowe, who was compelled to resign the mining managership through serious indisposition. There are now 32 men employed, the average yield for the past quarter being 7½ dwts. to the ton. [10]
- 21 Jan 1878** The claim of Small and Co., which has been unworked for about 15 months, is being taken up by a party of tributers, who think they will succeed in getting upon that run of stone, which the Perseverance tributers discovered. [37]
- Jan 1878** Fryers Co - A cross-cut at 265 feet will be started to cut a lode being successfully worked by claims to the north of us... The lode is known in the district as the New Western Reef. [37]
- 21 Oct 1878** Williamson's party - working supposed line of Ferron's Reef - shaft down 55 ft. [37]
- 28 Oct 1878** Williamson's party, to the south of Small's claim and Fryers Co., are driving in fine looking country. [37]
- 28 Oct 1878** Small's Tribute Co - making arrangements to work their claim from the Fryer's Co. shaft. The Fryer's Co. has driven to their boundary. [37]
- 13 May 1878** Fryers Co. - Preparing to cross-cut east and west at 350 feet, to cut Ferrons and Cattle's lodes which run the full length of the claim. [37]



- 4 Nov 1878** Fryers Co. - Will now cross-cut the workings formerly the old Hope Tribute Co. with those of the Fryers, and which will give plenty of quartz to crush... [37]
- 23 Dec 1878** Small's Tribute Co., working from Fryers Co. ground, struck rich gold. [37]
- Dec 1878** Fryers Co. - half-yearly meeting - The mining manager reported that the ground known as the Hope was now ready for working, and miners will be employed at once. [37]
- 21 April 1879** Fryers Co - Contemplating connecting Fryers Co. workings with Cumberland shaft - persevering in exploration of mine to find the Rowe Bros. stone. [37]
- Sept 1879** Small and Company. - The ground is being worked by tributers, but hitherto their efforts have not been so successful as might be desired; one of the tribute parties are raising stone which shows gold, and promised a fair crushing. The position of this claim is such as to justify the assumption that the main Cattle's lode exists at a considerable depth beyond the present workings and to the westward of the engine shaft. [10]
- 31 Oct 1879** Small's Tribute and Co - During past half-year the 'road shaft' has been sunk 42 feet - total 192 feet. The results were unsatisfactory and last month let south portion to Sanger and party who got 13 oz 3 dwt from 68 tons. Another party (Deleray and party) who are working from the road shaft on a large body of stone got 5 oz 12 dwt from 58 tons. [37]
- Jan 1880** The Fryers Co. is now held by the bank. [Note: Became amalgamated into Enterprise Co. (ex-Small's)] [37]
- March 1880** The Fryers, Small's, Cumberland, Black Hawk, and Burdett Coutts miners are all idle. [10]
- 6 April 1880** The Harvest Home Quartz Gold Mining Co. purchased the plant of the Fryers Gold Mining Co., situated at Fryerstown, for the sum of £975. This is a most complete plant, consisting of two engines with 16" and 18" cylinders respectively, two boilers, one 28ft and the other 30-ft x 6 ft, pumping and winding gear, and a ten-head battery. [42]
- 13 Aug 1880** Enterprise (formerly Small's) - The shares in the adjoining company (Black Hawk) have not all been disposed of, but a respectable quantity sold. [37]
- 29 Nov 1880** Enterprise - pumping and expect to sink main shaft. [37]
- Jan 1881** Pumping and repairing shaft. [37]
- March 1881** Enterprise Company (formerly Small's) have not crushed anything yet, but have recently sunk the main shaft an additional 50 feet, which is now down 260 feet. [10]
- 8 April 1881** Enterprise - Shaft at 268 feet - will open out at 62 feet below the old workings... At the same time it will enable us to connect this level with the one that was driven south 800 feet by the late Fryers Co. We will then have a road 265 feet from surface, 1000 feet long, available to work all parts of the mine. [37]
- 30 April 1881** Enterprise. Half-yearly meeting. The lease is 41 acres. Shaft sunk to 271 feet. [37]
- June 1881** The Enterprise Company have been doing a lot of dead work in preparing for working on an extensive scale at different levels, and connecting the old workings in the adjacent claims, which have recently been amalgamated and comprised under one management. [10]
- 14 Oct 1881** Enterprise - Half-yearly meeting - H.O. Rowe, Esq., presided... Directors' Report: As no crushing of any consequence has been done during the six months no return of gold can be shown; but as the battery has now been started we hope that at your next meeting a fair gold account will be presented. To carry on mining operations successfully, it is desirable to have good appliances, therefore it may be necessary in a very short time to lay down a winding engine so as to keep the crushing machinery constantly at work...

Mine Manager's Report: ...As you have 1000 feet on the line of reef from the north boundary to the Hope shaft, and about 600 feet more from the Hope shaft to the south boundary, I would recommend that you take into consideration the propriety of letting claim and plant on tribute, that is from the Hope shaft to the Golden Eagle boundary. The boiler and flues have been cleaned out, the slide valve of the cylinder newly faced, and a new battery feed tank put in.... all your machinery is in first-class order... [37]

- Dec 1881** Enterprise Company, Commissioner's Flat, Fryerstown, have made a very important discovery of a gold-bearing lode... The reef is about 20 feet below the old workings, or about 250 feet from the surface... It is estimated roughly that £500 worth of specimens were knocked out in the space of three or four days, one block of quartz containing at least 40 oz. of pure gold. The ground was originally occupied by Small and Co., the Fryers, and Cumberland, and is undoubtedly valuable. The original occupants invested thousands of pounds without striking a payable lode, and the present holders have secured all the advantages arising from previous explorations. [10]
- 2 Jan 1882** The discovery of a rich run of gold in the claim of the Enterprise Co., Fryers Creek, is an important one. The estimate of there being 150 oz of gold in the specimens may not be accurate but whether it be under or over the actual weight, there can be no doubt whatever as to the richness of the find. This run of gold gives another illustration of the uncertainty of mining. It is in the ground long held by the Fryers Co., which was abandoned as unprofitable after many years' persistent trial. [37]
- 4 April 1882** Enterprise - Shaft sunk to 292 feet. A rise has been put up to break into the lower workings of the Cumberland Mine where payable quartz was left. [37]
- 5 June 1882** Enterprise - The south portion of the mine, along with the Cumberland plant, will be let on tribute. [37]
- 3 July 1882** The tramway is being extended to Cumberland ground and when finished No. 2 plant will be put into works. [37]
- 21 Aug 1882** Shaft sunk total 351 feet. [37]
- March 1884** Enterprise Company - This Company has been compelled to suspend mining operations until its financial difficulties are adjusted. The Bank of Victoria has had a lien on the mine and plant for a long time, and, until this is cleared off, the directors will be more or less hampered in their proceedings. [10]
- June 1884** Enterprise Company. It would appear the directors have no hopes of re-organising, consequently the leased ground is now virtually abandoned. It is expected the machinery will shortly be removed. [10]
- Sept 1884** The machinery lately belonging to the Enterprise Company is now being removed to the Heathcote district. Small co-operative parties, who intend to test the line of reef more to the westward are now applying for the ground [10]
- Sept 1885** The Diamond Drill. No. 1 bore, Commissioner's Flat, near the Black Hawk mine, has been completed, the maximum depth required (1,000 feet) having been attained. The foreman (Mr. Harvey) states, that at 454 feet (No. 1 bore) the drill passed through a very fine-looking quartz leader, 10 inches in thickness, which is probably connected with a large body of stone not far distant. At 910 feet, a seam of black slate, heavily charged with mundic, was passed through which is considered by experts highly suggestive of the existence of a permanent and well-defined lode. At 988 feet 4 inches the bore pierced through a large body of quartz, extending to a permanent and well-defined lode. At 988 feet 4 inches the bore pierced through a large body of quartz, extending to a depth of 1,001 feet 8 inches, which would give a thickness of 13 feet in the clear. This important discovery can scarcely be overestimated when considering the well-known character of the lodes already tested at higher levels on the same line of reef. [10]

**March 1889** Cumberland Company. - The ground originally occupied by this defunct company is favourably situated, being intersected by the main line of reef (Cattle's) which bears N 14° W., with an easterly underlay of 1 in 2. The length to which reef has been traced or worked is approximately 300 to 400 feet continuously. The main shaft was sunk to a depth of 240 feet. The reef has been abandoned through mismanagement and misunderstanding on the part of the original directors. There is supposed to be payable ground available in the direction of the Hope shaft... The number of tons of quartz crushed is shown as 2,910, averaging 5 to 6 dwt. to the ton. The best crushings were taken between the 120 and 200-foot levels.

Fryer's Company. The directors and shareholder of this company displayed an amount of energy and perseverance in view of developing the resources of the mine, which has scarcely been equalled in the Castlemaine district. It is generally supposed, however, that the large amount of capital raised - about £25,000 - was injudiciously expended. The main shaft was evidently sunk too much to the eastward of the main auriferous line of country, consequently a vast amount of labour in sinking and driving was absolutely thrown away. The ground was taken up under lease in the year 1868. The underlay of the reef or leaders may be considered as undefined, excepting at the south end of the claim, joining the Cumberland Company's north boundary, where the reef was fairly defined and the stone payable.

The reef (so-called) has been worked continuously about 265 feet. The depth of main shaft is 365 feet, water level, 58 feet. The yields taken from various depths were as follows:- Surface to 100 feet, 214oz.; to 150 feet, 70oz.; to 200 feet, 574oz.; to 300 feet, 2,161oz.; to 400 feet, 48 oz.; 7,926 tons averaged 7.7dwt. to the ton. The reef was abandoned, inasmuch that the quartz raised was not sufficiently rich to pay for working expenses and wear and tear of machinery. Enterprise Company (originally Small and party). The ground occupied by this company was first taken up by Small and party in the year 1868, and was fairly remunerative in the first instance; the first crushing yielded half an ounce to the ton from a depth of 80 to 130 feet. These results were so far encouraging that an excellent plan was provided, and placed on the ground, when mining operations were continued, with scarcely any intermission, for a period of fifteen years... The strike of the reef is N. 14°W.... The depth of the main shaft is 364 feet; the water-level being represented as 10 feet. The yield of gold from the different levels is as follows: Surface to 150 feet, 629oz.; to 200 feet, 809oz.; to 300 feet, 2,229oz.; to 400 feet, 174oz.; 10,472 tons averaging 7.3dwt. to the ton. The reef was abandoned in consequence of the stone not proving payable at the lower levels, and the financial resources of the company being exhausted. [10]

**1898-1905** In August 1898, a dredging lease of 101 acres on Commissioners Flat, was granted to P. Hausen who represented the Fryers Creek Dredging Company, generally known as the Blue Duck. Obviously it was a Blue Duck indeed; because in November 1905 tenders were called for the removal of the Blue Duck Dredge at Fryers Creek to Trentham. This dredge had been a complete failure. [32]

**1990** ...the Cumberland mine [mullock heap] is the nearest to the road going to the cemetery. [72]

Mining Division Fryers Creek  
 Associated Fields/Reefs Commissioner's Flat, Fryerstown

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DATE	HISTORY
<i>15 Oct 1858</i>	Reef opened eighteen months previously and soon abandoned - Watts and Party has taken up deserted shafts. [37]
<i>July 1859</i>	[Table of monthly returns] lists Hazlitt and Co., and Tait and Co. as working this reef to a depth of 30 feet. [10]
<i>17 Aug 1860</i>	Hazlett and Co. - washing 160 loads with 4 horses and 2 mills... [51]
<i>March 1861</i>	There is only 1 quartz claim within the area [of Fryerstown], and that employing only 4 men. This reef, although little in this particular locality, is I believe as much worked as any reef in Victoria. It is a southerly continuation of Ferron's Reef, and the latter is believed to be a continuation of Blacksmith's, El Dorado, Wattle Gully, (in the Castlemaine Division), Chewton and Sailors' Gully Reefs, and thence goes on to Barker's Creek... it is a remarkable fact that all the alluvial deposits around this line of quartz reefs have been extremely rich. [10]
<i>14 April 1862</i>	Lease again taken up - up to 7 oz per ton. [37]
<i>6 June 1862</i>	Cattle and Co., Ridgeway and Co. [37]
<i>3 June 1864</i>	Duke of Cornwall - prospectus £3,000 capital, 300 shares - lease adjoins Cattle and Co. [37]
<i>June 1864</i>	A company named the Duke of Cornwall is being formed for working a lease of 12 acres applied for by Stoneman and others on Cattle's Reef. The proprietors have good prospects, but not sufficient capital to work the mine properly, the water at 30 feet from the surface being considerably beyond the power of hand baling.

The next claim to the Duke of Cornwall, owned by Cattle and Company (the original discoverers of the reef), is yielding some extraordinary stone at the present time; up to the time that I visited the claim, fully sixty ounces of gold had been taken out for 6 days work by one man, and this without crushing; it was pure gold knocked out, besides sending quartz to the mill which expected to yield very handsomely. I have not, during my experience, seen an equally good show of specimens. One piece of gold weighed 4 1/2 oz.

Rowe Brothers have the next ground south of Cattle, and at a depth of 110 feet from the surface, are obtaining over an ounce to the ton, from a reef of great thickness. I believe Cattle Reef to be the best known in this division. [10]

*Sept 1864* Cattle and Co. have been engaged during the last two months in removing their crushing machinery from its old site (about three-quarters of a mile from the claim) to a point in the immediate vicinity. They expect to resume work in about eighteen days. [10]

*Dec 1864* Cattle and Co. have their machinery in working order on the new site near the mine; they obtain yields that give them a fair income per man. The yields from the Duke of Cornwall mine, adjoining Cattle, are improving... Rowe Brothers continue to do well. [10]

*March 1865* The Duke of Cornwall Company, on Cattle Reef, have erected a crushing machine, and will commence crushing as soon as their shaft has been sunk to a sufficiently low level to drain the old workings and give a fair height of dry ground or backs for working to advantage. The Croesus commenced crushing last week. [10]

*June 1865* The Duke of Cornwall Company have not yet been able to reduce the water so as to work the main reef, and the result of their crushing thus far is, therefore no criterion of the value of their claim. [10]

*1865* Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865:

Cattle and Company, Duke of York [Cornwall?] Co., Rowe Brothers [10]

*Sept 1866* In Rowe's No. 2 claim, although it adjoins Cattle's (the latter is the best claim in the sub-division), gold could not be obtained in paying quantities, after five years work had been spent on it, until they sunk about 30 feet below the water level, where they have struck a splendid lode. The Duke of Cornwall claim - immediately to the north of Cattle's - has yielded nothing worth consideration, although it has been worked for nearly three years. [10]

*1866* Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:

Cattle and Company, Duke of Cornwall Company, Rowe Brothers [10]

*1867* Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:

Cattle and Company, Stewart and Company, Duke of Cornwall, Little Davis, Rowe Brothers, Mills, Hilton and Company. [10]

*8 Feb 1868* AUSTRALIAN UNITED GOLD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED)

Attention is called to the prospectus of the above company, which appears in ... this day's Journal... The Australian United Gold Mining Company is, it may be hoped, not only the forerunner of many that must follow, but takes the initiative in opening a new, vast, and profitable field for the safe investment of some of our unused and at present commercially worthless capital...

Hilton and Co., working one of the lodes which runs through the Duke of Cornwall Mine (one of those to be worked by the Australian Company), about 180 yards from the South boundary, have discovered within the last six months a shoot of gold which is giving each of the working partners over £100 weekly.

The two mines to be worked by the Australian United Gold Mining Company are so well reported on that no doubt is entertained as to the result. The high official position of Messrs. Kitto and Ulrich, in connection with the

Mining and Geological Survey of Victoria, is a sufficient guarantee to intending investors. The report of Capt. Rowe is attested by Capt. Charles Thomas, of Dolcoath Mine, Cornwall, a fact that brings the evidence as to the value of these properties to our very doors. [11]

- March 1868** Duke of Cornwall Company - This Company, who occupies a large area of ground, has been reluctantly compelled to suspend operations. They have already expended a large sum, with the view of striking the main reef below the water level. [10]
- March 1868** New Machinery - Messrs. Mills, Hilton, and Co., at Cattle's Reef, have recently purchased an engine and plant, which they are about erecting near their claim. [10]
- June 1868** Messrs. Mills, Hilton and Co., who occupy a claim about 200 feet to the south of the Duke of Cornwall, have already sunk a shaft to a depth of 140 feet, and 76 feet below the water level [10]
- June 1868** Table showing depths of some shafts, which have been sunk during the past six or seven years, includes.  
Rowe and Co, Cattle's Reef      Depth of Shaft 140 feet [10]
- Sept 1868** The United Australian Gold Mining Company, who occupy a large area of ground, have been busily engaged erecting engine house, sinking two shafts, and otherwise preparing for the proper working of the mine. The shafts are respectively 90 and 70 feet. Within five weeks an engine of 50 horse-power is expected from England, with the usual appliances, and a battery of 48 stamps.  
Mills and Co. have touched (in their new shaft) one of the lodes previously worked upon to the north, and towards Rowe, Cattle, and the Australian United Companies; and although much troubled with water, by the drainage of higher ground, yet sufficient has been seen to satisfy them that the lode is equally rich as in their more northern workings. [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
Rowe and Company, Cattle and Company, Mills and Company [10]
- 1 Feb 1869** Duke of Cornwall Mine [Advice from Kitto, Manager]. Engine: The boiler has been fixed some time; the beam, or "bob", is in position, as also the cylinder, while the other portions will be arranged as rapidly as possible... Mr Rowe reports every portion of the building erected to a nicety (for the reception of the machinery) seldom to be met with, the more especially in the absence of the engineer...not a single workman engaged in connection with it ever saw a Cornish engine-house before. [11: 27/3/1869: p. 236]
- March 1869** Cattle's, Ferron's, Heron's, Prince of Wales, Cemetery, and Specimen Hill Reefs constitute nearly one continuous, unbroken line of reef, although there are what are denominated the eastern and western lodes, 9 or 10 chains apart, with numerous veins and leaders running at different angles between them.  
Very payable stone is now being raised at the 135-foot level (Cattle's Reef) - half and three-quarter oz. to the ton.  
The Australian United Gold Mining Company has succeeded in placing their plant upon the ground, but their large engine is only erected. The total value of the plant is about £8,500, consisting of a vertical double-acting engine, with a 9-foot stroke in cylinder, with a nominal horse-power of 70, but can be worked to 200, with 24 head of stamps; one 25 horse-power horizontal engine for winding; one 1 horse-power portable engine for sawing timber. The company have three working shafts, one 84 feet deep, one 145 feet, and one 135 feet. It is proposed to sink the 145-foot shaft to a depth of 1,000 feet. A large quantity of quartz has already been raised, something like 1,500 tons, from the 135-foot level; the quality is of a highly auriferous character, and is estimated to yield from 8 to 10 dwts. to the ton. The stamping machinery will be erected in the course of two months, and crushing operations commenced; but the claim will not be in full working order for nine or twelve months.

Mills, Hilton, and Co - This Company is proceeding energetically; the lode is well defined, 9 feet wide at a depth of 110 feet, and averaging 15 dwts. to the ton; but a large body of water has to be encountered, which much impedes their operations.

Cattle and Co. have been sinking and driving in order to strike the lode, which the Australian Company is at present working. They have been unable to crush during the past three months. [10]

- April 24 1869** Duke of Cornwall Mine: [Advice from Kitto, Manager]... The workings of the old shaft and those of Daukes' have been connected by means of a winze sunk from the bottom level of the old shaft to that of Daukes'. The result is the thorough ventilation of the mine. The pumps will be connected with the engine in one week from this date, , when sinking will be resumed. I have purchased a sale sundry light railway iron for my surface and underground tramways, at an average cost of less than £6 per ton; together with 32 iron trucks, &c., equally cheap... Immediately the pumps are at work at the Duke of Cornwall I shall instruct Mr Rowe to erect the engine at this mine, as the loadings are ready to receive it. [11:19/6/1869: p. 452]
- 22 May 1869** Duke of Cornwall Mine: [Advice from Kitto, Manager]... Before the departure of the next mail I hope to have 24 head of stamps at work, by which at least 300 tons of stone will be reduced weekly. [11: 17/7/1869: p. 528]
- June 1869** The Australian United Gold Mining Company has completed the erection of their first battery of 24 heads, and are crushing day and night... Hilton and Company are working with their usual averages, but are much impeded in their underground operations by having a large body of water to contend against. [10]
- 23 Oct 1869** [Australian United Gold Mining Company - first ordinary general meeting].. In the prospectus it was stated "It is expected that in one year the Central Mine [Malmsbury] will be in full work, and the Duke of Cornwall in 18 months." In July 1868, the works were begun at the latter mine, and on June 19, 1869, Mr Kitto advised the starting of 24-heads of stamps, which he stated working admirably... On July 17 Mr Kitto wrote that he had crushed 80 tons of the quartz at the Duke of Cornwall, which had yielded about 55 oz. of gold, or at the rate of about 13 dwts. per ton. But Mr Kitto further reports, "as the furnaces for roasting the pyrites and the apparatus for collecting it were not completed, I had an assay made of the tailings, which showed that I was losing just three times as much gold as I was collecting, the yield from the tailings being over 2 oz. per ton. I at once ceased crushing, nor will I re-commence until every appliance for saving the precious metal is perfected." In his next and last letter (dated Aug. 14) he states that fully three weeks must elapse before he has the separators, concentrators, &c., completed, but adds "under the circumstances you will have a dividend by the end of the year." Mr GILL asked if there was any danger of the supply of timber falling off? - Mr LAMB replied that the first contract was for some thousands of tons at 3s. 6d. per ton. There was sufficient timber to last for a century within carting distance. - Mr FIELDER said that some large deposits of lignite had been discovered in the neighbourhood. [11: 23/10/1869: p.788]
- Nov 1869** Extracts from a private letter from Mr Gill to Mr Lamb, dated Fryer's Town, Nov. 7 - I can understand how thoroughly impatient you are getting, but I am afraid you will have to wait longer yet if you are dependent upon us for good news. I certainly did anticipate that before this mail went out we should be able to report that everything was in working order - furnaces erected, buddles, &c., in work, and that some definite information could be sent home in reference to the value of our pyrites. Such, however, is not the case. It will be yet some two or three weeks before a start can be made, and then some little time must be allowed for practice in their manipulation. We have chiefly been crushing from our shallow (85 ft.) level, and as the ground is so broken and treacherous we have not been able to keep the batteries going much more than half the time. Every day brings us fresh proofs of the greater value of our deep ground. A few weeks back James Rowe sunk his shaft (on the hill opposite your house) to 180 ft., or about 40 ft. deeper than the original level; at 60 ft. from the shaft he



struck the lode, and has already driven into it between 50 ft. and 60 ft., and not through it yet - a solid wall of stone; and if you could have seen his copper-plates you would have opened your eyes. He told us that the reef carries gold with it through its entire breadth. I could not obtain any results from their crushing, as they had not cleaned off; but they all say that it is the richest reef they have had yet.

Now, with these facts before us, it is only right to suppose we shall have a slice of the same luck, as they are not more than 200 yards from our boundary, and we are cross-cutting for precisely the same reef, at a greater depth than they are. We are labouring under one great disadvantage - hard rock, which precludes dispatch in prospecting, and is also very expensive.

Extracts from a private letter from Mr Kitto to Mr Lamb, dated Fryer's Town, Nov. 8:- the masons have not yet finished the furnaces, but expect to do so in about another week. The buddles are at work collecting pyrites, of which we have any quantity, and Chilian mills ready. I am told on every side that the gold is in the pyrites, and should it yield only half the assay contents the stuff will pay well.

Duke of Cornwall - From Captain W.H.T. Williams...In Daukes's, stopes, in the 133 feet level, we have crushed 200 tons of quartz in the past month from the stopes in this mine, and very much to my astonishment and regret the yield is very small, I can only account for it by the broken nature of the lode, and the widely scattered condition of the quartz. [11: 1/1/1870, p.4]

- Dec 1869* The returns from Rowe and Kitto's claim (situated between Small's and Mill's and Rowe's), are very satisfactory...and only two men and a boy engaged in the raising. [10]
- 28 Feb 1870* Of the Duke of Cornwall Mine, Mr Kitto writes:- "The yield of gold from the batteries during the past month has been 111 oz. 10 dwts., retorted. Quartz treated 729 tons. [11: 22/4/1870: p.351]
- June 1870* The Australian United Gold Mining Company. - This company, under the management of R.L.M. Kitto, Esq., has met with a misfortune during the past quarter, to such extent that no crushing returns can be reported. A part of the crushing machinery broke, causing a serious loss, and necessitating the dismissal of a large number of employees. A new battery is now being erected, comprising 20 revolving stamp-heads. The main shaft is being sunk to a depth of 300 feet.
- Rowe and Company (road claim) - This claim is paying handsomely; £80 per man per month (five shareholders). The ground occupied and now being worked is between Rowe Brothers' ordinary claim and Small and Co.'s, and comprises the main road, held under a grant from the district road board.
- Rowe Brothers' Claim (Cattle's Reef) - The returns from this claim (which for years has paid handsomely) cannot but establish a great degree of confidence in the value of this line of reef. To those who hold upon the course of the reef or lodes, it should suffice to read the returns from this claim - Cattle and Co., Small and Co., Mills and Co - from time to time given, and the expenditure of Small and Co., the Fryers, the Black Hawk, the Bonshaw, and the Cumberland Company, all upon or near the same line. I am informed by Messrs. Rowe that the deeper they work their mine the richer the stone.
- Within the past quarter the Australian United Company have operated upon tailings with results astonishing - 1/2 oz. to the ton from tailings of ordinary crushing. The extraction of this may not pay... The mode of operation is - 1st, quartz well burnt at the kilns, thence through the Chilian amalgamating mills, and from thence through an arastra. [10]
- 9 July 1870* [Australian United G.M.C. -special meeting of shareholders] ... [proposed] to increase the capital of the company by a sum not exceeding £15,000, by

the issue of new shares at £2 10s. each, to bear a preferential dividend not exceeding 15 per cent. per annum out of the first profits. The purchase-money of the two mines was £25,000, in shares and money. The vendors, after receiving £11,000 in cash, took 2200 shares, paying cash for them like any other shareholder. Mr Kitto had since then purchased shares, as had also some influential people in the colony. The total expenditure upon the mines by the company was £26,100, of which £2200 had been spent upon machinery. The liabilities amounted to £5000. It is absolutely necessary to increase the capital of the company by £10,000, at least. There is no doubt the original working capital was too small for the work on hand; it might have sufficed had the surface quartz, and that from the first levels, been of a paying quality: this, no doubt, Mr Kitto calculated upon in his estimate. Another help to the failure of capital has been the very hard nature of the sinking at the Duke...of late little had been done at the Duke in the way of development on account of the want of funds. Neighbours, at less than 100 feet deep, are getting large bodies of payable quartz, the Messrs. Rowe's last week obtained 200 oz. of gold from 200 tons of stone. Their quartz is of the same nature as ours, and has increased in value with depth. We have not the means to pay for sinking, and will be compelled to leave off unless we receive remittances. [11: 9/7/1870: p.571].

**23 Aug 1870** The following is an extract from the Castlemaine Representative, of Aug. 23.

"No. 8 is a venture of Gill and Co., for working the eastern lode, and the partners in this claim appear to be well satisfied with their chances. It is immediately south of Rowe Brothers' claim, and the reef has been struck in such a way as to give every ground for expecting rich yields, fifty very nice looking specimens having been got out of one bucket of quartz raised for trial. No. 9, the claim I next visited, is that of Messrs. Rowe Bros., the claim par excellence of Fryerstown, the results of which are likely to eclipse all the old glories of Commissioner's Flat. For nine years its owners have been working steadily on, declaring large dividends every month, except two, and now they have very chance of becoming something very like millionaires. I was prepared to believe almost anything of this claim, especially as I had heard of a Ballarat visitor being helped away breathless with astonishment at what he had seen, and it takes a great deal to make a Ballarat speculator breathless. But I found it all true. The reef in the north share of the claim is 80 feet wide, and has been yielding 15 dwts. to the ton, while in the south shaft the reef has been driven into for 100 feet, and not through yet. The last washing gave 1 1/2 oz. to the ton. A claim like this ought to go far towards making the prosperity of a district, but I was sorry to find, with all these brilliant yields, Fryerstown is under a little cloud. It may not be bigger than a man's hand, but still it is a cloud. Rowe Bros. have no engine on the ground, but at some distance off they have an engine of 17-horse power, with 15 revolving stampers. Lately the roads to this engine have been impassible, and the works have been stopped, throwing 40 men out of work. It doesn't seem to affect the Brothers, but it is rough on the men, who only share in the profits arising from this splendid property in the shape of wages. No. 10 is the claim of Cattle and Co., the original discoverers of the reef... This claim is only 60 yards, and is worked by a co-operative party of five men, with an engine of 12-horse power and six stampers. Next to this and on the top of a slight rise is No. 11, or the well-known Duke of Cornwall, to which so much time, money and energy have been devoted. It is the property of an English corporation got together by Mr Kitto, and though hitherto no fortunes have been made out of it, the shareholders are not disheartened. The appliances for working are, of course, of a much more advanced order than at the

other claims, and the engine of 80 nominal horse-power, but capable of working up to 200 at a very slight cost of fuel, is what experts call "a little beauty." In this time, too, are Chilian mills - unpleasantly suggestive of ground bones - for working up pyrites, and huge furnaces for blowing the same. I looked in at the open door of one of these and saw the flames rushing onward and upward like a river of lava, until the fumes of arsenic and sulphur made my head dizzy, and I was glad to have the door closed and get away from what looked very like a rehearsal for Hades. The deepest shaft in this mine is 260 feet down, at which level it is expected in five or six weeks to strike Rowe's lode, what is believed to be the top of it having been struck at the 200 feet level. Considerable delay has been caused in the working of this company owing to an accident to a portion of the machinery, but this has been repaired, and it is expected that work will be resumed tomorrow. [11: 5/11/1870: p.924]

*Sept 1870*

The Australian U.G.M. Company have been cross-cutting for the reef or lode now being worked by Rowe Brothers and Gill and Co., upon ground east of the originally supposed lines of Cattle's and Ferron's Reefs.

- Mills, Hilton, and Co. - I have from time to time alluded to the reefs or lodes which generally are intituled as the Fryerstown Reefs. In some of my previous reports I described the tract or belt of country between Cattle's Reef and some chains both east and west as auriferous. I have for many years known that the eastern lode of Ferron's Reef had yielded well. I also knew that it had not been much worked, or even prospected, hence I could not do more than pass an unbiased opinion as to its continuance and ultimate value. From the east of the recognised line of Cattle's Reef splendid stone has been obtained, and during the past few days exhibited. As an exhibit of specimens, I think they have never been surpassed, at least within this locality. It is evident that the eastern part of the tract or belt of country I have alluded to previously is highly auriferous, as Gill and Co. are obtaining numerous and beautiful specimens, far east of the line of reef of Small and Co., and with such prospects that a payable yield may be expected. [10]
- 5 Nov 1870** [Australian United G.M.C. - ordinary general meeting of shareholders] ... The directors still feel confident that success is only deferred, if funds sufficient to carry on the works can be raised. It is shown by the balance sheet that the capital of the company has been exhausted, and that the liabilities amount, so far as ascertained by advice to Aug. 13 last, from Australia, to £8793 3s. 3d, of which £5049 13s. 2d. has been voluntary advanced by Mr Kitto and Mr Lamb, without any special security... The great fault had been that Mr Kitto had been too sanguine, and had, therefore, put the capital at too small an amount... [11: 5/11/1870: p.923]
- Dec 1870** Mills and Company's returns are exceedingly good, the yield being 1/2oz. per ton, the crushing stuff taken from 6 to 14 feet wide. Gill and Company (who are working upon private property, on the supposed eastern lode of Ferron's Reef), between Rowe Bros. and Mills and Company, have had most satisfactory returns. They have crushed 350 tons from a depth of 120 feet, yielding 14 dwts. per ton. The reef or lode underlays east... This is considered most promising for those holding ground easterly upon this line of reef. The Australian United Gold Mining Company is actively engaged in cross-cutting for the eastern lode. Rowe Bros, Cattle's Reef \_ The returns of this party are very good, and notwithstanding that they have for years past obtained excellent averages, yet the proprietors are confident that at greater depths their returns will be much above anything hitherto obtained. [10]
- March 1871** Gill and Co. have been engaged...securing their shaft and erecting a whim. The Road Claim, Cattle and Co., and Stevens and Co., have been and now are sinking.[10]
- 20 May 1871** Rowe Brothers - yields about £800 per month. [37]
- 17 June 1871** Rowe Brothers have yielded 550 oz in last two weeks. [37]
- mid-1871** [Australian United G.M.C. - general meeting of shareholders]. Mr Kitto proposed to sell the Duke of Cornwall, for which he hoped to obtain a price that would not only pay off all the debts of the company, but leave a sufficient margin to work the Central Mine; but the directors hoped an effort would be made by the shareholders to prevent that mine passing out of their hands. [11: date missing]
- June 1871** The new machinery already constructed and in operation consists of six Carpenter's patent separators; these machines are erected on a site contiguous to the crushing plant of Rowe Brothers, Golden Gully; the object which the proprietors have in view is to operate on the vast quantity of quartz tailings which have accumulated from many years crushings; there are some thousands of tons of tailings available at the present time, and 60 tons can be disposed of per day of twenty-four hours... their present process simply extracts all minerals from the quartz tailings, these

minerals hereafter will be separated by some peculiar process at present unexplained, but the separation of the gold from the pyrites will in all probability be the chief object. [10]

- 9 Sept 1871** Australian United - The directors have received advice from Mr Kitto to Sept. 9, in which he states that the Duke of Cornwall Mine has been sold to a local company for £14,000 cash, which, he says, after paying all the liabilities of the company, will leave £2,000 to carry on the Central Mine. [11: 4/11/1871: p.982]
- 25 Sept 1871** Cattle's and Co. [47]
- 29 Sept 1871** Duchess of Cornwall Gold Mining Co - lease is 900 ft on the line of the reef which traverses Rowe Bros' claim and extends into Anglo-Australian Co. [37]
- Dec 1871** Mills and Co. (Cattle's) - This company...have a most valuable property. From their engine-shaft, the deepest and easterly, very good stone is obtained, 180 feet deep; but although the reef is very large at this depth, the company consider it advisable to erect a more powerful plant, in order to pump water from the mine and crush stuff. [10]
- March 1872** Rowe Brothers - This mine continues to hold the premier position, and improves in returns.  
I am informed that it is proposed to form a company in England to work the mine; and it is confidently expected that the excellent returns from this claim, and many adjacent, will prove an impetus to mining in this locality. [10]
- June 1872** The Duke of Cornwall Company, from a depth of 110 to 120 feet, with stone averaging 6 feet thick, yields 12 dwts. to the ton; this is considered so far satisfactory that the company have accepted a tender for erection of fifteen revolving heads, at a cost of £1450. [10]
- Dec 1872** The Duke of Cornwall, upon whose ground £35,000 has been expended during the past nine years, are sanguine of good returns from their mine at no very distant period. [10]
- Sept 1873** Great Southern Reefs Company, Nuggetty Gully. A shaft has been sunk on the ground (supposed Cattle's line of reef) to the depth of 105 feet... [10]
- Dec 1873** The Duke of Cornwall Company have a new battery of 15 revolving heads (in lieu of their old one) at a cost of £1500.  
Rowe Bros'. claim still maintains its position as one of the best in the district; the stone yields at the rate of half an ounce to the ton at a depth from surface of 160 feet, the lode being from 60 to 110 feet wide. [10]
- 28 Jan 1874** Perseverance Co. - Are raising stone from the 120 feet level. [37]
- June 1874** The Fryers, Cumberland, Black Hawk, Small's, Rowe Brothers', and Cattle's claims are now nearly all connected by underground workings, well ventilated and drained.  
Rowe Brothers - The yield from this claim is superior to anything hitherto, and when the great quantity of crushing stuff is considered (20 to 100 feet thick), and that the claim has been tested some 20 feet deeper, equally promising, it must be regarded as indicative of a long continuance of highly payable returns, and an inducement to all adjacent holders to prosecute their works zealously. [10]
- 3 Aug 1874** News reached here on Saturday morning that a fatal accident had occurred in a quartz claim at Golden Gully, Fryers, belonging to Rowe Brothers, the victim being a young man named Owen Ferron. He was a native of Ireland and arrived here when he was about a year old. He was unmarried. [37]

**22 July 1875** On the Claim of the DUKE OF CORNWALL GOLD MINING COMPANY,  
Fryerstown, Castlemaine.

MOST IMPORTANT SALE  
Of the whole of the  
POWERFUL MINING MACHINERY

Also  
GOLD MINING LEASES  
Of the above-mentioned company, in lots to suit  
the demand of purchasers

Charles C. White has been favoured with instructions from the board of directors of the Duke of Cornwall Gold Mining Company, to dispose of by Public Auction, on Friday, 23rd instant, at half-past ten o'clock.

The whole of the first-class winding, crushing, and pumping machinery, on the claim, Fryerstown, near Castlemaine, consisting of -  
1 beam engine, 25-inch cylinder, 9 feet stroke, with Cornish boiler 31 feet long, 7 feet diameter.

260 feet 6-inch pumps, with rods and all connections complete in the 260 feet level

1 horizontal 10-inch cylinder winding engine, with winding gear complete, and 500 feet flat rope.

15 head battery, all complete, in excellent order, recently erected, with all latest improvements, by Roberts and Sons, Sandhurst Retorting house, with iron roof, with smelting furnaces, retorts, copperplates, etc.

Friction gear, with winding drums and plumber blocks

150ft 12-in cast-iron pipes, with draw-lift and workings.

Pyrites furnaces

200ft heavy timbered double tramway laid with iron rails

Weatherboard engine-house, 48ft x 28ft, corrugated iron roof.

Office and storehouses, 33ft x 24ft, 11ft walls, corrugated iron roof, lined inside with T and G. boards.

Blacksmith's shop, with bellows, anvils, vices; mining tools, quantity round and flat iron, assorted cast and shear steel, crane, horse drays, wheelbarrows, carpenters' benches, tools, timber, etc.

Gold mining lease in close proximity to the celebrated claim of Rowe Brothers, embracing an area of 34 acres, or on the line of reef 520 yards.

Besides the above there will be submitted a large and miscellaneous assortment of tools and useful appurtenances always required in conducting mining pursuits... [37]

**26 July 1875** Rowe Brothers purchased the Duke of Cornwall mine for £1850 - 'the cheapest mine and plant ever sold in this district.' [37]

**Sept 1875** Messrs. Yeats and Co. have completed the erection of a quartz tailings machine, worked by steam-power, with buddles, situated in Gold [sic] Gully, close to Rowe's crushing machine; their object is to operate on the vast heap of quartz tailings which have accumulated during the past twelve or fifteen years... Mr Yeats has had considerable experience in the treatment of quartz tailings in various parts of the Castlemaine district. [10]

**June 1876** Rowe Brothers' claim - This celebrated mine is still apparently inexhaustible, as the yield of gold varies but little every succeeding quarter; the present average yield per ton being over 16 dwts., with a large body of stone in view to operate on. No idea can be formed as to what the extent of the underground workings will be, at some future time. A large number of men are constantly employed in connection with the claims owned by the Rowe Brothers; and it may be said the future development of

the mines in the immediate vicinity will probably owe a great deal to their energy and enterprise. [10]



- Sept 1876** Duke of Cornwall Company - The large extent of ground lately occupied by this company has fallen into the hands of Messrs. Rowe and Co., whose success in quartz mining has been so remarkable for many years past. The apathy displayed in the management of this mine heretofore has now ceased, the present owners having already proved the existence of a payable reef, which promises to be more remunerative as their operations are extended. The present manager has resumed work 100 feet west from Lamb's shaft, where the late proprietors suspended work, and at this point a body of auriferous quartz has been struck, intermixed with sandstone and slate, about 60 feet wide, at 180-foot level. Other parts of the claim are being prospected, which under the present management will no doubt ultimately prove productive. [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties reporting yields of gold from quartz crushed:  
 Rowe Brothers, Cattle's Reef  
 Rowe Brothers, Cattle's Reef (road claim)  
 Duke of Cornwall, Cattle's Reef  
 Mills and Co., Cattle's Reef [10]
- 5 Feb 1877** Duke of Cornwall mine is now in full swing and very good payable quartz is being crushed from it. [39]
- March 1877** On the old Sebastopol Reef, Middleton Creek; a party of miners (Messrs. Williams and Company) have taken up a claim there. This small co-operative company have purchased and removed the engine and plant formerly in possession of the Cattle's Reef Company, at Fryerstown; the machinery is not very extensive or of great value. [10]
- March 1877** Perseverance Company - This Company are working energetically, but their returns are very moderate. [10]
- June 1877** Rowe Brothers and Duke of Cornwall Company - The proprietors of these extensive and valuable mines continue to employ a large number of men in a profitable manner. The Duke of Cornwall Company's mine, which in its early days was especially noted for its unremunerative returns, is now by skilful management becoming much talked about, and likely to prove of great value and importance. [10]
- 6 Aug 1877** The Rowe Brothers have struck gold in their Mosquito claim. [37]
- Sept 1877** The Duke of Cornwall Company have been doing a great deal of dead work during the past quarter, twelve men having been constantly employed putting in cross-cuts and levels. The claim is principally worked by tributers; the lode being worked is from 5 to 6 feet wide, and likely to pay very well.  
 Rowe Brothers', Cattle's Reef, still maintains a high average yield, viz., 9 dwts. to the ton, at a depth from the surface of 155 feet; the lode 7 feet in thickness. Some magnificent specimens were unearthed a short time since. [10]
- 29 Oct 1877** Perseverance Co. - Worked on tribute by Mills and party - taken from boundary of Rowe's claim. [37]
- 19 Nov 1877** Perseverance is claiming well. [37]
- Dec 1877** The Perseverance Company (Tribute) - This company, under the management of Mr A. Mills, has succeeded during the past quarter in proving that the Cattle's line of reef is still worthy of consideration, the result of the total crushing being 150 tons, equal 140 oz. [10]
- Dec 1877** Duke of Cornwall Company - The present mining manager of this important mine (Mr E.W.H. Rowe) reports that, from previous experience and observation, he has great hopes of improved prospects respecting its ultimate value.  
 Rowe Brothers, Cattle's Reef. - This claim is not progressing quite so satisfactorily as previous experience would lead to expect, the present average being 6 dwts. to the ton... Rowe Brothers are, however, very enterprising and energetic. [10]

*March 1878* The Ferron's line of reef appears now to be more profitably worked than the Cattle's, the latter having generally been considered the more important line, and better defined. [10]

- 7 Oct 1878** Rowe Brothers - For something like 17 years immense bodies of auriferous quartz have been raised from one level, and it is only but a few months back there was found any necessity to sink the shaft. In the second formation, which has recently been cut, which is as rich in gold as what was found above, the depth is but 200 feet. A tunnel is being driven from the old Duke of Cornwall mine that is owned by the Messrs Rowe, and on which there is powerful crushing and winding machinery that will be used for raising and reducing the quartz of the Mosquito claim. Though the lode in the latter has not been traced to any distance south yet it is thought that of the second formation will be discovered. This has influenced the Tribute Company to work Small's claim. Another stimulus is the discovery by Williamson of the supposed line of Ferron's Reef. [37]
- 18 Nov 1878** Rowe Brothers - Got another handsome return from 185ft level. They have passed through quartz in the level they are driving from the Duke of Cornwall mine to connect with the Mosquito, and so soon as the crosshead from Cattle's reef is got through auriferous quartz is expected to be reached. [37]
- Dec 1878** Rowe Brothers and the Ferron's ... can succeed with a low average, in consequence of their splendid mechanical appliances, the vast quantity of stone at command, and the economical mode of working the ground... Rowe Brothers have crushed 1,508 tons of quartz, averaging nearly 9 dwts. to the ton, from the 175-foot level, and the general prospects of the mine are highly favourable. [10]
- 17 March 1879** The Perseverance Co.'s claim, next to the Rowe's Mosquito, is being opened up and sunk with a view to getting to the same run, from which the Rowe's are crushing to good purpose. [37]
- March 1880** The Perseverance Company has been doing dead work, but expect to be reimbursed soon; they have had one or two good crushings. [10]
- March 1880** Rowe Brothers are still energetically at work developing their mine; a large number of men continue to be profitably employed, and the crushing returns keep up to the average. [10]
- 12 April 1880** Rowe Brothers - Calling for tenders for sinking a shaft in Mosquito Claim in a central position in order to reach deeper levels than those tried before. [37]
- 17 Aug 1880** Perseverance - Mr Mills has entered into negotiations to purchase plant and claims of Small, and Cumberland Co. and Fryers Co. - to work these companies under one management and sink to 1000 feet. [37]
- June 1881** Rowe Brothers have recently erected a 28 horse-power engine to work the Mosquito claim on Cattle's Reef, the appliances heretofore having been very inefficient for working a mine of such magnitude. The underground workings being very extensive rendered it necessary to sink a new main shaft, which is being proceeded with at the present time...[10]
- Dec 1881** Rowe Brothers, Cattle's Line of Reef - This claim continues payable, with no signs of being worked out, although not so remunerative as in former years. [10]
- March 1882** Rowe Brothers. - ..The company have been doing a great deal of dead work of late, driving and sinking, and are now about sinking a new main shaft, tenders having been invited for 100 feet. [10]
- 9 June 1882** Perseverance Co - First meeting of shareholders held - work will start in a few days and crushing within a few weeks. [37]
- 26 June 1882** Perseverance Co. - The paddock shaft will be repaired during the week; as soon as that is down sinking will be commenced. [37]
- June 1882** Perseverance Company - This Company has re-commenced mining operations, having been reorganised; there are now about twelve men employed... [10]
- 3 July 1882** Perseverance Co. - The No. 2 shaft has been repaired and sinking commenced. [37]

- 7 Aug 1882** Perseverance Co. - During ensuing weeks, will put pumps in... [37]
- 27 Nov 1882** Perseverance Co. - The workings have been worked since company formed, from the whim shaft but now (to comply with regulations) will drive a level from the engine shaft. The level at bottom of shaft (230 feet) has been extended 20 feet during week. [37]
- March 1883** Two of the more important companies have, comparatively speaking, suspended operations, viz., the "New Era", and "Rowe Brothers". The Rowe Brothers claim is only being worked by a few miners at the present time, but it is expected there will shortly be a re-organisation. [10]
- Sept 1883** Perseverance Company, Fryerstown. -...The company have recently purchased a valuable plant from the Tarilta Gold Mining Company, which is now being removed from Vaughan. The old plant is being shifted. [10]
- 14 Nov 1883** Perseverance Co - Main shaft has been cut down 71 feet and timbered 50 feet. [37]
- 19 Dec 1883** Perseverance Co - In August last a large crushing plant was purchased from Messrs D. Munro and Co. for the sum of £1035, the terms being very liberal. A contract was let on the 19th October to Messrs Clarkson and Heffernan, for the sum of £855 12s, to remove and erect the whole of the plant, the time given being four months; they are now busily engaged with the work. The plant, when erected, will consist of one 16-inch cylinder engine, to drive the 20-head battery; one new 14-inch cylinder engine for winding, the gearing being also new, and of the most improved pattern, one 10½-inch cylinder engine for pumping. Steam will be supplied from two boilers, each engine being laid down to do its own special work. The whole of the machinery will be under one roof, and when finished will be one of the most complete plants in the district. [37]
- Dec 1883** Perseverance Company - The engine and battery lately removed from Vaughan, and for some time in use by the Tarilta Gold Mining Company, are now being erected in the company's leased block at Fryerstown... It is known that this claim is intersected by Cattle's main line of reef. [10]
- March 1884** The Perseverance Company is now engaged erecting a substantial plant, consisting of three steam engines for winding, pumping, and crushing, with an aggregate of 50 horse-power; the estimated cost, including fixing, is £3,000. The machinery is to be completed within about a month. [10]
- 13 June 1884** Ceremony for starting machinery. The Perseverance has been partly worked, 800 tons giving 227 oz. Shaft is 9½ ft x 3½ feet. [37]
- June 1884** Perseverance Company - The company have now completed the erection of their machinery, which consists of one 25 horse-power steam-engine for crushing, with 20 heads of stamps; one 20 horse-power engine for winding; and one ten horse-power engine for pumping. The steam is supplied by two boilers. The total cost of machinery and appliances is £3,500. [10]
- 9 Sept 1884** Perseverance Co. - Main shaft at 275 feet deep. [37]
- Sept 1884** There seems to be prevalent idea...among the old residents that deep sinking on the main line of reef (Cattle's) should be proceeded with at once, as being the only way of solving the mystery as to the existence of a rich and well defined lode at a much lower level than has hitherto been attained. [10]
- 25 May 1885** From the prospectus of the Messrs Rowe Brothers, published in another column, it will be seen they are offering to the public their mines and plant for £7250. Some years ago, when there was a rush for reefs, they could then have disposed of their property for ten times the amount they are now accepting. For this change in the valuation there are two reasons, one of which is the death of one of the proprietors rendering it necessary to wind up the partnership, the other is that an estimated outlay of from £1000 to £1500 is required to make the mine dividend-paying. Prospectus - This Company is projected to purchase for £7250, and work the well-known rich gold mine belonging to Rowe Brothers at Fryerstown,

which, owing to the death of one of the brothers, is now placed on the market.

During the past twenty-three years this mine has yielded over £200,000 worth of gold.

One of the Government diamond drills is now at work in a neighbouring claim on this line of reef, and will shortly be at work in this mine to test the deep ground, the sites for the bores having been selected by Mr Reginald Murray, Government Geological Surveyor, after a careful examination of this and the adjoining mines...

The machinery now erected on the property cost £11,000, and is valued at the present time for working the mine at £6,100, being nearly the amount asked by the owners for the entire property...

The 'Perseverance Co.' (the adjoining claim) are driving on the reef at the 312 feet level, which has yielded 6 dwt per ton. This stone continues to improve as the drive is extended towards Rowe Brothers' claim, from which it is less than 200 feet distant, and their pumping operations are draining Rowe Brothers' mine. [37]

- Sept 1885* Perseverance Company - The term of the original lease of the ground held by this company having expired through passage of time (15 years), a renewed application has recently been made, which will comprise nearly double the area. During the long period referred to, every effort has not been rewarded with success. [10]
- Sept 1885* The Diamond Drill ... The drill has now (October 3rd) been removed to the Duke of Cornwall mine, about 40 chains further north. [10]
- Dec 1885* Cattle's Line of Reef. The future development of this line of reef must necessarily depend upon the importation of foreign capital, as the local residents have already gone to a great extent in prospecting, and have contributed liberally on all occasions when reasonable prospects of success were apparent.  
The diamond drill is now at work on the Duke of Cornwall lease, the bore having attained a depth of 837 feet 10 inches. [10]
- March 1886* Rowe Brothers are now employing about fifteen men, and working at comparatively shallow depths for moderate returns. [10]
- 18 Oct 1886* Perseverance Co. - The Diamond Drill has passed through an old level 61/2 feet high at 139 feet. [37]
- 8 Nov 1886* Perseverance Co. - Mines Department regulations state drilling cannot be done on private leaseholds, or to pass through broken ground lest the diamonds might be fractured by going through timber. [37]
- 15 Nov 1886* A second strike of gold in the Diamond Drill has encouraged the re-organising of Perseverance Co. [37]
- 22 Nov 1886* The New Perseverance Tribute Co. has been floated - the drill is working within 6 feet of one of its shafts. [37]
- 21 Dec 1886* Perseverance Co - work started in mine - dewatering mine. [37]
- Dec 1886* The English, the Australian, Rowe Brothers, the Perseverance, and the Golden Eagle Companies are all likely to make a fresh and energetic start before many weeks have elapsed. All these companies have been languishing for a long time past, but English capital is expected to arrive shortly, when new life and vigour will be imparted; and the different managers will have ample scope for testing the deep and untried ground by diverging more to the westward than has hitherto been considered advisable or expedient. The diamond drill has done something well calculated to guide and encourage those who are disposed to take advantage of its discoveries. [10]
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managers will have ample scope for testing the deep and untried ground by diverging more to the westward than has hitherto been considered advisable or expedient. The diamond drill has done something well calculated to guide and encourage those who are disposed to take advantage of its discoveries. [10]

**12 March 1888** The mine of Rowe Brothers was reported to have been sold by Mr James Thompson to a syndicate in London. The syndicate has withdrawn their offer owing to the action of some claim jumpers - even though the Minister of Mines decided in favour of Messrs. Rowe Brothers concerning the claim. [37]

**March 1888** Rowe Brothers, Cattle's Reef - The owners of this once celebrated mine are now actively engaged repairing No. 1 or main shaft, also overhauling the whole of the extensive machinery connected with the large block of land held under the Leasing Regulations. The energy now displayed is in consequence of the necessity that has arisen for getting everything in good working order, preparatory to resuming active mining operations on a large scale, in view of a London syndicate taking possession of the mine under the most favourable conditions. [10]

**March 1889** New Perseverance Company (originally Mills and party) - The ground occupied by this company is favourably situated, being contiguous to that of Rowe Brothers' south boundary. The bearing or strike of the so-called reef is N. 14°W. (Cattle's line), but there is no regular underlay... up to the present time (March 1889), it may be safely affirmed that no properly defined or permanent lode has yet been discovered traversing the company's ground. The depth of the main shaft is 460 feet; water level 10 feet... The yields, from various depths are as follows:- Surface to 100 feet, 685oz.; to 150 feet, 2,163oz.; to 200 feet, 2,231oz.; to 300 feet, 221oz.; to 400 feet, 755oz. Total number of tons crushed, 14,832, averaging 8.1dwt. to the ton... The company is still actively engaged sinking and prospecting, and there are indications of more favourable results following in the course of a short period.

Rowe and Party, Cattle's Reef - The original claim owned by Rowe Brothers, and generally described as the "Mosquito," has proved remarkably rich down to the 162-foot level, situated at the southern end of their present lease. The reef, or general run of quartz, bears N. 14°W.... At No. 11 shaft, and between 10 and 11, the strike is undefined, consisting of a conglomerated mass of quartz, slate, and flucan, and floating sandstone in detached portions, nearly all being payable crushing stuff. This refers to a depth, from surface, of 162 feet, now worked out. The length to which reef has been worked cannot be ascertained, as during the past twenty years there has been no record kept by the different mining managers. The main Mosquito shaft has been sunk to a depth of 453 feet... The depth of water level is given as 40 feet... The yields are as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 3,078 tons, 540oz.; to 100 feet, 5,315 tons, 1038 oz.; to 150 feet, 14,463 tons, 17,811oz.; to 200 feet, 34,910 tons, 18,840oz.; to 300 feet, 15,833 tons, 3,914oz.; to 400 feet, 9,920 tons, 1,438 oz.; total 83,519 tons, averaging 10 to 10 1/2 dwt. to the ton... The total area of ground occupied by Rowe Brothers is 78 acres, extending from the New Perseverance Company to the New Era... The whole extent of ground is more or less auriferous.

Duke of Cornwall Company - This Company was originally started by R.L.M. Kitto, mining engineer, who secured a large amount of English capital in order to work and properly develop the mine. Mr Kitto was local director and manager, and devoted a great deal of time and energy in order to succeed in the venture. Very expensive and elaborate machinery was erected on the ground, with all the most approved mechanical appliances in connection with mining; but the company eventually collapsed, the plant and ground being transferred to Rowe Brothers. With reference to this

company, it may be stated that the large amount of capital expended on the surface in the first instance was considerably disproportionate to the requirements of the mine, in view of the small extent of prospecting, which had been previously accomplished. The anticipations as to grand results, founded on the close proximity to the Mosquito claim, were never realised, and up to the present time it may be said the prospects are equally discouraging... The results from various crushings may be enumerated as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 47oz.; to 100 feet, 443 oz.; to 150 feet, 727 oz.; to 200 feet, 824oz.; to 300 feet, 817oz.; to 400 feet, 73 oz. The total number of tons crushed, 14,324, averaging 4dwt. to the ton... The ground is still occupied by Rowe Brothers, but there is nothing going on at the present time requiring special notice. [10]

*June 1889* New Era and Perseverance Gold Mining Companies - After being in existence a great many years, these companies have collapsed through an inability to pick up the lost lead in other claims... The Perseverance Company has been struggling for years past, and...nothing of a permanently payable nature has yet been discovered. [10]

*June 1891* Messrs. Delaroy and Mills..., after sinking among the old holes on the Old Perseverance Company's ground, struck payable gold at the bottom of their first shaft. They have followed up the lead, and in every instance the ground has proved payable. It is said that 40 or 50 oz. have been obtained in six weeks, including a 12-oz. nugget... [10]

*12 April 1897* The newly found reef is located within 100 yards and north of Rowe Bros.' mine. [37]

*17 May 1897* Rowes' Fryers Mine - The new shaft is sunk a depth of 49 feet. [37]

*26 July 1897* Rowes' Fryers Mine - Crosscut east at 88 feet level complete, having broken through to the Mosquito shaft, a distance of 144 feet. The reef struck a week ago is 90 feet from the new shaft, and between it and the Mosquito several strong flucans, carrying a little quartz have been intersected... [37]

*1982* Duke of Cornwall Mine, Fryerstown, Victoria.

Introduction - The engine house of the Duke of Cornwall Mine, located near Fryerstown, Victoria has been classified by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), included in the Australian Heritage Commission's register of the National Estate and is given statutory protection by its inclusion on the register of the Historic Buildings Preservation Council.

Existing remains - A considerable amount of physical evidence of the mine has survived. These elements...include the engine house, the magazine and the manager's house and evidence of sites including the two main shafts, the offices and reservoir.

Engine House - The building is constructed predominantly of rough hewn local stone, although windows and other wall openings are dressed with brick, which was also used for the upper half of the chimney and at the corners of the buildings. Granite was used for the main 'loadings' on the 'bob wall'. Very little evidence remains of the timber parts of the structure such as roof trusses and internal floors. One unusual aspect off the engine house is the location of the chimney in the central position on the end wall, rather than the usual corner or freestanding positions. The foundations, which supported the flywheel, axle and crank, are evident and a low stone wall on the southern side of the engine house marks the probable location of the boiler house.

Crushing Battery - Little evidence remains of the battery which is apparently located on the northern side of the engine house, in an area which is now mostly overgrown with pepper trees.

Shafts - Dauke's shaft was located on the eastern side of the Fryerstown to Chewton Road and the pumps in this shaft were operated by the beam engine. Some evidence of stonework associated with the shaft can be

identified and most of the mullock heap remains. A short section of tramway rail, presumably from the overhead tramway connecting the shaft and the battery has been located. Lamb's shaft is marked by a mullock heap on the side of a gully approximately 150m to the northeast. Two other shafts were identified but neither can be named with any degree of certainty.

Powder magazine - Constructed of stone at a cost of £16 in 1865, the circular structure remains largely intact.

Managers House - The House constructed for H.W. Lamb survives although in a substantially altered condition.

Office Foundations - Foundations associated with the offices indicated on the 1868 plan can be identified.

Foundations of Engine House - On the eastern side of the road, substantial foundations of an additional engine house have survived in a very deteriorated condition. The exact purpose of the engine-house is unclear, but it may have been used for a winding engine, associated with a shaft between the foundations and the road.

The Dam - Evidence of the dam can be identified in the gully although most of the dam wall has disappeared. [65]

1990

Perseverance Mine - mullock heap on the side of the road, W of Amos's house is all that survives. There's a couple more mullock heaps in the paddock. [72]



1.11

## FRYERSTOWN

<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	parts of Golden Gully, Golden Point, Commissioner's Flat, Commissioner's Gully, Gladwin's Gully, Windlass Flat, Windlass Hill, Red Hill, Cumberland Gully, and the Devil's Elbow, Cattle's Reef, Heron's Reef, Ferron's Reef, Clark's Reef

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<i>27 May 1854</i>	It is finally settled that we are to have a township at Fryer's Creek. The spot fixed on is adjacent to the Camp, the main street running along that part of the Sawpit Gully that leads past Messrs. Rogers and Harper's store. Mr Commissioner Heron and Mr Urquhart, the District Surveyor, inspected the site a few days since, previous to the survey being made. [47: p.2]
<i>24 June 1854</i>	Fryer's Creek - The survey of the township at these diggings is now nearly completed... We believe the land will be sold in about six weeks. We believe the camp is assuming somewhat of an appearance of permanency and that a substantial building for the post office is shortly to be erected. [47: p.3]
<i>5 Jan 1855</i>	During the present week we have had our post office removed, and no mail to Melbourne or elsewhere, and all the notice that was given us was twenty-four hours. The greater part of the diggers must walk four or five miles for their letters. [47: p.2]
<i>12 Jan 1855</i>	On Friday evening last a public supper was given by Mr Hugh Moore, at the Fryer's Town Hotel, on the occasion of opening the house. The party was the largest that ever met in the Fryer's Creek district, more than 80 sat down to supper. We have now two very respectable and comfortable hotels in Fryer's Town; the other, the Digger's Rest, kept by Mr S. Stevens, an old and respected inhabitant of this district. The township is getting occupied, and many parties have erected comfortable homesteads, and there is no doubt if more of the land was sold, we should have a great accession to our population. A building, in connection with the Church of England, is about to be commenced on the portion of land allotted for that purpose. Our worthy postmaster, Mr Yates, took his departure last week for Castlemaine; he left us very much regretted. His departure was most sudden. On Saturday, the 30th ult. the Post-office was in full operation, and the letters delivered as usual, but on Monday the Post-office was no more; it disappeared in twenty-four hours. A deputation... waited on the Commission of Enquiry [Gold Fields Enquiry Commission] at Castlemaine, last week, but they could give us no help. They ... recommended a petition. This will be done, but what are we to do in the meanwhile? Quietly bow to the powers that be? How different would be Sir Charles Hotham's reception in Fryer's Town now, to what it was a few months since, when, from the statements he made here and in other places, we were led to expect great things...and now he, or those under him, seem to be doing all they can to annoy us. [47: p.2]
<i>23 Feb 1855</i>	The whole of the unsold land near the township has been opened... Commissioner Heron...lately received the thanks of some 300 or 400 diggers for allowing them to work this land.

Opening of the Wesleyan Chapel, Fryer's Town...this building will be opened for public worship on Sunday, 4th March.

The members of the Fryer's Town Cricket Club meet for practice every Saturday, at the Old Commissioner's Flat, on the Loddon. [47: p.5]

**11 May 1855** Hugh Moore, Fryer's Town Hotel, Fryer's Creek. Bagatelle, Skittle Ground, A Concert Room up stairs 54 feet long. [47: p.4]

**18 May 1855** Tenders will be received by T.D.S. Heron, J.P., Fryer's Creek, for the Erection of a Wooden Building, 30 ft x 20 ft, for the National School at that place. Price, when completed, not to exceed £200. [47: p.1]

- 18 May 1855** The surveyors have been very active the last fortnight in marking the boundary of the township, and sections for the next land sale, so that in the course of a few months, Fryer's Town will take a lead amongst the influential and respectable townships of Victoria. [47: p.2]
- 1 June 1855** High-street, Fryerstown. J.C. Denny has constantly on hand at Wholesale Prices - Best brand Adelaide flour, Do Chilian, Best Scotch oats, Bran, Good congou, Prime rose Cork and Goshen butter, Brown's River potatoes, VDL onions, Cossipore sugars, &c., Wheelbarrows, &c., &c. [47: p.1]
- 8 June 1855** Opening of the Fryer's Town Episcopal Church... [47: p.3]
- 22 June 1855** The business of the Licensing Bench [heard] the applications from the Fryer's Creek district... Hugh Moore, Fryer's Town Hotel; \_\_\_ Stevens, Digger's Rest... These applications for renewal were granted. [47: p.3]
- 20 July 1855** I have much pleasure in noticing the opening of the new National School, on the hill adjoining the Wesleyan Chapel. I must not forget the new store erected by Messrs Bond, near the intended market place. The front is very tasteful, and comprises some handsome panes of plate glass. [47: p.2]
- 14 Sept 1855** Weather. On Monday and Tuesday, the creek poured through the centre of Fryer's Town like a mill-race. [47: p.3]
- 12 Oct 1855** Within the past day or two there has been a great rush towards Sailor's Gully... The other parts of Fryer's Creek, and more especially the township, is nearly deserted, and trade was never so dull. [47: p.2]
- 2 Nov 1855** Reaching Fryer's Town we are struck by the contrast between this place and Kangaroo or the Junction. Not a soul to be seen excepting at the puddling machines; occasionally a dray passes the street, and then the bark of a dog is heard, or else the place may be proclaimed in the 'Government Gazette' as literally dead. A reaction may take place if the quartz reefs should prove auriferous and rich. There are many parties working in Golden Gully, but it is impossible to arrive at anything like an accurate conclusion as to the richness of the claims. There are plenty of quartz reefs around the township, and it is the only prospect of resuscitating it from almost absolute abandonment.  
The selection of a township at the extreme end of the diggings is reprehensible on the part of the Government, as almost any part would have been better than this, but because it was too much trouble to remove the camp to a more central and eligible site, and so the diggers from Kangaroo Hill and other distant parts are compelled to come to Fryer's Town. [47: p.2]
- 2 Nov 1855** For Sale by private contract - New Bakery, brick oven, bakery utensils, weatherboard store (zinc roof, floored), containing bedroom, sitting room, and kitchen, outhouses, piggery, 4 stall stable, fowl house, &c.; the land is freehold, fenced in, situated at Fryer's Town... J.C. Denny. [47: p.3]
- 1 Feb 1856** Fryer's Town, hitherto so dull and quiet, has been exceedingly disturbed by the notice ... that persons not being freeholders or lessees in that important township, will have to remove within fourteen days. [47: p.4]
- 5 Feb 1856** A small rush round Moore's store and on the Windlass Hill. This rush took place in consequence of Mr Moore having received notice to remove to the township...which, as soon as the diggers were made acquainted with, they took this opportunity of rushing the ground. [47: p.4]
- June 1859** 8 puddling machines operated by 40 non-Chinese  
140 non-Chinese and 108 Chinese involved in ordinary mining [10]
- March 1861** I forward for your information, that portion of my division within the township of Fryers, comprising a part of Golden Gully, Golden Point, Commissioner's Flat, Commissioner's Gully, Gladwin's Gully, Windlass Flat, Windlass Hill, Red Hill, Cumberland Gully, and the Devil's Elbow. Within the area are 29 puddling claims, and 29 horse puddling machines; also 1 steam puddling machine. These employ 135 men and 52 horses.

There is only 1 quartz claim within the area, and that employing only 4 men. This reef, although little in this particular locality, is I believe as much worked as any reef in Victoria. It is a southerly continuation of Ferron's Reef. [10]

*March 1865* Mining population: 286 [10]

- March 1867** Murdering, Chokem, and Deadman's Flat, and Fryerstown - The usual signs of contentment appear in these localities, and the returns sufficing to check any migratory propensities. The old ground is being continually re-worked - the puddlers' earnings ranging from £2 to £6 per week. [10]
- June 1870** The Black Hawk Company. - In sinking their main shaft, the proprietors of this supposed valuable ground on the main line of reef have struck the water level, and, in consequence of the superabundance of water, have suspended operations, except in preparations on surface for machinery, buildings, &c. In the course of a short time it is expected that suitable machinery will be erected to overcome the difficulty mentioned. [10]
- June 1870** The Bonshaw Company. - This company have suspended operations in consequence of having been unable to provide proper appliances for disposing of the excess of water in sinking their shaft; they have already sunk to a depth of 132 feet, and expended £600, but are now awaiting the erection of machinery prior to recommencing operation. [10]
- Sept 1870** The Bonshaw Company is employing eight men driving to the eastward. It is very evident that the *position* of the ground was judiciously chosen, and forms a continuation of the Black Hawk Company. This company has sunk to a depth of 75 feet; they have now four men employed. The water at this depth completely overcame ordinary operations. A 12 horse-power engine is about being erected by the proprietors, in order to properly drain the mine, and secure a vigorous prosecution of works required. A powerful plant...is to be erected when the ground has been opened out... [10]
- April 1871** The Black Hawk Company has purchased an engine of considerable power, which they intend fixing as soon as possible. [10]
- June 1872** The Black Hawk Company, holding a lease of 25 acres 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  perches, situated about a quarter of a mile south-east of the court house, Fryerstown, south of the Cumberland and Fryer's Companies, and north of the Burdett Coutts Company, have, after four years' prospecting and indomitable perseverance, been rewarded by a magnificent yield. The stone now being raised looks not only equally promising, but also the reef or lode is of a permanent character. The few comprising this company, I believe, expended some £1600 ere seeing any return - this was in sinking three shafts. They are obtaining their gold at a depth of 160 feet, from a lode 4 feet thick. The proprietors are about sinking a new shaft, 200 feet deep, with a view of cross-cutting therefrom both east and west. [10]
- Dec 1872** The Burdett Coutts Company, which had previously obtained good prospects at their 240 foot level, have obtained better prospects still, and as the stone they are obtaining is well impregnated with gold, and charges with mundic and other minerals, it is contemplated that the valuable stone is near, although a greater depth may have to be attained ere a compact reef or lode is opened.  
The Black Hawk Company, who have been constantly prospecting since their occupancy, have struck a lode at a depth of 167 feet, from which the splendid prospect of 1 oz. 3 grs. per ton was obtained. This was obtained from their western shaft, which I am inclined to think is the continuation of Rowe's western workings on Cattle's Reef. [10]
- June 1873** The Black-hawk Company, who have certainly shown indomitable energy for the past few years, have at length an excellent yield of 15 dwt. to the ton, with a large and well defined lode. This is regarded by experienced miners as satisfactory to their neighbours south (the Burdett Coutts, to the Cumberland Company north), and will eventually end in operations being carried out still further south. [10]
- 18 July 1873** Black Hawk - Situated about 200 yards east by south of courthouse. Four shafts have been sunk. The eastern one 6ft x 3ft 3in. to a depth of 70ft. The engine shaft, 9ft 6 in. x 3ft 6in., depth 163 ft - now being used. A shaft, 6ft x 3ft 3in. is 56ft deep. [37]

- Sept 1873** The Black Hawk Company has obtained excellent yields during the quarter - 310 tons averaging 1 oz. 15 dwts. to the ton. This must be regarded as one of the best paying claims in the neighbourhood. [10]
- Dec 1873** The Black Hawk Company is obtaining excellent yields, considering the great quantity of stone they have. A new shaft has been sunk and driven to meet the southern shaft level; very rich stone is being obtained...  
The Burdett Coutts Company are still persevering in their efforts to discover a permanent and gold-bearing reef; at a depth of 235 feet from surface they have struck a body of stone 6 feet thick, in a very hard ground; they have had trial crushings from the small leaders or veins, which, although not satisfactory, have yielded over 3 dwts. to the ton. [10]
- 28 Jan 1873** Small and Co. - The battery is kept fully engaged crushing for the public - at present for the Black Hawk. [37]
- 12 Feb 1874** Burdett Coutts Co. - Our attention for a long time was chiefly directed to the western ground, where long crosscuts were put in at two levels, for the purpose of intersecting the same lode that the adjoining claim (the Black Hawk) was working on and which was proving so rich. Not finding it, after driving a considerable distance, we were forced to the conclusion that the lode worked by us 40 feet west of shaft was the lode, and from surveys made it was proved to be so. [37]
- March 1874** The Burdett Coutts Company, in sinking main shaft some few weeks back, cut through a quartz lode some 3 feet thick showing gold freely, depth 270 feet, and are now opening out. The lode alluded to is supposed to be the Black Hawk continuation. [10]
- June 1874** The Fryers, Cumberland, Black Hawk, Small's, Rowe Brothers', and Cattle's claims are now nearly all connected by underground workings, well ventilated and drained. [10]
- Sept 1874** The Black Hawk ... contemplates erecting a crushing plant of their own. [10]
- Dec 1874** The Black Hawk Company, Fryerstown. - This company, originally started by Messrs. Kitto and Lamb, are progressing very satisfactorily, 35 men are regularly employed, the mine being under able management. The company is erecting a new engine, 25-horse power, to drive a battery of 15 stamps. [10]
- 15 Feb 1875** Burdett Coutts Co - The works during the last six months have principally been confined to prospecting at the 183 feet level - rising, driving, and sinking has been done, with the view of finding payable quartz, and to prove whether we had the Black Hawk lode or not, there being a great difference of opinion on that point. This we consider is now placed beyond doubt by the above work.. Your mine is now well opened up, there being over 900 feet of crosscuts, levels, &c., driven. Main engine-shaft down 274 feet, and everything in connection done with a view of carrying on work on a large scale. [37]
- March 1875** The Black Hawk Company - A new crushing plant has been erected upon the lease of this company, comprising a battery of 15 stamps, driven by a non-condensing engine of 25 horse-power, with a 3 feet stroke, the total cost £2,000. [10]
- 12 March 1877** At Fryers, the example shown by the Fryers Co., the Black Hawk, and Perseverance has borne fruit, and an attempt is now being made to form a company to work Small's celebrated claim, adjoining the Fryers Co. [37]
- Dec 1877** The Blackhawk Company - For some considerable time this company was in a rather depressed condition; it was originally started by Mr H.W. Lamb, and some splendid returns were realised in the early days. Recently some experienced miners have been working the mine under the tribute system. These men would appear to have had some special knowledge of the nature of the ground and the direction of the lead of gold, as their mining

knowledge and industry brings up the average to very good figures, viz., 13 $\frac{1}{4}$  dwts. to the ton. over 500 oz. have been realised during the past three months in this claim. [10]

**14 July 1879** Black Hawk Co - The whole of the property and effect was sold to Mr J. Rowe - will form a new company under the title of New Constitution Mining Co. [37]

**18 Aug 1879** Burdett Coutts Co. The engine-shaft is sunk to a depth of 275 ft., all secure by slabbing with two-inch sawn-timber, and divided into three compartments with plats cut at four levels, all securely timbered. [37]

- Sept 1879* Black Hawk Company - The old company having collapsed, and the lease having been forfeited, a new party is being organised under the management of Mr Tolstrup, whose successful supervision in other directions will inspire confidence in the new directory. The works are now at a standstill, but a fresh start will be made in two or three weeks. [10]
- Dec 1879* The small rush on the Market Reserve, Fryerstown, furnishes a striking proof that the old workings are not altogether exhausted, as several parties have lately been doing well, obtaining from 1/4 to 1/2 oz. to the tub from the bottom of their shafts; but these workings are confined to a very limited area, and are not likely to last any great length of time. [10]
- 29 March 1880* Burdett Coutts Co. - The mine is at a standstill due to shareholders not answering calls. [37]
- March 1880* The Fryers, Small's, Cumberland, Black Hawk, and Burdett Coutts miners are all idle. The Black Hawk, under a new name, will resume work shortly. [10]
- 3 May 1880* Burdett Coutts Co - New directors appointed - will commence work. [37]
- 28 July 1880* Golden Eagle Mining Co. - Prospectus - This Company is being formed for purchasing and working the Black Hawk Co.'s property. The lease is 25 acres 2 roods and 11 perches. The engine shaft is 9ft x 3ft 6in. and 322ft deep. There is also a large dam on the land. Sixty-six crushings have yielded 6441oz. The reef has only been partially worked to a depth of 170ft, and the engine shaft now being 152ft below the workings and two crosscuts to the west having been put in to strike the reef. [37]
- March 1881* Golden Eagle, Fryerstown - The Company is progressing very fairly, payable crushing stuff being obtained from the 320-foot level (new ground); they are still sinking. [10]
- June 1881* The Burdett Coutts Company is engaged sinking their two main shafts. The manager is very sanguine of striking the main Cattle's line of reef at no very distant date, and so establishing a connection between the auriferous lodes intersecting the Black Hawk (now Golden Eagle) and Rowe Brothers' claims, both lying northerly. [10]
- 5 Aug 1881* Burdett Coutts Co - Some of the large veins I would have followed as I believe they are connected with large blocks of quartz, but the air being so bad prevented me from doing so. Having calculated the cost of putting air pipes down, I found that for all purposes a new shaft would be the best and cheapest in the end and would thoroughly ventilate the mine besides cutting various reefs in sinking this. I recommended this to be done. The new shaft was started on the 23rd of May last, and is now down 102 feet from brace. The dimensions of it are 6 feet by 3 feet in the clear divided into two compartments and slabbed with 1 1/2 inch sawn timber. Strong ladders are being placed in position. A contract was entered into for sinking 100 feet at 14s per foot, this will be completed in a few days; the sinking is still good. [37]
- Sept 1881* Burdett Coutts Company is sinking a new shaft. [10]
- 5 Feb 1882* Burdett Coutts Co. - At date of last half-yearly meeting the eastern shaft was down 102 feet from brace. The sinking was continued until we holed through to the crosscut at a depth of 202 feet, the time taken to put the shaft down was twenty-two weeks. [37]
- June 1882* Quick and party - A so-called new reef has been recently discovered near the Church of England reserve, Fryerstown, running in a line parallel with the Cattle's and Nuggetty lines, and 15 or 20 chains west therefrom. Quartz, yielding 14 dwts. to the ton, is being taken from a depth of 20 feet. [10]
- Dec 1882* The Golden Eagle Claim, Fryerstown, is beginning to show something of its old form, when under a different title (Black Hawk), and owned by Mr Lamb. [10]



- 20 Feb 1883** Golden Eagle Co. - Directors' Report. - The directors have much pleasure in observing that a great change for the better has taken place, and that there is every appearance of continued prosperity. We believe that in the course of time the mine will afford employment to a large number of miners, and become highly payable to the shareholders. It will be remembered that the lease comprises 25 acres 7 roods 11 perches of auriferous land. The engine shaft is 9ft x 3ft 6in., securely slabbed and divided for winding and pumping; present depth 403ft. There is also a large dam on the land. [37]
- 2 April 1883** Golden Eagle - This mine has been let to a strong party of tributers who commenced work last Thursday. The tribute is for three years, at 50 per cent. The miners who have taken the tribute are all well acquainted with the lodes at Fryerstown, and therefore the company will reap the benefit of their combined experience. [37]
- June 1883** The Burdett-Coutts Company have suspended operations for the present, owing to funds becoming exhausted; however, it is the intention of the directors to re-organise and raise additional capital, and to re-commence working at an early date. Hitherto, the company have met with little or no encouragement, notwithstanding that their efforts have been persistent, and the capital expended very considerable, viz., £6,000. Golden Eagle Quartz Mining Company. It is generally believed that a rich and well-defined lode exists at a considerable depth, much lower than has ever been tested up to the present time; this lode probably extends in a northerly direction for some miles, and is connected with the Chewton reefs. If prospecting for deep lodes is to be initiated on an improved system, no better field could be selected for exploration than the Fryerstown reefs. these reefs have invariably proved auriferous at all depths and levels, from 200 to 500 feet. [10]
- Dec 1883** Golden Eagle Quartz Mining Company. - A tribute party works this claim. The machinery has been lately overhauled, and found to be in good working order. [10]
- 8 Feb 1884** Golden Eagle Co. During the past half-year your mine has been worked on tribute under the superintendence of Mr Matthew Potter, as mining manager, and Mr Wm. Eudey, engineer and surface manager. The tribute party having decreased in number prevented them completing the work of driving towards the northern boundary of the company's leasehold, where it was expected to cut the stone worked by the adjoining company referred to in our last report, attention being directed to the south end at the 320 feet level working on gold-bearing stone. Engineer's Report. - Since your last half-yearly meeting the tributers have sent 360 tons of quartz to the battery, which was crushed for a yield of 147oz 19dwt 6gr of gold, or an average of 8dwt 5gr per ton. During the holidays the boiler was cleaned out, and machinery overhauled. Everything connected with the surface works of the mine is in good working order. [37]
- June 1884** The Golden Eagle Company, Fryerstown have ... been compelled to temporarily stop their works, owing to the unremunerative character of the crushings during the past twelve months. [10]
- 1 Sept 1884** Golden Eagle Co. - A shareholder asked in reference to there being no extraordinary meeting held. The chairman explained that there were not a sufficient number of shareholders in attendance at the time fixed for holding such a meeting, but it was decided by them to allow all matters that were to be then discussed to stand over until the present meeting. He, however, advised the shareholders to hold on a little while longer to the property, or else take the necessary steps to re-organise the company or to sell the plant if a favourable opportunity arose. [37]
- June 1885** The diamond drill has now been in operation at Fryerstown [Commissioner's Flat] about two months, but no important discoveries have been made up to the present time (June 30th). The total depth attained is 476 feet... It is

*Dec 1886*

intended to bore to a depth of 1,000 feet before shifting to a different position on the main line of reef. [10]

The English, the Australian, Rowe Brothers, the Perseverance, and the Golden Eagle Companies are all likely to make a fresh and energetic start before many weeks have elapsed. All these companies have been languishing for a long time past, but English capital is expected to arrive shortly, when new life and vigour will be imparted; and the different managers will have ample scope for testing the deep and untried ground by diverging more to the westward than has hitherto been considered advisable or expedient. The diamond drill has done something well calculated to guide and encourage those who are disposed to take advantage of its discoveries. [10]

- 1 Aug 1887** Golden Eagle. The offer, which was made by a Melbourne syndicate, for the Golden Eagle plant and leasehold at Fryerstown, was agreed to but the transfer is reported to be still pending until some conditions are conformed to respecting leases. [37]
- March 1889** Burdett-Coutts Company. This company has done a great deal of prospecting during a period of fifteen years, but no payable quartz has been discovered. The reef bears N. 8° 30' W...285 tons of quartz have been raised and crushed, for an average of 5dwt. to the ton. The reef has been abandoned for some time, inasmuch that no payable lode could be discovered.
- Black Hawk Company. The operations of this company have been rather of an extensive character, although mining has been suspended for a considerable time. H.W. Lamb first opened out the reef, in 1868. The strike of the reef is N. 14° W.... At the 320 level the reef has been worked north and south 330 feet; no quartz has been raised from a lower level... The ground is still held under lease. 17,715 tons have been crushed, at an average of 8dwt. to the ton. [10]
- June 1889** A new reef has recently been discovered near the Fryerstown Cemetery by Browning and Knowles and party, who have been prospecting the ground at intervals during the past two years... The discovery was made by prospecting, and breaking the quartz on the surface, and finding fine gold very freely diffused throughout... [10]
- 22 July 1889** Browning and Knowles - As the flat leader which they are working is dipping south, the co-operative party formed under Clark Brothers, called the Anchor Company, is sinking about 50 feet distant to intersect the reef. [37]
- 1 May 1900** New Black Hawk Co. - Contract for sinking shaft to 100ft completed. [37]

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**1.12**


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**WINDLASS HILL AND WINDLASS FLAT**


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**Mining Division** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Fryerstown

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**DATE HISTORY**

- 1853-4** Next day we reached Fryers Creek, and got permission to occupy a hut close to Windlass Hill, the property of the Port Phillip Gold Mining Company. [20: pp. 37-8]
- 27 June 1854** Forest Creek presents now (June 27) the reality of a deserted diggings, a scene of desolation. As to any re-working of the auriferous soil by individual labour, that is out of the question. It is true that in the fortunate early days the diggers were not over particular in washing their stuff, but times have altered. These diggings have been worked over about a dozen times since then, and with so much care as not to leave a trace of gold in the residue. What might still be got out of the soil by a bona fide company, with proper appliances, is difficult to say; but as Mr Hopkins refused to accept the wrought-out ground on the terms offered to the Port Phillip Company, as many clever, calculating, practical men have also given the subject full consideration since, and as no company has yet started into existence, in a systematic manner, it is to be inferred that a dug-out gold field, after having been wrought over many times by diggers, would not pay the cost of re-working it by a company. [11: 7/10/1854: p. 673]

- 2 Sept 1854** Puddling machine for sale, with horses, &c., in good working condition, under the Windlass Hill, where a constant steam is running. Address WINDLASS, Post Office, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.5]
- 3 Nov 1854** Public Meeting at Fryer's Creek - Leasing or Letting 'Worked Out' Lands.- The Chairman, in opening the meeting, observed that about twelve months ago, he had had the honour of addressing them, when the Port Phillip Gold Mining Company made an attempt to get possession of the Windlass Hill, and adjoining flat; but the diggers opposed them, and the result was, they had to withdraw, and the diggers were now working them. [47: p.7]
- 29 Jan 1856** Dr Anderson, Windlass Hill, Fryer's Town. [47: p.1]
- 5 Feb 1856** A small rush round Moore's store and on the Windlass Hill. This rush took place in consequence of Mr Moore having received notice to remove to the township ... which, as soon as the diggers were made acquainted with, they took this opportunity of rushing the ground. [47: p.4]
- July 1859** The Windlass Hill Company - This Company have succeeded in obtaining a grant of the greater portion of Windlass Hill, comprising an area of five acres of ground. ... The hill was first opened in 1852, and has up to the present period been more or less occupied by the individual miner. Many instances of extraordinary success by parties who have worked there is a matter of notoriety. It may be said this hill has proved a remarkable one, often the scene of a "rush" and as often of temporary abandonment; even at the present time it is looked upon by a few as a last resource, when they encounter ill-luck in other localities. One peculiar feature in connection with the Hill is the fact there being what is termed two bottoms, that is, where the auriferous deposits are found. The depth of sinking varies from 16 to 25 feet...puddlers have been particularly busy during the past two years [on the north western side of the Hill]  
[Re two bottoms]. This accounts for the occasional success of parties who have perseveringly adhered to the "fossicking system", that is, clearing out the old dives, and breaking up the bottoms, etc. The slate and pipe-clay bottoms have in point of richness been secondary to the sandstone.....[The two bottoms] ....although well known to those who have worked there, have only partially been taken advantage of - namely, in the shallow sinkings where paddocking was more practicable; hence an extensive system of sluicing (which the company propose to adopt, facing and washing all before them) will undoubtedly prove successful. The chief difficulty which presented itself at first was the supply of water, as an immense quantity would be required daily; this difficulty, however, is now likely to be overcome, by procuring the water from a very wet flat about a half a mile distant, pumping it to a certain elevation, and thence conveying it by means of a race (and flumes where necessary) to the side of the hill where the sluicing operations will be conducted. [10]
- July 1860** The Old Pennyweight Hill, Strathloddon, Windlass Hill, and even the Ballaarat Company, are defunct. [10]
- Sept 1860** Windlass Hill Company - This Company has been declared insolvent, and everything to be sold off. If such is to be the fate of our alluvial mining companies, the sooner they meet it better for all concerned, as there are several acres of payable alluvial soil locked up, pending the settlement of their affairs. [10]
- Nov 1860** The Windlass Hill plant and lease has been purchased by Mr Henry Baker, an iron founder of Castlemaine, who intends prosecuting the works with vigour. [10]
- Feb 1861** The Windlass Hill Company...has recommenced operations, and is making a profit. [10]
- April 1861** The Windlass Hill Company (Fryerstown) is doing remarkably well: they are at work every day and appear to be in a thriving state. [10]
- May 1861** Baker's Company (late Windlass Hill Company) are doing well. Mr Baker showed me 10 oz. of gold, the result of one day's work. [10]

- June 1861* The Windless Hill Company (now Henry Baker) is working steadily. [10]
- June 1869* The No Surrender Company (who have applied for a lease) consist of twenty shareholders; hold about sixteen acres on Windlass Flat and hill northward. During the past few weeks they have been prospecting, and struck a reef or lode at a depth of 12 feet... The company is now sinking a new shaft to strike the lode at a greater depth.
- It may be worthy remark, that of the No Surrender and Red Hill Companies, the greater number of shares are held by tradesmen and working men in the immediate locality, many of whom were not known previously to evince an interest and faith in the quartz mines of the neighbourhood. [10]

- Dec 1879* Sluicing - Messrs. Hazlett and party have taken up rather an extensive claim on Old Windlass Hill, which was formerly occupied by Mr Baker, and found highly remunerative in certain places. The hill has been abandoned for some years, but it is now found that the tailings and headings will yields moderate returns by an economical mode of working. The practicability of working the old ground inexpensively cannot be better exemplified than in the case of Mr Hazlett, who by active personal superintendence can make reasonable wages. [10]
- June 1888* Quick and party have recently discovered a new quartz reef at the foot of Spring Gully Hill, adjoining Windlass Flat, a short distance west from, and running parallel with the No Surrender line of reef, which was opened out some fifteen years ago, but abandoned without being properly tested. The reef is 6 feet wide near the surface, and consists of dense white quartz on the western side; but on the eastern side it is a brownish colour and ferruginous, intermixed with alternate layers of soft slate and red clayey matter. The gold does not appear to be equally distributed, the richer stone being found on the eastern face or foot wall, and the specks of gold are heavy in the small cavities or fissures... Messrs. Quick and party have taken up a lease of 12 acres... Messrs. Clark Brothers have secured a small block adjoining Quick on the north. [10]
- Sept 1889* The British United Quartz Mining Company (formerly Morrison, Quick and Co.) have got through a fair quantity of crushing stuff during the past quarter, viz., 395 tons, for an average of nearly 3 1/2 dwt. to the ton, the reef being 5 feet in thickness. Clark Brothers (adjoining claim) have only had a small crushing, which gave 8 1/2 dwt. to the ton, when the reef pinched out... [10]

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**1.13**


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**DEADMAN'S FLAT & GULLY**


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<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryers Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Windlass Flat

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**DATE HISTORY**

*26 Aug 1854* At the Back Creek, where it joins Fryer's Creek, parties have been digging to advantage for a long time back, on the quiet; but others getting the scent, last week a 'grand rush' was made in that locality, and many an old claim was worked afresh. Deadman's Gully - the upper end, Burying Ground Flat, the Long Gully, and Paddy's Gully, have had their share of this, and many pieces of ground left about eighteen months ago, as worth nothing, have richly rewarded those who sunk there now. [47: p. 4]

*July 1859* The Sludge Question - This still remains a difficult one; the puddlers are puzzled to know how to act in the manner. Deadman's Flat, from the overflow and gradual settlement of the sludge, is now impassable for vehicles, and it is absolutely dangerous for any to pass along, that is, following the course of the Government road. The evil is occasioned by some 300 to 400 puddlers, who, in allowing the sludge to leave their machines and run by the natural water-course of the creek, consider themselves irresponsible for any impediments which may obstruct its progress when at a considerable distance from their workings. Now, according to the bye-laws of this division, every machine-holder is held responsible for keeping the main drain of the creek, or gully, free from obstructions from his own machine to that of his neighbours. A difficulty

has now arisen in this respect - the last machine holder (to carry out the bylaw) would have to keep the main drain clear for about a mile, and this would necessitate his employing a man especially for the purpose. At present he is not only indisposed to do so, but would suspend working if compelled to carry out the rule. [10]

**March 1867** Murdering, Chokem, and Deadman's Flat, and Fryerstown - The usual signs of contentment appear in these localities, and the returns sufficing to check any migratory propensities. The old ground is being continually re-worked - the puddlers' earnings ranging from £2 to £6 per week. [10]

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**1.14** **BELLE VUE**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Fryerstown/Nuggetty Gully

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
*Sept 1864* Mining population: 190 [10]  
*March 1865* Mining population: 67 [10]

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**1.15** **NUGGETTY GULLY/NUGGETTY CREEK/  
 LITTLE NUGGETTY GULLY/IRISHTOWN**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Brown's Reef

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
*26 Aug 1854* Old Nuggetty Gully though turned over and over, has been tried again lately, and claims along the side of the hill, the whole length of the gully, have been sunk, and every one of them paid; the sinking was from two to three feet deep. [47: p. 4]  
*8 June 1855* A rush has taken place at the Back Creek (Nuggetty Gully), but no large finds have yet been reported. [47: p.2]  
*5 Oct 1855* Bergin Brothers, being about to go out of business..., have determined on disposing of their Stocks and Stores, situate on Nuggetty Hill, Church's Flat and Kangaroo Hill, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.1]  
*May 1859* There have been several alluvial rushes during the past month... Two of these were in the neighbourhood of Nuggetty Creek, a part of this division remarkable for the large lumps of gold which have been discovered on various occasions, although not of recent date.  
 Nuggetty Creek is situated in a S.E. direction from Fryer's Town, and many parts have high and precipitous ranges on either side, with huge rocks projecting from the surface. Whether the peculiar formation of these hills is at all indicative of the character of the gold, which we might expect to find embedded between the rocks in the creek, is a matter for consideration. Should such be the case, there are numerous gullies diverging from the main one, which has been very little prospected. [10]  
*June 1859* Nuggetty Creek: 3 puddling machines, operated by 12 non-Chinese 128 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining. [10]

*June 1859* In Nuggetty Gully (embracing Little Nuggetty Gully, which runs into it) some few have been doing well lately, which leads to its being occasionally rushed; but the ground generally lying in nuggets soon leads to the ground being abandoned, unless by those who are fortunate to obtain one or more of them. No part of this division is better adapted for puddling machines, with one exception, apparently insurmountable, the creek in many places is so very narrow. On either side large reefs project many feet, and preclude all possibility of making a serviceable road. [10]

*March 1866* Nuggetty Gully, Irishtown, &c. There is little progress being made in this neighbourhood, although a large number of hill claims are held by parties anxiously awaiting a supply of water from the Fryer's Creek Sluicing and Water Supply Company. This company's race has been nearly completed, the company having reluctantly suspended operations from want of capital. The company's race would command a vast extent of ground lying dormant (the claims being registered), and it is likely to remain so, unless a copious supply of water can be obtained; in the event of such, the ground would be worked and profitable employment for a large number of miners be secured. [10]



- Sept 1870* The Great South Fryer's Company has been tunnelling from Little Nuggetty Gully, in endeavouring to strike the rich lodes that are worked northerly. They have driven about 150 feet.  
The Great Nuggetty Company has sunk to a depth of 35 feet; their contract is let to sink to 75 feet. The position of this lease is south of the Great South Fryer's Company, and is a continuation of that holding the Bonshaw, the Cumberland, the Fryer's, Black Hawk, Small's, Rowe's, Cattle's, the Australian U.M. Company, Stevens', the Anglo, and numerous others. [10]
- March 1871* The introduction of water to many of our old rich hills in the neighbourhood of Nuggetty Gully and Sullivan's Hill has led to sluicing being adopted generally, in lieu of puddling ordinarily; but I do not think the ground has proved so remunerative as expected. [10]
- Sept 1872* Alluvial mining. A new rush of a very insignificant character occurred near the head of Nuggetty Gully, but is now almost abandoned, the prospectors alone obtaining gold payable. [10]
- Sept 1873* The directors of the Great Southern Reefs Company, Nuggetty Gully, have nearly completed the erection of a horizontal 14 horse-power engine for pumping and winding purposes. A shaft has been sunk on the ground (supposed Cattle's line of reef) to the depth of 105 feet, but it was found impossible to continue sinking in consequence of a great influx of water, viz. 1600 gallons per hour. [10]
- Dec 1873* In new machinery and appliances the Great Southern Reefs Company have erected a 14 horse-power horizontal engine for pumping and winding. As this company's ground is about one mile and a quarter south of the Burdett Coutts and proven country, it may be regarded as evincing a true spirit of enterprise and faith in our auriferous resources. [10]
- June 1873* It is contemplated by a company who now hold the Old Chapel Hill ground to provide for the erection of a crushing plant for public purposes in connection with their mine - a more central position could not be proposed, seeing the excellent returns from Wilson and McDonald's, the Eagle, and those of the Little Nugget, near New London, all of whom cart to, and crush at, Small's, in Fryerstown; cartage costs therefrom 4s. per ton, hence it is obvious that a great impetus would be given to quartz mining by the erection of the plant purposed. [10]
- Sept 1880* A rush took place at Nuggetty Gully recently in consequence of the discovery of a new quartz reef, which is likely to prove of unusual richness and lead to important results as affects mining in the immediate locality. [See Brown's Reef]. [10]
- 1990* Nuggetty Creek - ruins visible when you turn onto Campbell's Creek road, on the N side of the gully are those belonging to Nuggetty Hill Hotel...down the hill a bit are the footings of the Bell and Holme brewery. On opposite sides of the road to these two sites is a small cemetery and the site of the Hanover Hotel.  
In the flat below the Bell and Holme brewery, is the site of the Shepherds and Victoria brewery...used to be a bit of a wall left, has been pulled down. This area used to be called Shepherd's Flat...they used to hold sport meetings here.  
Continuing on towards Campbell's Creek , the very bare sluiced hillside, on the N side of the road...that's Bismark Hill and we are approaching Breakneck Hill ... we are on the lower end of Church's Flat. On the S side of the road is New Years Flat, Chapel Hill and Chokem Flat. [72]

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**1.16** **BURYING GROUND FLAT**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Deadman's Gully, Back Creek

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**DATE** **HISTORY**

*26 Aug 1854* At the Back Creek, where it joins Fryer's Creek, parties have been digging to advantage for a long time back, on the quiet; but others getting the scent, last week a 'grand rush' was made in that locality, and many an old claim was worked afresh. Deadman's Gully - the upper end, Burying Ground Flat, the Long Gully, and Paddy's Gully, have had their share of this, and many pieces of ground left about eighteen months ago, as worth nothing, have richly rewarded those who sunk there now [47: p. 4].

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**1.17** **LONG GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Deadman's Gully, Back Creek

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**DATE** **HISTORY**

*26 Aug 1854* At the Back Creek, where it joins Fryer's Creek, parties have been digging to advantage for a long time back, on the quiet; but others getting the scent, last week a 'grand rush' was made in that locality, and many an old claim was worked afresh. Deadman's Gully - the upper end, Burying Ground Flat, the Long Gully, and Paddy's Gully, have had their share of this, and many pieces of ground left about eighteen months ago, as worth nothing, have richly rewarded those who sunk there now. [47: p. 4]

*16 Nov 1855* Several large [Chinese] camps are in the course of formation on Fryer's Creek, principally in the neighbourhood of Long Gully. [47: p.2]

*22 Feb 1856* A rush has taken place at Long Gully. [47: p.4]

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**1.18** **PADDY'S GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Deadman's Flat, Back Creek

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**DATE** **HISTORY**

*26 Aug 1854* At the Back Creek, where it joins Fryer's Creek, parties have been digging to advantage for a long time back, on the quiet; but others getting the scent, last week a 'grand rush' was made in that locality, and many an old claim was worked afresh. Deadman's Gully - the upper end, Burying Ground Flat, the Long Gully, and Paddy's Gully, have had their share of this, and many pieces of ground left about eighteen months ago, as worth nothing, have richly rewarded those who sunk there now. [47: p. 4]

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**1.19** **BROWN'S GULLY/REEF**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Middleton's Creek, Nuggetty Gully

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**DATE** **HISTORY**

- 30 Aug 1880** Brown and party - will commence sending stone to be crushed this week - will put through 40 tons - about 20 men are working on the line. [37]
- 27 Sept 1880** Brown and party have been working a reef underlying west, and dipping south, when the reef made a turn on coming to a sandstone wall, and the quartz is making easterly and going down. [37]
- Sept 1880** A rush took place at Nuggetty Gully recently in consequence of the discovery of a new quartz reef, which is likely to prove of unusual richness and lead to important results as affects mining in the immediate locality. The discovery was made by simply prospecting in the neighbourhood of some old alluvial workings, shallowing sinking, &c. The reef is in all probability a continuation of Cattle's line, having about the same magnetic bearing, and distant about one mile south from Rowe Bros.' claim. The prospectors, Brown and party, have had three crushings in two months, the result being 271 oz. from 78 tons of quartz...the depth ranging from 8 to 25 feet... There are three claims working north of the prospectors and three to the south, the latter having already encouraging prospects; but all are engaged sinking deeper. No. 3 claim south (Myers and party) have taken up an old shaft, 100 feet west from the base line. The shaft was sunk years ago to a depth of 80 feet; it is now being sunk deeper, the party working on a leader ...showing fine gold. No. 2 south is also down 80 feet, gold having been seen in the quartz. There are now seven or eight claims in active work on ground, which has been repeatedly taken up in large blocks under the Leasing Regulations. [10]
- 1 Oct 1880** Brown, Williams and Party - reef is dipping south into adjoining claim. [37]
- 11 Oct 1880** Working Miners Co. - Mr Thorburn has issued a prospectus to form this company to work the ground south and adjoining that of Brown and party claim, little Nuggetty, Fryers - payable quartz being broken within 50ft of the new company. [37]
- 8 Nov 1880** Working Miners Co. - Sinking No. 1 shaft to meet with Brown and Williams prospecting claim. [37]
- Dec 1880** The Enterprise Company, Golden Eagle, and Burdett Coutts have very fair prospects, being in a direct line or continuation of Rowe Brothers, Cattle's Reef, and most likely connected with the more recent discoveries of Brown and Co., Little Nuggetty Gully. [10]
- March 1881** Brown's claim, at Nuggetty Gully, still continues remunerative, the ground being well prospected both north and south. The Working Miners' Association has made considerable progress in the underground workings, but they have not yet succeeded in striking a payable reef. [10]
- 25 July 1881** Working Miners, Fryers Creek - A mining manager has been appointed, who will at once timber and centre the shaft, and also erect a horse whim prior to sinking another 50 feet. It is, however, expected that the rich run of quartz now being worked by Brown and party in the adjoining claim to the north, will be met with in less than 20 feet of sinking. [37]
- 8 Aug 1881** Lone Hand Co. (late Brown and party) - driving a level over a spur about 18in. thick towards Working Miners Co. - now in 34ft from shaft. [37]

- 22 Aug 1881** Golden Valley Mining Co. - Formed company. [37]
- Sept 1881** The Golden Valley Company, Nuggetty Gully, is making considerable progress towards developing their mine. The adjoining claim (Working Miners) has very encouraging prospects. [10]
- 31 Oct 1881** Working Miners Co. Mining Manager's Report. When work was resumed I enlarged the shaft from 5ft 6in x 3ft to 6ft 6in x 3ft 3in., slabbed and centred it, and sunk a further depth of 40 feet, making the total depth from grass 140 feet. While sinking this 40 feet, the water averaged 200 gallons per hour; erected a whim while cutting down the shaft. [37]
- Sept 1882** The Golden Valley Company, Nuggetty Gully. Arrangements are about being made for amalgamating with the adjoining claims, so that the ground can be worked to greater advantage and in a more systematic manner. [10]
- March 1889** Brown's Reef, Nuggetty Gully. This reef was accidentally discovered in the year 1880, and some good crushings were taken out at shallow depths. The reef bears N. 8°W, underlies west 1 in 5, with a slight dip southerly. About 100 feet has been worked continuously, north and south... The total number of tons raised is 388, averaging 1oz. 6dwt. to the ton. The reef has been abandoned since 1884, although at different periods subsequently parties have applied for leases; but no work has been done up to March, 1889, nor can any satisfactory reasons be assigned. [10]



**ZONE 2: SPECIMEN HILL/EUREKA/SPRING GULLY****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>2.1</b> Vineyard Reef	<b>2.2</b> Monk's Hill/Reef	<b>2.3</b> Eureka Reef
<b>2.4</b> Cobbler's Gully	<b>2.5</b> Californian Gully	<b>2.6</b> Higging's Reef
<b>2.7</b> Specimen Hill/Eldorado	<b>2.8</b> Bullock Reef	<b>2.9</b> Cemetery Reef
<b>2.10</b> Two Foot/Lost Gully	<b>2.11</b> Goat's Gully	<b>2.12</b> Bristol Reef
<b>2.13</b> Blacksmith Reef/Gully	<b>2.14</b> Prince of Wales Reef	<b>2.15</b> Spring Gully/Flat & Emu Reef.
<b>2.16</b> Irish Reef	<b>2.17</b> Abraham's Gully	<b>2.18</b> Church's Flat
<b>2.19</b> Horseshoe Bend	<b>2.20</b> Murdering Flat	<b>2.21</b> Chokem Flat
<b>2.22</b> Red Hill	<b>2.23</b> New Year's Flat	<b>2.24</b> Sullivan's Hill
<b>2.25</b> Daphne Reef	<b>2.26</b> Long Gully	<b>2.27</b> United Reef
<b>2.28</b> Joe's Gully	<b>2.29</b> Specimen Gully	<b>2.30</b> Bindon Reef
<b>2.31</b> Chapel Hill Reef	<b>2.32</b> Rocky Gully	

**2.1 VINEYARD REEF****Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Coombes Gully, a northerly continuation of Eureka Reef

**DATE****HISTORY**

<b>1862</b>	This reef...was first opened in 1862, 5 tons taken from a depth of 6 to 10 feet yielding 57.5 ounces... [55: p.30]
<b>1862</b>	A continuation of this reef called the Vineyard, was opened up in 1862, and 800 oz. was obtained above the water level. Then a Mr. Learmonth took up both reefs and sunk a lot of money without profit, but here again work was confined to driving about in the shallow country. No effort was made to get down. To show the foolishness of the time, the total result from these two mines were 32,928 tons for 16,046 oz, an average of half an ounce, which should have been highly payable, but the proprietors, against advice, stuck to the old shafts, and in consequence had to crosscut 129 ft. through hard country, and then drive 600 ft. north to catch the shoot of gold. Disheartened by lack of profit, the plant became disused, and it lay until about 1900, when a local company was floated called the Eureka and Vineyard. They erected a battery on the lease, but under-capitalisation was the rock on which they struck. The plant is still there, and ever and anon an effort is made to get it going again. [74: 20 July 1910]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Vineyard: 9 claims, 29 men [10]
<b>Sept 1865</b>	In September, 1865, a new reef was found to the east of the old workings. A party of tributers worked the various claims for some time... [55: p.30]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865: McIntosh, Tullock, Roberts (or Robertson) and others, Black and others [10]
<b>March 1866</b>	On the Vineyard Reef a new leader, carrying gold, has been found east of the old workings; the reef proving to be in the form of ^, underlying both west and east. The whole of the ground between it and the Eureka has been taken up under three gold mining leases. The claims and leases on the Eureka and Vineyard reefs now form one continuous line, about one and a half miles in length. [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Tullock, McIntosh, Harris, Bunton, Williams, Black, Black and Company [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: McIntosh and others, Tributers, Black and others [10]
<b>March 1868</b>	On the Vineyard and Eureka Reefs several new claims have been taken up, and Macintosh and Co. are down 85 feet with a new shaft. [10]
<b>1868</b>	...in 1868 new claims were taken up and prospecting carried out. [55: p.30]
<b>March 1869</b>	The Vineyard Claims are again under work. [10]
<b>June 1881</b>	The Eureka tributers continue to find large bodies of payable quartz, averaging over 10dwts. per ton; other portions of this mine, including the once famous Vineyard Reef, have been taken on tribute. [10]
<b>Dec 1887</b>	The Eureka and Vineyard line has been taken up by Mr E.W.H. Rowe, and several other promising ventures are spoken of. [10] [see EUREKA REEF]

**13 July 1899** The official gold returns of the Vineyard reef, from above water level, as given by the late Mr T.L. Brown from June, 1862 to 1865, are 10,288 oz. 9 dwts. from 9069 tons of quartz. No machinery, either winding, crushing, or pumping was, until now, ever erected on the Vineyard reef. The enterprise of the then fortunate quartz miners never led them to higher mechanical efforts than a windlass barrel and a nail keg. Until Felstead and party commenced on the Vineyard a few months prior to the end of 1895, no work of any consequence had been done since 1865. Certainly, at one period, an effort was made by a company to find the reef below water level, but they did not succeed. [47: p.2] [see EUREKA REEF]

**2.2.****MONK HILL AND MONK'S HILL REEF****Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Deadman's Gully [Wattle Gully], Spring Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>May 1859</b>	The Deadman's Gully is worked up to Monk's Hill Reef ... (548909) [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 2 miners, 320 feet claim. [10]
<b>Sept 1860</b>	On the Monk a reef has been worked unproductively for many months, but is yielding 1 oz. per ton. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Monks Hill Reef No. of claims: 2 Extent of claim: 456 feet No. of men employed: 7 Extent of Reef prospected: 800 feet
<b>Sept 1864</b>	1 oz. per ton; splendid specimens. [10] Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Monks: 1 claim, 2 men [10]
<b>5 Sept 1899</b>	Spring Gully Monk Co. intends to put a tunnel through the hill. The main Spring Gully line runs through the centre (of this lease) and 100 feet west is a reef known as Bastians, about 3 feet in width and from this splendid yields were obtained and it has not been prospected further than 80 feet deep and for about 300 feet along the line... [37]
<b>3 Oct 1899</b>	Have put up blacksmith shop and magazine and laid tramway across the government race. [37]
<b>6 Dec 1899</b>	The tunnel is in about 140 feet... [37]
<b>24 April 1900</b>	Driven along saddle and stoped on west leg; stone on saddle, 1 foot thick, showing minerals and a little gold. Will discontinue work here for a while. [37]
<b>24 May 1900</b>	Have cut down prospecting shaft (west of tunnel on hill) total of 29 feet. [37]
<b>24 Aug 1900</b>	Half-yearly meeting - Erected bridge across water race, also built stone magazine, and erected blacksmith's shop. Cut into hill 60 feet to leave sufficient height to form entrance to tunnel.. Total distance of tunnel 224 feet. Cut down old shaft further south on hill. Passed through body of stone 6 feet thick and broke into old workings. Cut down shaft 38 feet and timbered 30 feet. Made and fixed ladders in shaft... [37]

**2.3****EUREKA REEF****Mining Division**

Castlemaine/Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Poverty Gully, Vineyard Reef

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1852</b>	The Eureka reef was opened in 1854, and was divided into 300 mining claims. Right on the surface there was a body of quartz 69 ft. wide, with regular walls, and carrying spurs on both foot and hanging walls. These were worked later on. [74: 20 July 1910]
<b>1855-60</b>	There were several reefs being worked then, such as the Bolivia, now known as the Ajax, the Wattle Gully reef, the Eureka, the Caledonia, and many others of lesser note. [19: p. 26]
<b>27 March 1857</b>	Most successful reefs to date - El Dorado, Specimen Hill; Eureka, Poverty Gully; the Emu Reef near Spring Flat; the Old Specimen Hill Reef and the small reefs or leaders on Wattle Gully. [37]

- pre-1859** The Eureka Reef ... was extensively worked to water level by various parties prior to the formation of amalgamated claims during 1859. [55: p.25]
- June 1859** Eureka Reef\* - Williams and Co. - one 4hp vertical engine, 4 stamps; crushes 6 tons in 24 hours.  
Eureka Reef\* - Stevens and Co - one 8hp horizontal engine, 4 stamps; crushes 9 tons in 24 hours.  
These engines, although in Fryer's Creek division, are also crushing from claims in the Castlemaine division [10]
- August 1859** 11 claims working, 56 miners, all claims payable [10]  
**August 1859** Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Trembath, Eureka Reef, 6 h.p., 4 stamps, &c.; Bastion, Eureka Reef, 16 h.p., 8 stamps, &c.; Whitehead, Eureka Reef, 10 h.p., 8 stamps, &c.; Harris, Eureka Reef, 12 h.p., 8 stamps, &c.; Harris, John, Eureka Reef, 5 h.p., 4 stamps, &c.; Harris Brothers, Eureka Reef, 20 h.p., 12 stamps, &c.; Blyth and Company, Eureka Reef, 12 h.p., 8 stamps, &c.; Callwer, Eureka Reef, 10 h.p., 4 stamps, &c.  
In addition to the above, 2 engines are always employed in the Fryer's Creek Division, from the Eureka Reef [10]
- August 1859** List of public companies in existence, and contemplated [includes]: Eureka Reef Company, South Eureka Reef, 600 yards, partially working. [10]
- Sept 1859** Yield of quartz: Eureka Reef - Tenby and Co., 28 tons yielded 90 oz.; Harris and Co., 42 ton yielded 87 oz. 16 dwt. [10]
- Sept 1859** The Eureka Mining Company has purchased all the claims on the southern portion of the Eureka Reef, and is applying for a lease of 440 yards. The cap of this reef, so far prospected, is 56 feet wide from its eastern to its western face, the whole of which, to a depth of 23 to 30 feet, would pay well for crushing. [10]
- Nov 1859** The Eureka have had a washing off, which, however, did not realise expectations. [10]  
**1859** In 1859, when down 150 feet the claim holders all sold out to the Eureka Company for £14500, half in money and half in shares. The company called up all its capital and then stopped. A party with miner's rights afterwards tried it, and discovered a fine body of payable stone. [74; 20 July 1910]
- May 1860** The Eureka Quartz Mining Company - The new machinery of this company is working admirably, the engine is a condenser, by Barratt and Company, of 35 horse-power; the crushing apparatus, 24 head of stamps and gear are very complete, and the whole plant creditable to the manager and company. The smaller engine formerly used for crushing is removed to the hill, there to be employed in draining the reef and raising quartz; when completed a considerable saving will be effected in manual labour, and consequent working expenses.  
The company has applied for an additional lease of the Northern, or Old Eureka, which is proposed to work by driving an adit on level of machinery, which is unquestionably the best system wherever practicable.  
At the Eureka Company the process of amalgamation is facilitated by the waste water from the condenser, which affords a constant stream over the ripples, heated to about 120 degrees. [10]
- July 1860** The Eureka Reef Company having been very dissatisfied with the yield of gold attained by their new machinery having the Clunes system of amalgamation [see Appendix A], are instituting inquiries and experiments with the view of testing the tailings and reef. [10]
- Nov 1860** The Eureka Company which, from its antecedents and promises, ought, ere this, to have returned a good dividend, continues idle, professedly awaiting a re-organisation. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Eureka  
No. of claims: 6  
Extent of claim: 734 feet  
No. of men employed: 25  
Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Eureka  
No. of claims: Lease  
Extent of claim: 1,776  
No. of men employed: 60.  
Extent of Reef prospected: 1,900 (claims & lease combined)  
Very rich near surface, lately dull.  
Quartz reefs actually proved to be auriferous: [include]  
South Eureka, Fryer's Creek Division  
No. of miners employed: nil. [10]



- Dec 1860** Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include]  
Eureka company  
Area of Lease: 23 acres 1 rod 32 perches  
Amount of Capital: £25,000  
Machinery: [1] Thirty-five horse-power engine, twenty-four stamps  
[2] Sixteen horse-power engine, pumping and winding  
Value of machinery: [1] £5,000 [2] £2,500  
Cash expended: £22,000  
Miners now employed: -  
Men lately employed: 40  
Gold or Value realised by Company: £3,500  
Dated: 10 Oct 1860 [10]
- Feb 1861** The Eureka Company's extensive claim and machinery continues in status quo. The manager gives no reason for suspension of works. [10]
- March 1861** Harris and Company, Eureka Reef, have removed their engine, placing it on their claim, rendering it available for pumping, winding, and crushing. [10]
- March 1861** The Eureka Reef, Capper's Reef, and Old Specimen Gully Companies continue inactive. [10]
- c. March 1861** During its short career [the Eureka Reef] Co. spent £22,000 on the mine for a return of £3,500 from gold obtained. Much of this money was spent in useless surface works, and expensive machinery. The mine was allowed to remain idle for over six months while the company reconstructed, and again started under the name of the Eureka Phoenix Company. [55: p.25]
- May 1861** The Phoenix Quartz Mining Company (late Eureka) have been cleaning up their machinery and are sinking their pumping and working shafts preparatory to extensive, and doubtless, if properly managed, successful operations; their very superior plant and an immense body of moderately payable quartz should produce favourable results. The private claimholders on the Eureka are still progressing. Harris and Company, since erecting their engine on the reef, have enabled adjoining claims to extract payable stone from below the water level. [10]
- Sept 1861** Some of our older companies, as the Old Quartz Hill, Specimen Gully, Phoenix (late Eureka), and El Dorado, have been trying to let the mines and plant upon tribute, the success of the Bolivia Reef tributers inspiring great confidence in that system of working. [10]
- Sept 1861** On the Eureka Reef, Trembath and Company and Harris and Company have found payable quartz at a depth of 220 feet. Their success has stimulated miners to accept terms offered by the Phoenix Company, who have now twelve tributers at work upon their lease. [10]
- Sept 1861** Eureka Reef, Fryer's Creek Division - Quartz crushed & gold obtained in past month: Williams and Company - no returns [10]
- Sept 1861** Map shows two engine sites at the head of Cobblers Gully. In an unnamed gully heading north from the point where Cobblers, Tucker and Shicer Gullies meet, the following are marked: (1) Caper's Stevens[?] Engine House (grid ref 55HBU555902) with associated dam and brick house; (2) to the north, Williams Engine House and large dam (grid ref 55HBU555903), with brick house marked nearby; (3) further up, near the head of the gully, are two house sites with associated gardens. [79]
- Nov 1861** Map shows Lease No 21, 20 acres S. Rodda and Company. On north section of the lease is Eureka Co.'s 35-hp engine (grid ref 55HBU545903); in the north-east corner of S. Rodda & Co.'s lease, in Poverty Gully, is a dam. Below, and to the south of, this dam, on the opposite side of a small feeder gully to the Eureka's engine, is another engine house (55HBU545903). In the north-east corner of Rodda's lease is the site of Trembath's engine (grid ref 55HBU547904).  
Adjoining the north boundary of the S. Rodda and Co's lease - Lease No. 75 J. Whitehead, 9 acres 32 perches. (mid grid ref 55HBU545905)  
Map shows two engine sites erected on the flat at the head of the most northern arm of Poverty Gully - Blyth's engine (grid ref 55HBU546906); slightly north of this engine is Harris and Co.'s lease, No. 177, showing Harris' engine (grid ref 55HBU546907).  
To the east of South Eureka Reef, on the W side of Cobblers Gully the map shows an engine site (grid ref 55HBU548899), situated close to the gully and a large dam. [64]

- 1862** A continuation of this reef called the Vineyard, was opened up in 1862, and 800 oz. was obtained above the water level. Then a Mr. Learmonth took up both reefs and sunk a lot of money without profit, but here again work was confined to driving about in the shallow country. No effort was made to get down. To show the foolishness of the time, the total result from these two mines were 32,928 tons for 16,046 oz, an average of half an ounce, which should have been highly payable, but the proprietors, against advice, stuck to the old shafts, and in consequence had to crosscut 129 ft. through hard country, and then drive 600 ft. north to catch the shoot of gold. Disheartened by lack of profit, the plant became disused, and it lay until about 1900, when a local company was floated called the Eureka and Vineyard. They erected a battery on the lease, but under-capitalisation was the rock on which they struck. The plant is still there, and ever and anon an effort is made to get it going again. [74: 20 July 1910]
- March 1864** Harris and others - 432 tons mined, average yield 16.18 dwt/ton, total yield 352 oz. [10]  
**June 1864** Harris and Co - 265 tons mined, average yield 12.22 dwt/ton, total yield 171 oz  
 Trembath - 533 tons mined, average yield 7.12 dwt/ton, total yield 200 oz. [10]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men:  
 Eureka: 5 claims, 26 men [10]
- March 1866** On the Vineyard Reef a new leader, carrying gold, has been found east of the old workings... The whole of the ground between it and the Eureka has been taken up under three gold mining leases. The claims and leases on the Eureka and Vineyard reefs now form one continuous line, about one and a half miles in length. [10]
- March 1867** On the Eureka Trembath and Co. has opened a westerly lode, with payable results. [10]  
**1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
 Trembath, Harris and others. [10]
- March 1868** On Vineyard and Eureka Reefs several new claims have been taken up. [10]  
**June 1868** On the Eureka Reef, Harris and Company, have the deepest workings in this division, viz. 380 feet, 140 feet below water level.  
 On the South Eureka an auriferous slate reef is being worked which yields 9 dwts. per ton. [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
 Harris and others. [10]
- June 1869** West of the Eureka Reef a new lode has been opened. [10]  
**Sept 1871** The Eureka Company has a number of men employed prospecting and deepening the engine shaft. [10]
- Dec 1871** The Eureka Consols have 40 men employed; they have fixed pump plunger, &c., in their engine-shaft, and are sinking it from 280 to 400 feet, driving cross-cuts to eastern and western reefs, sinking winze and works for ventilation; and from the main body, sometimes 14 feet thick, they have crushed about 1200 tons, averaging 3 1/2 dwts to the ton. [10]
- March 1872** The Eureka Consols are down to 320 feet in very hard country, the working being very expensive. [10]
- June 1872** The Eureka Consols have opened out at 360 feet upon what appears a second formation of reef. This company has thirty-two men employed sinking and driving, principally at 285 and 360-foot levels. [10]
- late 1872** Near the end of 1872 the company started to sink a new shaft, but very little work appears to have been done. [55: p.25]
- Dec 1873** The deepest mines in this division are [3rd] the Eureka, stoping and driving at 360 feet, with very good prospects...  
 On the Eureka ... reef, more powerful machinery is being erected. [10]
- June 1874** The Eureka Consols are stoping between the 360 and 280-foot levels, averaging from the main lode 7 dwts. per ton, and from the eastern reef 15 dwts. to the ton. [10]
- Dec 1874** At the Eureka Reef the western lode has again made good at the 360-foot level... [10]  
**March 1875** The Eureka Consols...have three gold-bearing lodes, one east and one west, contiguous to the main lode. [10]
- Dec 1875** The Eureka Consols have worked out their good run of stone to the 360-foot level, where it was wider and richer than above. The company is now sinking their engine shaft 100 feet, and will open out at 460 feet with every prospect of success. South of the shaft they are driving at 360 feet, to cut continuations of rich runs of gold worked near the surface in the early days. Their upper levels are being worked on tribute. [10]
- Dec 1876** Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c. Eureka Reef 42  
 Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing: Eureka Consols, Eureka Reef [10]
- March 1877** The Eureka Consols have connected their 360 and 460-foot levels by a winze and are now well ventilated. [10]
- Sept 1877** The Eureka Consols have fixed a new ladder-way, and are continuing their 460-foot level, now in 670 feet north of shaft, the reef being 15 feet thick, about 2 feet of each face being taken for crushing. [10]

- March 1878** The Eureka Consols have added pyrites works to their plant, and effected other improvements. They have let a portion of their mine on tribute, and are sinking a winze upon their run of auriferous stone below the 400-foot level. [10]
- Sept 1878** The Eureka Consols Company continue sinking an underlay shaft in their 460-foot level, but the reef has become very small and poor. [10]
- Dec 1878** There is only one public or registered company remaining in this division, viz., the Eureka Consols, who have an extensive mine and plant. In their bottom level the gold is so associated with pyrites as to render it difficult to extract, and their last yield of 7 oz. 8 dwts. of gold to the ton of pyrites shows the necessity of greater care in saving pyrites than is usually adopted in our quartz mines. [10]
- March 1879** The Eureka Consols mine (the only remaining public company) has been sold, and is now in the hands of the bank. [10]
- Dec 1879** On the Eureka, several small parties are working on Eastern Reef ground near the surface, from which payable results have been obtained. [10]
- March 1880** Four engines only are employed in drainage, viz., on Wattle Gully, Argus Flat, Eureka, and Nuggetty Reefs. [10]
- Sept 1880** The Eureka Phoenix Company continues to work by tributes only, their profits thereon for the past six months are £574. They have now let the famed McIntosh claim, and contemplate sinking a new engine shaft, and doing other improved permanent works. [10]
- March 1881** five parties of tributers are busily and profitably working The centre and earliest worked portion of the Eureka Reef. [10]
- June 1881** The Eureka tributers continue to find large bodies of payable quartz, averaging over 10dwts. per ton; other portions of this mine, including the once famous Vineyard Reef, have been taken on tribute. [10]
- Sept 1881** The South Eureka, Kampf's, Old Quartz, and others of our old quartz reefs, are being again taken up. [10]
- June 1884** Hunt and Temby - 20 tons mined, average yield 3 dwt/ton, total yield 3 oz. [10]
- March 1886** Parties reporting gold yields from quartz crushing: McGlenchy and Co.Eureka Reef. [10]
- June 1886** Smith and Mate - 70 tons mined, average yield 20 dwt/ton, total yield 70 oz. [10]
- Dec 1887** The Eureka and Vineyard line has been taken up by Mr E.W.H. Rowe, and several other promising ventures are spoken of. [10]
- June 1889** Three new finds of auriferous quartz have been made at Forest Creek, in the locality of the Eureka and Vineyard reef, from prospecting claims. Bastian and Son have crushed 29 tons, and obtained 84oz. 14dwt. therefrom.  
Thwaites and mate, from 7 tons, had 7oz. 12dwt.; and McGlen, from his trial crushing of 8 tons, obtained 17oz. 8dwt. [10]
- Dec 1889** Bastian has had only one crushing from fourteen tons of stone for 29-oz. 3-dwt. 12 gr., and it is extremely hard to work. Thwaites crushed seven tons for 2 oz. 2 dwt. McClenchy has found some very rich stone, and from six tons he had the grand yield of 60-oz. 5 dwt., or over 10 oz. to the ton. The land lies on the Eureka, south of Rowe's lease, and on the same reef as Bastian's. [10]
- 1 July 1899** Eureka and Vineyard United Gold Mining Co. - Mine Manager's report - The shaft known as McIntosh's has been cut down and timbered 10 x 4 ft. to water level (45 feet). it is intended to make this our base for further operations. Our present engine shaft will be cut down to 200 feet before opening out. [37]
- 13 July 1899** Eureka and Vineyard United Mine... The mine is situated in undulating rangy country north-west of the Monk, distant about two miles from Castlemaine, and about the same distance from Chewton. There are two roads for vehicular traffic to the mine - one branching off from the main road at Wesley Hill, and the other at Steel's Gully, Chewton. [Eureka Reef yielded] 7720 oz...from 1871 to 1878. The official gold returns of the Vineyard reef, from above water level, as given by the late Mr T.L. Brown from June, 1862 to 1865, are 10,288 oz. 9 dwts. from 9069 tons of quartz. No machinery, either winding, crushing, or pumping was, until now, ever erected on the Vineyard reef. The enterprise of the then fortunate quartz miners never led them to higher mechanical efforts than a windlass barrel and a nail keg. Until Felstead and party commenced on the Vineyard a few months prior to the end of 1895, no work of any consequence had been done since 1865. Certainly, at one period, an effort was made by a company to find the reef below water level, but they did not succeed.  
The winding plant, manufactured by Messrs Thompson and Co., is a powerful and compact one, capable of carrying the shaft sinking down to 1000 ft, and crushing with a battery of 20 heads. The plant is erected within a strong-looking iron building. Poppet legs are erected above the shaft where it is proposed to carry on operations, from the present depth, about 200-ft. This shaft is closely adjacent on one side to the spot where, many years ago, McIntosh and party obtained magnificent yields, and on the other side, where other parties from the famous Vineyard reef obtained splendid returns.  
The Company have in their lease over 40 acres, extending for a distance of about 4000 ft. In the middle of the reef is one of the finest bodies of quartz to be seen in Australia. [47: p.2]]

- 26 Sept 1899** South Eureka - Half-yearly meeting - Work was started in a shaft on the western side of the lease and at a depth of 100 feet a level was driven north and south along the reef for 25 feet each way, but the stone did not improve and it was decided to sink a new shaft more to the east for purposes of testing another run of stone from which as much as 7 oz per ton was obtained some years ago. This shaft has been sunk to 65 feet and a cross-cut is in 20 feet east. The reef should be intersected in another 10 feet. At 12 feet a leader passed through this shaft, 6 inches thick and carrying good gold; it went out of the shaft to the west and will probably be found to junction with a continuation of the reef now being worked with profitable results by Davies and party and Twomey and party to the north. [37]
- 11 Dec 1899** Eureka and Vineyard - Half-yearly meeting - Main shaft cut down to 207 feet. Drove north...to cut run of stone worked by McIntosh Bros. in shallow levels. The eastern shaft has been timbered up to 100 feet. Expect to have the bottom level far enough in next four months to rise up to McIntosh's workings - presently 100 feet below old workings. [37]
- 1899** Davis and party from a crushing of 27 tons of stone taken from the eastern leg of a saddle they had been, for a considerable time previous, sinking and driving in hard ground to discover, obtained 17-3/4 oz. [36]
- 5 Feb 1900** Eureka and Vineyard - Timbering up shaft 120 feet north of eastern shaft, which is 60 feet deeper than eastern shaft. [37]
- 5 March 1900** Eureka and Vineyard - In northern shaft have timbered and laddered to 170 feet. [37]
- 26 March 1900** South Eureka - Half-yearly meeting - At date of our last meeting a cross-cut was being driven east from a shaft on the western side of the lease with a view of intersecting a reef which yielded well years ago. Water gave problem and had to abandon - however, 5 tons gave 16 dwts to the ton from a 6-inch leader met with in sinking the shaft. A cross-cut is now being put in east from a shaft north, and close to the course of the main Spring Gully and Eureka line of reef. The proprietors of a Miner's Right Claim are working the reef directly north and with 150 feet of this shaft, they have proved it to be 14 inches thick and of payable quality. [37]
- 2 April 1900** South Eureka - Sinking shaft on reef - now down 96 feet - stone full width of shaft. [37]
- 25 May 1900** Eureka and Vineyard United Company - Starting the New Battery. They have purchased the 10-head battery which had been erected on Diamond Hill, and an engine in Melbourne; both second-hand, but nearly new. The engine is 12-in. cylinder, 27-in. stroke, and is worked at 80, the indicating horse power being 15. She is capable of driving 20 to 25 head. The plates and blankets measure about 60 ft. To ensure economy in working, an overhead tramline, 200 ft long, connects the battery with the shaft, and taken all round the plant is one of the most compact and complete in the district. For four years...they had worked at Spring Gully mine without getting a return, and when gold was struck about two years ago, it created a new era in Castlemaine mining. [47: p.2]
- 23 June 1900** Eureka and Vineyard - half-yearly meeting. The north or Welshman's shaft has been cleaned out and timbered to 200 feet. [37]
- June 1900** Eureka and Vineyard Reef Co - 220 ton crushed, 31oz gold [10]
- 10 Sept 1900** South Eureka. Crushed 18 tons at Ford's battery for 16 oz 6 dwt. The stone came from their western shaft on their northern end at 38 feet from the surface. In following the lava dyke they have run out of it at the south end but it is about 4 inches in the north end. This dyke is peculiar to the Eureka Country, and is a good indicator, large makes of high grade ore making here and then. They have now cleared out an old shaft about 70 feet south on the same line and intend to put it down to cut the dyke. [37]
- Oct 1900** Eureka and Vineyard Reef Co: 108 ton crushed, 12oz gold [10]
- Oct 1900** South Eureka Co: 33 ton crushed, 71oz gold [10]
- 1900** A continuation of this reef called the Vineyard was opened up in 1862, and 800 oz. was obtained above the water level. Then a Mr. Learmonth took up both reefs and sunk a lot of money without profit, but here again work was confined to driving about in the shallow country. No effort was made to get down. To show the foolishness of the time, the total result from these two mines were 32,928 tons for 16,046 oz, an average of half an ounce, which should have been highly payable, but the proprietors, against advice, stuck to the old shafts, and in consequence had to crosscut 129 ft. through hard country, and then drive 600 ft. north to catch the shoot of gold. Disheartened by lack of profit, the plant became disused, and it lay until about 1900, when a local company was floated called the Eureka and Vineyard. They erected a battery on the lease, but under-capitalisation was the rock on which they struck. The plant is still there, and ever and anon an effort is made to get it going again. [74: 20 July 1910]
- 7 Jan 1901** Davis and Party (Welshman's claim) [this claim is north of South Eureka Co. and are working body of stone at about 50 ft] [37]
- 10 June 1901** South Eureka - cross-cutting east at 145-ft level for Welshman's stone. [37]

- 9 Jan 1902** Eureka and Vineyard Mine: Expert Opinion - by E.J. Nankivell. The Eureka and Vineyard reef is a well-defined saddle formation, outcropping in various places along the channel of outer country for 2000 yards on the company's leases. Commencing from Poverty Gully and trending south, the apex of this large reef can first be seen on Poverty Hill, and further south 1600 feet from the Poverty Gully. The main outcrop occurs upwards of 100 feet wide on Pygmalion Hill. In Little Poverty Gully, which lies between these two hills, the outcrop is not visible for debris. From Poverty Gully to the top of the hill, the legs of the formation have been taken out down to water level, and 600 feet in length. A fault occurs on top of the hill and in the vicinity of this the eastern leg has been excavated for a considerable width. Continuing on southward 150 feet south of Little Poverty Gully to outcrop again, becomes distinct and for 600 feet south both legs have been taken out down to water level. This work, I am informed, was done by small parties who held 60-ft claims in 1862. North of Poverty Gully, 120 feet, is seen the old Eureka main engine shaft and from here developments northward were pushed forward on the western leg only, which dips to the west. From information received, I gather that no other than ordinary mining prospecting was attempted and that the great bulk of quartz still remains in the different levels. From particulars of crushings taken out, the percentage of sulphides of iron, zinc and lead seemed to be large, and were of considerable value. From the Eureka main engine shaft little or no developments were attempted southward to catch the pay ore chutes, which were worked to great advantage by the old pioneers under the outcrop on Poverty Hill and Pygmalion Hill. I sampled and treated over 100 samples taken from Poverty Gully along line of reef to Pygmalion Hill. I discover that the remaining quartz is poor near Poverty Gully, but gradually improves going south to the apex of reef on Poverty Gully Hill. This remarkable formation being a saddle one, to develop it at least cost, it would be necessary to sink, say, 11 ft by 4 ft 6 in., in the centre channel in Little Poverty Gully. From this shaft both the east and west legs of the reef can be prospected north and south to Poverty Hill and Pygmalion Hill at a depth of 200 feet. It will be necessary, also, to continue sinking shaft down to the second saddle formation, which will be met at a depth of 400 or 450 feet. The Spring Gully mines, 1-1/2 miles to the south and at 300 feet lower level, are in the same channel and are mining a lower saddle formation with encouraging results. It has been a cause of much surprise to me that a property of the nature of the Eureka has remained so long undeveloped at the south end. From Poverty to Pygmalion Hills a large bulk of the returns referred to by the late Mr T.L. Brown, mining surveyor, was extracted, viz. 160,000 oz. gold. These workings are practically surface ones. The lode is no doubt heavily mineralised, and it is possible that the parties that worked these chutes of gold from 1862 and after years had no means of treating pyrites, and so long as the ore was free milling, were able to continue working at a profit. The surface stone shows evidence of previous sulphide contents, so it is reasonable to suppose below water level the ore would be more or less refractory to treatment utilised by miners 30 years ago, especially as zinc blende and galena, with iron pyrites are present in considerable quantities wherever a chute of gold is found. [37]
- 31 March 1902** South Eureka - will sink a new engine shaft about 200 feet south of prospecting shaft. [37]
- 12 March 1902** South Eureka - Stopped sinking new main shaft as negotiating with Davis and Party to amalgamate claims - if so, will then enlarge and deepen present prospecting shaft near Davis's boundary, which is down 150 feet. [37]
- 26 May 1902** South Eureka. Negotiations completed with Davis and Party's claim, known as 'The Welshman's' - will cut down the present prospecting shaft into a main engine shaft as it is now well situated for that purpose. [37]
- 1902** Map shows Twomey and Co.'s shaft, in feeder gully to Cobblers Gully (near Dingo Farm); south of Twomey & Co. is Davis' shaft. Davis's claim also includes a shaft on S side of gully; further south is the South Eureka shaft. [75]
- 1902** Map shows V.W.S race crossing Poverty Gully by a wooden flume. Just to the E of this flume, in the gully is the Eureka shaft. [75]
- Sept 1902** Map shows Eureka Vineyard shaft in Coombes Gully (Little Bendigo Gully) [75]
- 13 Oct 1902** South Eureka. Cutting down a prospecting shaft at south end of lease to 80 feet - will then drive north along promising reef. [37]
- March 1903** South Eureka Co.: 27 ton crushed, 12oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** South Eureka Co.: 23 ton crushed, 6oz gold [10]
- 1904** South Eureka Co.: Steam winding winch to be erected. [12: p.71]
- Dec 1904** South Eureka Co.: 39 ton crushed, 26oz gold [10]
- 1904** South Eureka - 50 tons mined, average yield 24.1 dwt/ton, total yield 60 oz. - The South Eureka Company is about erecting a steam-winding winch, in order to test the stone successfully worked by Davies and party down to water level two or three years ago. [36]

- 31 March 1905** South Eureka - Half-yearly meeting - Machinery erected over main shaft. While waiting for rain to fill dam (for boiler water) have been prospecting a small reef about 200 yards west of main shaft; the stone was only a few inches thick on the surface but at a depth of 9 feet it has widened to 3 feet and gives fair prospects. Hope to strike gold in 145 feet north level of main shaft after unwatering the shaft. The company has bought the Welshman's claim. [37]
- 1905** The South Eureka Company has confined work (mostly) to shaft sinking. The shaft is now down 162 feet, and sinking operations are still in progress. This company has employed an average of seven men. [36]
- 1905** South Eureka Co.: Steam winding winch erected [12: p. 99]
- March 1905** South Eureka Co.: 9 ton crushed, 5oz gold [10]
- May 1906** South Eureka Co.: 32 ton crushed, 13oz gold [10]
- June 1906** South Eureka Co.: 36 ton crushed, 8oz gold - D. Fraser, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- 1907** The South Eureka Mine, Fryerstown, Near Castlemaine.  
This mine lies in a direction a little west of north from Fryerstown, and is 2 miles distant from that place.  
A shaft has been sunk 245 feet. At the 145-ft. level there is a cross-cut driven east for 30 feet, and a quartz reef 1 foot thick occurs at the end of it.  
Immediately to the north of the shaft are Davis' old workings, and others still further north. These are reported to have yielded rich returns in the past. [44: pp. 172-3]
- Mar 1990** Eureka Vineyard mine re-opened in the depression years. It was re-opened in the 1930's, along with a lot of other mines. It was managed by a Mr Redman. When the mine closed, Mr Redman went onto manage North Wattle Gully. They put up a steam engine, and sunk the shaft with the country. The engine room was located east of the shaft, and the change room to the north. Set of poppet legs. [I described to Verne the iron bucket which I observed in the gully, he said it sounded like the top of a bailing tank, which was lowered down the shaft to dewater the mine.]  
[re. tunnel sunk north from Poverty Gully into Eureka Reef. Verne Hooper worked in this tunnel during the depression years.] After we ran out of gold in the tunnel...the manager, who was Bert Miller, moved us to the hill opposite the Dingo Farm. Here we sank a shaft down with a horse, kibble and whip. We sank it down about 120ft, all hand labour... We hit the lava of the dyke, the hanging wall that's in the tunnel. The hill was the site of the Eureka Central gold-mine ... it was re-worked in depression years. Only shallow stuff on the hill, nothing there deeper than 100ft. There were deeper workings down in the gully. South Eureka mine/Cobblers Gully - located near the standing chimney stack, on the south side of the Dingo Farm. The Mines Dept filled in the shaft. There was a poppet head here for years, roughly 60 square feet. Also the old bailing tanks were here and there was machinery lying around. Eventually they came in and took it away for scrap. [48]

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**2.4 COBBLER'S GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** South Eureka, California Gully, Higgins or Higging's Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1859</b>	5 puddling machines [10]
<b>August 1860</b>	There has been a small rush on a reef known as Higging's, in Cobbler's Gully, during the last month. Several shafts had been previously sunk on it at depths varying from 20 to 130 feet, but eventually abandoned. Higging's party applied for an extended claim, and from the first crushing got 4 1/2 oz. to the ton; a large yield for the district. Hence the rush. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Map shows two engine sites at the head of Cobblers Gully. In an unnamed gully heading north from the point where Cobblers, Tucker and Shicer Gullies meet, the following are marked: (1) Caper's Stevens[?] Engine House (grid ref 55HBU555902) with associated dam and brick house; (2) to the north, Williams Engine House and large dam (grid ref 55HBU555903), with brick house marked nearby; (3) further up, near the head of the gully, are two house sites with associated gardens. [79]

- Nov 1861** Map shows - Lease No 21, 20 acres S. Rodda and Company. On north section of the lease is Eureka Co.'s 35-hp engine (grid ref 55HBU545903); in the north-east corner of S. Rodda & Co.'s lease, in Poverty Gully, is a dam. Below, and to the south of, this dam, on the opposite side of a small feeder gully to the Eureka's engine, is another engine house (55HBU545903). In the north-east corner of Rodda's lease is the site of Trembath's engine (grid ref 55HBU547904).  
Adjoining the north boundary of the S. Rodda and Co's lease - Lease No. 75 J. Whitehead, 9 acres 32 perches. (mid grid ref 55HBU545905)
- Map shows two engine sites erected on the flat at the head of the most northern arm of Poverty Gully - Blyth's engine (grid ref 55HBU546906); slightly north of this engine is Harris and Co.'s lease, No. 177, showing Harris' engine (grid ref 55HBU546907).  
To the east of South Eureka Reef, on the W side of Cobblers Gully the map shows an engine site (grid ref 55HBU548899), situated close to the gully and a large dam. [64]
- 7 Oct 1861** Cobbler's Gully is a large gully, branching off in a NW direction from Spring Flat. Spring Gully branches to the NE at the same point.  
Penpraze lease being worked near Eureka Reef (grid ref. 546897). This lease has a dam/puddling machine on its southerly boundary (grid ref. 547895).  
Higgins reef is situated between Cobbler's Gully and a small gully heading north from California Gully. Pryor and Co. holds a lease on this reef (mid grid ref. 545894)  
A lease stretches northward from the junction of Cobbler's and California Gullies, towards the small Penpraze lease.  
Between the junction of Spring Flat, Cobbler's Gully and California Gully is a puddling lease or claim held by W. Jago. [25]
- March 1875** In a prospecting claim of Js. Carah and Co., at Cobbler's Gully, a new reef or lode has been struck, which appears to be highly auriferous. At a depth of 14 feet the lode is 1 foot thick, gold showing sufficiently to lead to the expectation of a yield of from 2 to 3 oz. to the ton; there has been no crushing yet. The ground has been taken up both north and south, and experienced quartz miners believe this will prove to be an important discovery. The shaft is now down 23 feet only. [10]
- June 1875** The new reef...has fully realised the expectation, in yield, of the discoverers (Messrs. Carah and Co.); from 37 tons a yield of 85 oz. was obtained. [10]
- Dec 1879** A more extensive system of water supply for sluicing purposes might lead to important results. There is a site for a reservoir at Cobbler's Gully, near Eureka, well adapted for the storage of a large supply of water, which could be utilised to advantage in German and Spring Gullies and tributaries, and also extended to Old Pennyweight Hill, Strathloddon, and Mopoke, by contour races. [10]
- March 1889** Cobbler's Gully Reef, South Eureka. No reliable particulars can now be ascertained with reference to this reef, which was opened out in 1869, the original prospectors having since died or removed to other districts. There have been two or three main shafts sunk, but not exceeding in depth 100 feet; 489oz. have been realised from 1,027 tons, averaging 91/2dwt. to the ton. The ground has been more or less worked, up to the year 1886, and apparently abandoned on account of the auriferous leaders being worked out. [10]
- 1902** Map shows Twomey and Co.'s shaft in feeder gully to Cobblers Gully (near Dingo Farm); south of Twomey & Co. is Davis' shaft. Davis's claim also includes a shaft on S side of gully. [see Eureka Reef] [75]
- Mar 1990** Top end of Cobblers Gully: sluiced from there down to Fryerstown, all done with a nozzle. A lot of the ground sluiced was original, there was no gold in the clay, had to shift a considerable depth of overburden before getting to the gold bearing stuff. Very deep sluicing. Bert Miller and his son sluiced from Californian Gully north up Cobblers Gully to just south of Dingo Farm. They stopped because of the depth of overburden. This was done in the depression years. This is where the last hydraulic sluicing was done ... you can still see the gravel bank left from the last paddock taken out. An underground drain, all boxed in, made of old timber and stone, went under the tailing dump. Water only used once ... they never returned the water or used it again and you can see how much clay is left in the tailing dump. The silts all went down the gully and silted up all the reservoirs. [48]
- March 1990** Quartz roasting kiln: west side of Cobbler's Gully...been built into the west side of the gully. [68]. Sluicing up Cobblers Gully - my brother [Brown] worked there with Bert Miller. It was forty foot deep there ... they had to remove all that overburden. [72]
- March 1990** South Eureka mine/Cobblers Gully - located near the standing chimney stack, on the south side of the Dingo Farm. The Mines Dept filled in the shaft. There was a poppet head here for years, roughly 60 square feet. Also the old bailing tanks were here and there was quite a bit of machinery lying around. Eventually they came in and took it way for scrap. [re. stone retaining walls in gully, associated with the two shafts near the standing chimney stack] When they worked a shaft and they didn't have a battery on it, they had to cart the quartz away. They made what they called a paddock ...[from the mullock]... on which they tipped the gold-bearing quartz. [48]

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**2.5****CALIFORNIA GULLY**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Cobbler's Gully, Eureka Reef, Higgin/g's Reef

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**DATE****HISTORY****7 Oct 1861**

A lease stretches northward from the junction of Cobbler's and California Gullies, towards the small Penpraze lease.

Between the junction of Spring Flat, Cobbler's Gully and California Gully is a puddling lease or claim held by W. Jago. [25]

**Sept 1864**

Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: California: 1 claim, 3 men [10]

**March 1990**

Alf Cox and his son, George, sluiced Californian Gully to the Junction mine at Spring Gully. Bert Miller and his son sluiced from Californian Gully north up Cobblers Gully to just south of Dingo Farm. They stopped because of the depth of overburden. [48]

**March 1990**

Top end of head of Californian Gully, a bloke sunk a shaft. He went down 80ft, but all he got was galena. Sid Binns was his name, he worked there in the depression years. The shaft was filled in, but the mullock heap still there. [48]

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**2.6****HIGGIN'S REEF OR HIGGING'S REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Cobbler's Gully, Eureka Reef

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**DATE****HISTORY****August 1860**

There has been a small rush on a reef known as Higgings, in Cobbler's Gully, during the last month. Several shafts had been previously sunk on it at depths varying from 20 to 130 feet, but eventually abandoned. Higgings's party applied for an extended claim, and from the first crushing got 4 1/2 oz. to the ton; a large yield for the district. Hence the rush. [10]

**Sept 1860**

Higgins Reef. A rather extensive rush has taken place on this reef, and five (5) of the claims have struck gold [10]

**Nov. 1860**

Higgings and Company of Higgings's Reef crushed at their own machine last week 120 tons of stone, from which they got 60 oz. of the precious metal. [10]

**Dec 1860**

Auriferous reefs include Higgings's Reef, 10 miners working. [10]

**7 Oct 1861**

Higgins reef is situated between Cobbler's Gully and a small gully heading north from California Gully. Pryor and Co. holds a lease on this reef (mid grid ref. 545894) [25]

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**2.7****SPECIMEN HILL/ELDORADO REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Fryers Creek/Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Eldorado Reef

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**DATE****HISTORY****1852-3**

In the first rush the whole of the surface was puddled and sluiced to a depth of from 12 to 18 inches with highly satisfactory results. [52: 1887]

**late 1853**

[At Chewton] two young diggers, who brought to the tent regularly every evening a small "billy" full of nuggets, found by sinking a hole in the creek where the ground was very wet. On inquiring where more could be obtained, they directed me to Specimen Hill, where pieces of quartz impregnated with gold were plentifully strewn on the surface. This spot was a customary Sunday resort in search of these curiosities, but, without the remotest idea of extracting the gold therefrom. [16: p.3]

**'1853'**

There had been but a large mortar on old Specimen Hill, which I carted up for a party in 1853. [19: p. 26]

**13 May 1854**

Specimen Hill &amp; New Red Hill, Forest Creek. The former of these hills is still the scene of active mining operations, large quantities of gold having been recently taken from it, by



**1854-5**

fortunate speculators. It has acquired tragic interest by the death of the individual who was caught stealing from the claim of a Spaniard a few days ago. [47: p.3]  
Jacob Braché was a young Prussian engineer, who was deemed slightly cranky. Near Castlemaine in 1854 he asserted that the outcrops of white quartz were richer in gold than the gravels, and if men would only help him he would prove his theory. he gathered twenty-two men from Chile and Peru, Spain, France, Italy, and England, and offered them £1 a day and a share in his venture.

Braché himself had £2000 earned as an engineer in the Americas, and he bought a steam engine and Chilean mill and set them up near his quartz reef at Chewton. His was possibly the first serious attempt in Victoria to mine quartz rock systematically, and if he succeeded a more permanent form of mining would quickly spread over the goldfields. When bullock teams hauled in his steam engine he was hooted. Many diggers feared that machinery would enable capitalists to win more than their due share of gold, and they mimicked Braché's Prussian accent and stole water from his dam and threatened to destroy his machinery. On the outbreak of the Eureka riot most of the local policemen went to Ballarat, and his cleaning engine was unprotected. He so feared the Tasmanians who camped at what he named 'The Old Lag's Settlement' that he guarded his plant all night with two armed men. His efforts to extract gold from the hard rock were so thwarted, he said, that he lost his men and money. But he won his argument that gold could be profitably wrung from the reefs, and even today the Wattle Gully mine works near the scene of his failure. [57: 1969: p. 64]

- 5 Jan 1855** Steam Saw Mills. Timber of all sizes, quartering of all scantlings, boards and planks of well-seasoned iron bark made on the shortest notice. F. Brache and Co., Specimen Hill, between Forest and Fryer's Creeks, head of Spring Gully and Wattle Flat. A sawing machine worked by steam engine, which is also intended to be attached to a quartz-crushing machine has been erected on the Specimen Hill. The supply of sawn timber has hitherto been quite inadequate to the demand of this place. [47: pp. 1 & 2]
- 2 Feb 1855** Notice is hereby given that the partnership lately carried on between us...in the trade or business of Quartz Crushing, Amalgamating Gold, Mining, and Sawing, at Specimen Hill, Forest Creek, and elsewhere, under the firm of Jacob Braché and Co., has been this day dissolved by mutual consent. The undersigned, Denis Eisenstaedter, will carry on the business as usual. [47: p.5]
- 23 March 1855** Many persons are at present located on Specimen Hill, Spring Gully, where a store is about to be opened. Most of them are engaged in erecting puddling machines for the winter. [47: p.2]
- 6 April 1855** During the week we paid a visit to the establishment of Mr Eisenstaedler, at the Fryer's Creek, and were much gratified with the inspection. The machinery is driven by a steam engine of eight-horse power, and is constructed on the principle invented by Dr Otway. The quartz is placed in a cast iron basin, about seven feet in diameter, and is reduced by the action of two cast iron cheeses, each weighing thirty-two cwt., which revolve on their edges in the basin. A pump, worked by the engine, supplies water to the basin, some quicksilver is added, and when the mixture is about the consistency of pea soup, it is allowed to escape through a plughole into a steam rocked cradle. From thence, the auriferous slush is conveyed to a second cradle, which, as well as the former one, contains quicksilver. The amalgamated gold and quicksilver is then dealt with according to the ordinary process, and the water passes off to be used over again. The arrangements for economising labour, and extracting the maximum amount of work from the engine are very complete, and exhibit some ingenuity. The quartz is procured by blasting from a neighbouring hill, and conveyed by trucks on a double tramroad, down an inclined plane. These trucks are so managed that the empty one is dragged up the hill for replenishment by the weight of the descending full one, and a constant supply of material is thus delivered at the machine, at a comparatively trifling cost. A sawmill is set in motion by the engine, and this forms an additional source of profit. At present, owing to a scarcity of water, the works are not in full operation; a reservoir has been dug, however, and when the rain does come, there will be plenty of water procurable in the driest season. It has been found that the quartz, in order to be effectually pulverised, requires to be broken into small pieces, and stamping machinery for this purpose is in the course of construction. The stamps will be driven by the same engine as the crushing apparatus, and will greatly facilitate the process of the extraction of the gold from the quartz. The total cost of the plant when completed will be about £3000, exclusive of labour, and the profits from the quartz crushing alone are expected to yield a handsome interest on this outlay. Pending the erection of the stamps, the machine is used for crushing cement, which yields on an average about six ounces of gold per day; greater results are expected from the quartz. The works, when in full operation, will give employment to twenty men; at present seven or eight are sufficient to keep the thing going. [47: p.3]
- 8 June 1855** Public Auction...at Specimen Hill, between Spring and Wattle Gullies, Forest Creek, a Steam Quartz Crushing Machine, and Materials. [47: p. 3]
- 24 Aug 1855** For Auction at the Castlemaine Auction Mart. A Quartz Crushing Machine, situate on Specimen Hill, Forest Creek, capable of crushing from 3 to 4 tons daily. The rollers are of granite. [47: p.1]

- 5 Oct 1855** A great quartz reef which has been for some time worked at Specimen Hill, runs away in the usual direction towards Moonlight Flat. A short distance from the top of Spring Gully, Fryer's Creek this reef is being worked by a party (French and Italian) who rent Brache and Eisenstaedler's engine from Dr Mearns, the last purchaser. They have not cut the reef to a very great depth (20 feet or thereabout in that part). Some are breaking up the quartz with hammers, and paying themselves from gold they can see. The party, mentioned before, cart the stones (broken up much as if done for the road by contract) to the machine, (Dr Otway's patent). A five-horse power puffer engine moves two heavy rollers in a circular engine track, which fits their shape, the middle segment of a sphere. The quartz crushed partly to an impalpable powder, but mostly to a small gravel, passes into a trough underneath, and is shovelled into a long tom, a stream of water raised by the engine carries the gold through the plate to the ripple box, and the escape of any is still further provided against by several stops, which check the current before it is finally let off... The renters of the engine and crushing machine, practical intelligent men, regard the 12 cwt. rollers as a great mistake; they should have been three tons each, with very solid bearings for the basin. There is no attempt at amalgamation, and part of the gold they secure seems fine enough to float away upon the current, but the use of cowhide or sheepskin, with the hair turned against the stream, seems very effectual. The rent, fuel, oil, and other miscellaneous items for these crushing works, cost the party weekly £20. The average of 80 loads put through weekly gives a result, which repays the above, pays wages and all, and leaves a satisfactory surplus... This reef is said to extend from Moonlight, across Forest Creek to Spring Gully, Blacksmith's Gully, Golden Point, Fryer's Creek, and thence, southwards towards Jim Crow. [47: p.2]
- 13 June 1856** Proceeding to the top of [Wattle] gully ... we find ourselves on Specimen hill. Four quartz claims are being worked with variable success. Mr Hall and party is busy crushing quartz in a machine, driven by a steam engine of 7-horse power. This machine, we believe, belongs to Dr Mearns, and is rented by Mr Hall and party, who intend we are told, making considerable alterations and adding four stampers. At present they crush five tons in 12 hours. When the four stampers are attached they will be able to crush double the quantity. Another machine is being fitted up with a small engine. Numbers of puddling machines are profitably worked on this hill and Spring Gully. Surfacing was for a considerable length of time a most profitable occupation, Specimen Hill being decidedly the best surface hill in the neighbourhood. [47: p. 6]
- 27 March 1857** Most successful reefs to date: El Dorado, Specimen Hill; Eureka, Poverty Gully; the Emu Reef near Spring Flat; the Old Specimen Hill Reef and small reefs or leaders on Wattle Gully. [37]
- 1 April 1857** Shanks and Co. - two shafts - 50 ft and 73 ft. [37]
- 3 April 1857** Fletcher and party - 2 amalgamated claims, 2 shafts down 100 and 60 feet respectively; yields range from 20 to 50 oz per ton; stone treated in a combined Chilian mill and stamper which runs 24 hours per day. [51]
- Thompson and Co. - 2 amalgamated claims with 3 shafts, the deepest of which is 80 feet; crushing with a hand mortar; stone crushed recently at Shanks mill went 40 to 50 ounces per ton; purchased a one horse Chilian mill at the Wombat for 500 pounds including carriage and pumps. In operation for 2 months at 15 tons of stone per week averaging 30 ounces per ton.
- Treacher and party.  
Shepherd and party - shaft down 62 feet.  
Robson and party - shaft down 70 feet on western face of reef; erecting Chilian mill on three Speck Creek. [51]
- 22 May 1857** Robson and party - at 40 ft depth have struck a new lead - also previously at 72 ft (on east side of reef).  
Thatcher and Party - struck gold at 30 feet on the western side of the hill. [51]
- 17 July 1857** Treacher and Co. - working 7 ounce stone. [51]
- 22 July 1857** Shanks and Co. - after sinking 30 ft through non-auriferous quartz, struck a new lead - getting 7 to 15 oz per ton. [37]
- 5 Nov 1858** More activity recently with crushings of debris from earlier workings at the Forest Creek mill.  
Jenkins and party.  
Goldsworthy and Co. - set of stamps added to their Chilian mill. [51]
- 28 Jan 1859** Shanks and Co. - north of Specimen Hill. [37]
- June 1859** Specimen Hill - Wilding and Co - one 5hp vertical engine, 8 stamps; crushes from 35 to 40 tons per week, 18 hours per day.  
Specimen Hill - Gibbs, Pringle and Co - one 6hp beam-engine, 4 stamps and Chilian mill; crushes 13 tons in 24 hours. [10]
- June 1859** Gibbs, Pringle and Co. This was the first reported installation of a beam engine of mines in Victoria. [50: p.8]
- June 1859** 5 puddling machines, operated by 26 non-Chinese

- 28 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining  
30 non-Chinese engaged in quartz mining [10]
- June 1859**  
Gibbs, Pringle & Co. 126 ton crushed in past month. (This crushing, with the exception of about 3 tons, comprises the refuse quartz raised from the clay at different times and considered unremunerative.) Yield per ton - 8 dwt.  
Gibbs, Pringle & Co. 31 ton crushed in past month. (This was composed of cement, running parallel with the quartz leaders.) Yield per ton - 5 dwt.  
Stockdale & Co. (This party have worked from the surface to a depth of 15 feet during the past twelve months - that is previous to the past month; and they have crushed from their claims 1,350 tons, averaging 8 dwt. per ton.) Depth from surface - 120 feet.  
Wilding & Co. 52 tons crushed in past month. Yield per ton - 13 dwt.  
Jenkins & Co. 70 ton crushed in past month. Yield per ton - 9 dwt. Depth - 80 feet.  
Howard & Co. 21/2 ton crushed in past month. Yield per ton - 16 dwt. [10]
- Nov 1859**  
**end of 1859**  
The Eldorado have formally taken possession of their purchase. [10]  
The Eldorado Company was formed with both Melbourne and local shareholders to take over and to amalgamate all the existing claims, and to pursue mining both at depth and a more substantial scale. [50: p.8]
- 6 July 1860**  
**27 July 1860**  
Eldorado Co. erecting machinery. [37]  
Agitation to improve road to Fryerstown along Wattle Gully as access to Specimen Hill. [51]
- July 1860**  
El Dorado - This company have one of the largest reefs in the colony to operate on, and it seems they intend working it in a systematic manner, from the style in which they are erecting their machinery and preparing for work. They have, in addition to an eight horse-power engine, purchased of the claimholders a sixty horse-power vertical engine, to which they are attaching a battery of twenty-four head of stamps. They have also constructed two splendid reservoirs, to collect storm water, as they will have to sink at least 350 feet to get a supply of the limpid element from the lode. [10]
- 10 Aug 1860**  
Eldorado Company - engine shed of Wilding and Co. fitted up as a retort house with tramway from tunnel to battery. [51]
- August 1860**  
**August 1860**  
On the Emu and El Dorado the few private parties are making average wages. [10]  
Among the companies in the division, the El Dorado stands pre-eminently foremost. Their machinery has a preliminary start, and they expect next week to commence in earnest. I imagine mining speculation here will rise and fall in proportion to the success or otherwise of the El Dorado. I stated in my last month's report that the engine was of 60 horse-power; it is of 65 horse-power. The engine and stampers (24 in number) are erected on the most economic principle, but very substantial. The lifting power is somewhat different to ordinary ones. In most cases, there is an axle to every eight heads; here, however, they have separate axles for every 4 heads, keyed on the same shaft. The ripples are on the Bendigo principle, and are fixed in such a position that when cleaned out can be run into a small Chilean mill erected for the purpose, and worked by the engine. This process saves at least three-fourths of the time ordinarily required in cleaning.  
The pumping arrangements for supplying the stampers are as good as the position will admit of. The reservoir is 40 feet below the level of the stampers, the water is brought to the latter through a lobby (drive) or adit, and pumped from the shaft sunk on it. The stamp heads are perfectly square, and are keyed to an iron shaft. These shafts are of a style I have not seen, and are of first-class workmanship, having been forged at the foundry of Mr Chambers, Melbourne.  
The arrangements for feeding the stampers with mineral are admirable. From a tunnel in the hill, laden trucks are brought by a tramway to the stampers: these are run on a traverse table, which feeds the whole of the 6 passes (shoots). [10]
- 7 Sept 1860**  
**Sept 1860**  
Eldorado Co. - awaiting copper for ripples before starting. [51]  
Eldorado Company - The splendid plant on this mine is still standing idle, with no appearance of immediate commencement of operations. It appears there is a dispute between the manager and the contractor, as to the style of ripples to be used. [10]
- 5 Oct 1860**  
**12 Oct 1860**  
**26 Oct 1860**  
Eldorado Co. - not yet fully at work as ripples defective. [51]  
Eldorado Co. - replacing Melbourne-made amalgamators. [51]  
Eldorado Co. - at work with 20 head; but for slight accident would have had all 60 head at work; to erect Chilian/Tyrolese mill for cleaning up; 30 men employed. [51]
- Oct 1860**  
The Eldorado Reef is one of the largest quartz reefs in the colony and one of the first worked, it is of immense thickness occupying a width of from 60 to 70 feet. It underlays to the west, carrying on the west side a regular wall, but on the east is split in several branches. The western portion is the most productive part of the reef. [7]
- Oct 1860**  
El Dorado - This has at last commenced active operations, employing 40 men, with good prospects. The machinery has been going night and day for the last three weeks; the results are not yet made public [10]
- 9 Nov 1860**  
**23 Nov 1860**  
**30 Nov 1860**  
Eldorado Co. Poor returns from crushing refuse; awaiting completion of tunnel. [51]  
Eldorado Co. - last clean-up returned 3.5 dwt per ton; 3 dwt covers expenses. [51]  
Eldorado Co. - 6 dwt per ton obtained from the last crushing. [51]

<b>Nov 1860</b>	The El Dorado Company is working steadily, and making very fair average returns. [10]
<b>14 Dec 1860</b>	Eldorado Company - barely paying expenses; 30 men employed; putting through 300 tons per week. [51]
<b>28 Dec 1860</b>	Eldorado Co. - returns increasing; large engine not economical; little pumping required. [51]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz reefs proved to be auriferous: [include] El Dorado No. of miners employed: 50. [10]
<b>25 Jan 1861</b>	Eldorado Co. - William Morgan Brown, mine manager and engineer, sacked because he couldn't get returns of 5 dwt. per ton. [37]
<b>23 Feb 1861</b>	Eldorado Co. - earthworks on Specimen Gully reservoir now 25 feet high at the centre and partially filled with water. [51]
<b>Feb 1861</b>	The El Dorado Company's prospects are decidedly improving; they are making a small profit on produce of 3 dwt. to the ton. [10]
<b>1 March 1861</b>	Eldorado Co. - returns now 3 dwt. per ton and paying expenses; 30 oz returned from last crushing; to sink shaft to 300 ft at the northern end. [51]
<b>March 1861</b>	There is only 1 quartz claim within the area [of Fryerstown], and that employing only 4 men. This reef, although little in this particular locality, is I believe as much worked as any reef in Victoria. It is a southerly continuation of Ferron's Reef, and the latter is believed to be a continuation of Blacksmith's, El Dorado, Wattle Gully, (in the Castlemaine Division), Chewton and Sailors' Gully Reefs, and thence goes on to Barker's Creek... it is remarkable that all the alluvial deposits around this line of quartz reefs have been extremely rich. [10]
<b>April 1861</b>	The El Dorado Company is busily at work, employing 38 men; their returns are very moderate, barely clearing working expenses. [10]
<b>May 1861</b>	The El Dorado Company promise fair to become remunerative at last...[10]
<b>7 June 1861</b>	Eldorado Co. - temporarily stopped to fit new false bottoms in the mortar boxes; worn out at the result of the many thousands of tons crushed by the company. [51]
<b>June 1861</b>	The El Dorado is idle, awaiting some repairs to the stamping machinery [10]
<b>24 July 1861</b>	Eldorado Co. - company failing. [37]
<b>13 Sept 1861</b>	Eldorado (now Achilles) Company - new owners to let mine on tribute pending repairs to the battery. [51]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	The El Dorado works are still suspended. [10]
<b>7 Oct 1861</b>	Nightingale and Company, working Eldorado Reef (continuation) have a lease situated to the north of Blacksmith's Gully and south of Two-Foot Gully. (grid ref. 560891) [25]
<b>18 Oct 1861</b>	Achilles Co. - repairs nearing completion. [51]
<b>4 Nov 1861</b>	Achilles Co. - satisfactory returns from first crushing; Tyrolese amalgamators, the only ones in the district, working well; operating on 16 head with other 8 idle. [51]
<b>22 Nov 1861</b>	Achilles Co. - richer specimens extracted from former shaft of Gibbs Pringle and Company. [51]
<b>20 Dec 1861</b>	Achilles Company - operations profitable; Tyrolese mills working well; to sink a prospecting shaft 250 feet deep. [51]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	The Achilles (late El Dorado) Company is busily at work, and with much better success than attended their former efforts. [10]
<b>17 Jan 1862</b>	Meirs and Co. - 31 oz obtained from Specimen Hill Reef. [51]
<b>31 Jan 1862</b>	Achilles Co. - crushing with 2 heads; dams full of water. [51]
<b>4 April 1862</b>	Achilles Co. - sinking has stopped. [37]
<b>6 June 1862</b>	Achilles Co. - using novel washing contrivances to save amalgam in tailings. [51]
<b>14 Nov 1862</b>	Achilles Co. - driving eastwards in search of leaders. [37]
<b>14 Jan 1863</b>	Meir and Co. - 36 oz at better than 1 oz per ton. [51]
<b>13 Oct 1863</b>	Achilles Co. - purchased by Mr Ross, the original Melbourne manager; Opie and Company to put in a tender to work the eastern leaders in the mine on tribute. [51]
<b>7 Dec 1863</b>	Achilles Co. - Opie and Co. not to take up tribute; let to Sandhurst party. [51]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	I am sorry to have to report, that the machinery on the Eldorado mine, Specimen Hill, as also that of the Alexander Company, Blacksmith's Gully, has been idle during the quarter [10]
<b>23 Nov 1864</b>	Vulcan and Co. - crushing from tunnel and deep shaft.. [51]
<b>Dec 1864</b>	The machinery of the Eldorado Mine, Specimen Hill, is removed to Inglewood. The removal entails a loss of crushing power to this place of equal to 60 horses. [10]
<b>18 July 1865</b>	Vulcan Quartz Mining Co. - working Fairbairn's shaft - now 270 ft deep. Prospecting on ground around Jolly's shaft. [37]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Winterbottom and Company. [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Rowland and Company, Blomfield and Company, Badcock and Company [10]
<b>March 1869</b>	Cattle's, Ferron's, Heron's, Prince of Wales, Cemetery, and Specimen Hill Reefs constitute nearly one continuous, unbroken line of reef, although there are what are denominated the eastern and western lodes, 9 or 10 chains apart, with numerous veins and leaders running at different angles between them. [10]

- Dec 1869** Messrs Sorensen have struck a new leader at the foot of Specimen Hill (on the Fryer's Creek side) which promises to rival many of our best reefs already opened on this line. Although this is a new lode, it is, in all probability, a continuation of Specimen Hill Reef, which has been worked to a considerable extent and depth during the past twelve years. [10]
- Dec 1870** Sorensen and Company have been doing well, although at no greater depth than 30 feet. The party is sinking a main shaft to test the ground economically at a greater depth. [10]
- 15 Aug 1871** Sorensen and Party, Myers and Co. [37]
- 4 Sept 1871** Thyra and Co. - prospectus issued - ground to be three old leases (20 acres in all). One of the leases is Sorensen's. [37]
- 10 June 1872** Bendigo Co. - the tunnel is progressing slowly. [37]
- June 1873** The Thyra Company, at Specimen Hill, have struck very promising stone at the 240-foot level This may lead to testing ground both north and south at greater depths than hitherto. [10]
- 10 Feb 1874** Thyra Co. This company is now working a shaft near the crown of the hill - by windlass. [37]
- 16 Feb 1874** Thyra Co. - have timbered old shaft... [37]
- March 1875** The Daphne, near Specimen Hill. - The machinery and plant of this company is now being removed ... the company has been persevering for a long period without obtaining anything satisfactory. [10]
- 13 Nov 1876** Sorensen (late Thyra Co.) - 21 oz 19 dwt. [37]
- Dec 1876** Parties reporting yields of gold from quartz crushed: Sorensen and Co., Specimen Hill [10]
- March 1877** Sorensen and Company, Specimen Hill, have sunk a new shaft 120 feet deep. [10]
- 1 Oct 1877** Thyra Co. mine being worked by Sorensen and Co. [ 37]
- 2 Dec 1878** Renaissance Co. - Besides its water power, the company has purchased the plant of the Chewton United Co. [Chewton Reef] [37]
- 1879** In 1879, as the result of the proximity of the recently constructed Poverty Gully water race at the northern end of Specimen Hill, further attempts were made to rework the ground on a large scale. [50: p.8]
- 10 Jan 1879** Renaissance Co. Advertising for a water wheel. [37]
- 14 April 1879** Renaissance Co. Shaft to be set in thorough order to 220ft - will work the mine on the same principal as New Era (ie. crushing all stone for low grades). [37]
- June 1879** Renaissance Quartz Mining Company, Specimen Hill. - This company, recently formed, and under able management, is making great preparations for an extensive and comprehensive system of working the old ground. Thousands of tons of quartz have been crushed from the various workings on this hill during the past twenty years, and in some instances the yields have been exceedingly rich. Expensive machinery has been erected and removed at various times with more or less profit to the companies who have invested large amounts of capital under different systems of management. The present company has great faith in the ultimate success of their endeavours, and an outlay of £4,000 will be incurred in order to complete the undertaking, comprising erection of machinery, plant, &c. A 20-head battery is now being erected, which is to be driven by water-power derived from the Coliban aqueduct, which runs near the company's claim; thus stone of an inferior quality will be made to pay for crushing on an economic mode of operation. If the Coliban waters can be utilised for such purposes in a satisfactory manner, a new era will be commenced in connection with quartz crushing highly advantageous to the mining public. [10]
- 17 July 1879** Renaissance Co. On May 17th your directors accepted the tender of Thompson and Co. for the supply and erection of a 20-head battery, and a water wheel 20 feet in diameter and 6 feet wide, for the sum of £1395 and the old battery. [37]
- Sept 1879** Renaissance Company, Specimen Hill. - The water wheel alluded to in my last report has been placed in position, and it is expected to start in a few days; in the meantime the battery of 20 heads is being worked by steam power, so that it may be stated active operations have commenced. A vast quantity of stone can be easily obtained, and can be made to pay by cheap crushing. The success of this company will materially influence the future prospecting and development of the large extend of auriferous ground lying to the south and connecting with the Anglo-Australian and New Era Companies' works. [10]
- 6 Oct 1879** Renaissance Co. Machinery completed, and crushing commenced. [37]
- 1879-1887** Towards the end of 1879 Jessen (or Jensen) and Company began sluicing at Specimen Hill. Over the next eight years, together with Oban (or Ohan) and party who started operations in March 1887, they removed some 29,000 tons of washdirt to a depth of between one and 12 feet over quite extensive areas - evidently from the western and southern slopes of the hill - and obtained 347 ounces of gold. [50: p.9]
- March 1880** Renaissance Company, Specimen Hill. - The mining manager reports that the various crushing trials have not hitherto proved satisfactory, but he anticipates improved prospects in the course of a short time. Everything connected with crushing and winding is accomplished by water-power; and there is no expense for firewood, as steam-power is used. [10]

**26 Jan 1881** Renaissance Co. - Work in the mine has suspended owing to a dispute with Thompson and Co. re. payment of battery and water wheel. [Work recommenced soon after] [37]

- 20 Jan 1882** Renaissance Co. - With a view of effecting a saving in the cost of water for battery purposes, your directors had a dam constructed, so as to use the water over again, and succeed in obtaining a reduction to one half the former cost. The tribute let to Brown and party expired in the beginning of November, and as the yield during the preceding six months had somewhat improved, your directors considered that the best mode of making the mine pay would be by letting it on tribute again on a more extensive scale, so as to keep both batteries fully employed, and having obtained your sanction for letting it for two years, a specification was prepared and applications invited. The tender of Dial and Barnes was accepted on the following terms:- The company to wind, crushing, and provide timber, the tributers to employ at least 12 miners and the necessary truckers and landers. [37]
- March 1882** Renaissance Company, Specimen Hill, Chewton. The ground occupied by this company was formerly very rich near the surface, and some thousands of pounds have been spent on machinery at different periods. The present yield is only 1 dwt. to the ton, but the mining manager reports that 1 1/2 dwt. to the ton would pay wages and working expenses. It is somewhat remarkable that pieces of gold, varying in size from 1/4 oz. to 1 oz., are occasionally found under the stamp heads. [10]
- Sept 1882** Arrangements are being made by Messrs. Hazlett and party for sluicing all the old workings between Specimen Hill and Church's Flat. A race has been surveyed and levelled for about four miles, following a contour at a very high elevation, with a fall of 8 feet in the mile. Small dams will be constructed at suitable places along the course. The Coliban water is to be used, and taken from the aqueduct a little above the Renaissance Company's works, Specimen Hill. It is not expected that a large supply of water will be available, nevertheless it is presumed that, by prudent economy, a considerable quantity can be stored in small reservoirs during the night and judiciously distributed during the day. It is well known that the old gullies were exceedingly rich during the early days, and that although the tub and cradle and puddling machine have done much towards clearing away the rich alluvial deposits, sufficient gold is still left to remunerate the sluicer, whose expenses will be but trifling, with a moderate supply of water at command... [10]
- Dec 1882** Messrs. Hazlett and party have made a fair start in sluicing the old shallow gullies and workings along the course of the new race from Specimen Hill. The race, which has been surveyed for about four miles, has been cut to the extent of about one mile. [10]
- Dec 1882** A new rush has recently taken place on the Cemetery line of reef, Two-foot Gully, near Specimen Hill... About three months ago, the ground was occupied by Conrad Frank... Mr E. Petersen, of Specimen Hill, was the first to take possession of a portion of the leased ground immediately after forfeiture. [10]
- 2 April 1883** Renaissance Co. Extraordinary meeting - company voluntarily wound up ... [37]
- March 1887** Oban (or Ohan) and party started sluicing operations in March 1887. [50: p.9]
- March 1887** Not worked at present - 1438 oz taken from 14,462 tons of stone at depths between 10 and 110 feet. [52]
- March 1889** Specimen Hill, Chewton. No reliable particulars touching the early history of this reef can now be obtained, but certain traditional information is so far available, conveying an idea of the extraordinary yields of gold taken from the surface to a depth of 40 feet. Some thousands of ounces were obtained by different parties from 1855 to 1860. From 1867 to 1883, no properly organised system of working the ground has been carried out. There is an open cutting on the hill, 10 or 12 chains in length, running north and south; on the eastern and western sides, large blocks of quartz are exposed to view lying horizontally, which show that large quantities of stone have been excavated from the intermediate spaces, and proved more or less auriferous... The bearing of the main line of reef is N. 3° 30' W. The ground is occupied at the present time (March 1889), but not being worked, the present lessees evincing a great antipathy to engaging in active mining operations. [10]
- Feb 1900** Shaft being sunk 200 feet west of the open cut. [52]
- 1903** The ground was occupied by the Specimen Hill Company which had a main shaft south west of the open cut and another on the south east side of the hill. The company does not appear to have been successful as there are no reports of production between 1903 and 1918. [50]
- 1903** Considerable amount of time and money spent on prospecting shallow levels without payable results by the present company. [55]
- 1918** Government battery erected at the NW corner of Specimen Hill adjacent to Fryers Road at the close of the year. [52]
- 1935** The main shaft [of the Specimen Hill Co.] was subsequently used by the South Wattle Gully Company in 1935... [50: p.9]
- 1948** Last reported crushing at the Government battery on Specimen Hill. [52]



2.8

**BULLOCK REEF OR MIDDLESEX REEF****Mining Division**

Castlemaine/Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Specimen Hill

**DATE****HISTORY**

The reef was found to consist of a number of short shoots, or spurs, which underlaid east about 1 in 1. The gold was found associated with galena and pyrites, being generally of a fine nature, but occasionally in large nuggets in the ferruginous veins of the reef. [53: p. 21]

**19 May 1859**

2.75 oz per ton - reef was opened two weeks previously. [37]

**Sept 1859**

4 oz 4 dwt from 2 ton crushing [52]

**Dec 1859**

Parties reporting yields of quartz : Gibbs, Pringle and Co., Tuelon and Co. [10]

**Dec 1859**

Parties reporting yields of quartz : Gibbs, Pringle and Co., Tuelon and Co. [10]

**1 March 1861**

Fernandez and Company - reef partly occupied again - getting 30 oz/ton in quartz leaders [52]

**12 April 1861**

Fernandez and Co. - 2 crushings - 8 dwt and 1 oz per ton. [37]

**20 Dec 1861**

1.5 oz per ton crushing taken from near surface in a new leader and crushed at Fairbairn's machine. [51]

**31 Jan 1862**

14 or 16 tons at 2.5 oz per ton and some seconds at 0.5 oz per ton crushed at Meirs' Forest Creek machine. [51]

**7 Feb 1862**

16 tons at 2.5 oz per ton crushed at Meiers and Company's Dinah Flat machine. [51]

**2 May 1862**

No regular lode, gold is from thin leaders. [37]

**9 May 1862**

2 parties at work - one part had several crushings of 2 to 3 oz - stone in a reef with maximum width of 12 inches struck in a shaft east of the former workings. [51]

**22 Aug 1862**

Meyer and Co. - shaft down 100 ft. [51]

**19 Sept 1862**

Gluth and Co. - 15 tons yielded 15 oz. [37]

**14 Nov 1862**

Meyer and Co. - just stuck gold after a long struggle - only two claimholders on reef. [51]

**11 Feb 1863**

Reef deserted. [51]

**16 April 1863**

Mier and Co. - at work again. [51]

**26 Aug 1863**

Crushings made at the German machine in Wattle Gully [51]

**20 Oct 1863**

Last crushing below the usual average. [51]

**4 Nov 1863**

Last crushing at the German machine in Wattle Gully at 0.5 oz per ton. [51]

**Mar 1864-**

Between March 1864 and June 1865, a total of 2880 tons of stone was taken out and 1731 ounces of gold were obtained. This amounted to about half the total production ever reported from this reef. [50: p.51]

**June 1865****Sept 1864**

One fact, worthy of more than passing notice, is that the discovery by Meyer and Co. in their claim on Bullock Reef of about 70 oz. of pure gold in the crevices of the quartz rock, at a depth of 140 feet from the surface; one nugget weighed 14 oz. 13 dwts., and another 12 oz. 13 dwts. Pieces of gold that size are rarely found, I believe, at such depths from the surface. [10]

**Dec 1864**

Baker and Co. - making wages. [52]

**Dec 1864**

Roland and Co., of the Bristol Reef, Specimen Hill, are making good wages, as also are Meyer and Co., and Baker and Co., on Bullock Reef. [10]

**1865**

Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865:

Meyer and Company, Heath and Company [10]

**1866**

Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:

Heath and Company. [10]

**June 1868**

Table showing depths of some shafts, sunk during the past six or seven years - Bullock Reef, Depth of Shaft 175 feet. [10]

**Dec 1868**

Several new lines of reef are being prospected: [including] ... in Long Gully, Wattle Flat, a continuation of Bullock Reef, a trial crushing yielded 11 oz. 3 dwts. from 16 tons. [10]

**1868**

Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:

Heath and Company [10]

**1869**

In 1869, a prospector named Pryor obtained 4 oz from 8 tons, taken from 140 feet. [53: p.21]

**27 Feb 1872**

North Middlesex Co. - depth 150 ft. [37]

**16 April 1872**

Somerset and Co. - between Middlesex and Daphne - presently 70 ft down.

Bullock Reef - Middlesex Co. - 20 tons yielded 16 oz. [37]

**20 Aug 1872**

South Middlesex Quartz Mining Co., Ltd. Prospectus. - This company is formed to work a mining lease of 7 acres 1 rood 7 perches immediately adjoining the celebrated Middlesex Claim, near Specimen Hill, Fryers.

The shaft of your company is distant 40 ft from the now celebrated Middlesex lease boundary. [37]

**Sept 1872** The Middlesex Company has obtained during the past quarter some of the finest specimens ever found in Victoria, and the excellent yield of 135 oz. from 95 tons. The lease is situate upon Bullock's Reef, about 8 chains west of Specimen Hill. Their workings are at a depth of 130 feet. [10]

**1872** In 1872, the ground was taken up by the Middlesex Company, which, from a depth of 100 ft, obtained some of the finest specimens seen in the district. The company took up all the old workings, and commenced prospecting at a depth of 80 feet, where the reef, from 6 inches to 2 feet in width, averaged 17 dwts. per ton; good specimens were also obtained from 130 feet. The shaft was sunk to a depth of 300 feet. [53: p.28]

**March 1873** The Middlesex Company is now exhibiting, from a depth of 100 feet, some of the finest specimens ever seen. The shaft is situate upon, and known originally as, Bullock's Reef, being about eight claims west of main road to Chewton from Specimen Hill. [10]

**1874** In 1874, [Middlesex] company ceased operations. [53: p.21]

**Dec 1876** Parties reporting yields of gold from quartz crushed: Brydges and Dale, Bullock Reef [10]

**1876-1888** Bridges and Dale worked Bullock Reef. [50: pp. 140-141]

**March 1887** 663 oz obtained from 1371 tons at depths between 50 and 230 feet. [52]

**1887** The ground remained idle until taken up in 1887 by a private party, Messrs. Bridges and Co., who for some time worked small leaders to a depth of 100 feet for an average yield of about half-an-ounce to the ton. [53: p.21]

**March 1889** Bullock Reef, Specimen Hill. - This reef is situated on Crown lands, and has been more or less worked during the past 21 years; first by a public company, and more recently by a private party. There have been occasional patches found on this particular line, but the crushing stuff has generally proved to be only moderately payable. The bearing of the line of reef is N. 7° 30' W. The main shaft has been sunk to a depth of 300 feet. The yields from different levels are as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 16oz; to 100 feet, 190oz.; to 150 feet, 202oz.; to 200 feet, 187oz.; to 300 feet, 219oz. No date can be fixed by the writer as to when this reef was first opened out, neither can the results of earlier crushings be furnished in this report. Mining operations are suspended for the present, owing to the decease of the claim-holder. [10]

**March 1890** 679 oz 12 dwt obtained from 1237 tons which is attributed to Pringle. [54]

**2.9 CEMETERY REEF**

**Mining Division** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Hill, Two-foot Gully, Long Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1850s</b>	Cemetery Reef appears to have remained undetected during the early phase of mining in the vicinity of Specimen Hill; otherwise it is unlikely that an area so close to the reef would have been marked out for a cemetery, and then actually used in 1856...when there was so much unoccupied ground in the vicinity. [50: p.29]
<b>August 1860</b>	On the Cemetery Reef, south of El Dorado, two extended claims have been granted: the owners are getting a little gold, but of a very fine (small) character. In some of the stones from this reef there is gold which is impossible to discern with the naked eye, but a powerful microscope showed scores of specks, apparently about the size of the surface of a pin's head. This could all be seen on a stone the surface of which was only about a quarter of an inch square. [10]
<b>5 Jan 1864</b>	Musgrove and Co. - taken up lease of 320 feet. [37]
<b>18 Jan 1864</b>	Oldlam and Co. - taken up lease of 240 feet. [37]
<b>31 Jan 1864</b>	A party in Cemetery Gully near Specimen Hill has struck a leader at 30 feet depth. [37]
<b>8 June 1864</b>	Cemetery Hill - Danish party near Cemetery Hill and the Achilles mine. [37]
<b>June 1864</b>	In June 1864 a four-foot wide reef was struck in a shaft at 60 feet...by a party of Danes. [52]
<b>1867-70</b>	Cemetery Reef, Two-Foot Gully - This reef was opened up and prospected by Heath, Babcock, and others during the years 1867 to 1870. [55: p.22]
<b>March 1869</b>	Cattle's, Ferron's, Heron's, Prince of Wales, Cemetery, and Specimen Hill Reefs constitute nearly one continuous, unbroken line of reef, although there are what are denominated the eastern and western lodes, 9 or 10 chains apart, with numerous veins and leaders running at different angles between them. [10]
<b>March 1871</b>	Heath and Company (Excelsior) - tunnel driven 90 feet on lode from Two-Foot Gully. [52]
<b>3 April 1871</b>	Excelsior Co. [working Cemetery Reef] - continuing tunnel - now in 67 ft. [37]
<b>23 May 1871</b>	Tunnel in 121 ft. [37]

<b>15 Aug 1871</b>	Still tunnelling. [37]
<b>20 Oct 1871</b>	Tunnel in about 250 ft, leaving about 30 ft more to drive - also opening out the ground from what is known as the Dane's shaft. [37]
<b>20 Nov 1871</b>	Long Gully - Excelsior Co. [working Cemetery Reef] - will cut west near end of tunnel on hanging wall. [37]
<b>1 Feb 1872</b>	Long Gully...tunnel stopped and Ree's shaft being put down 40 ft. [37]
<b>June 1872</b>	Excelsior - 16 foot reef struck at 110 feet for a distance of 6 feet - gold on western side. [52]
<b>21 Oct 1872</b>	Arrangements being made to amalgamate claim with Newcastle-on-Tyne - 30 acres total. [37]
<b>1872</b>	Ground occupied by the Excelsior Company to the south and east and by the Newcastle Company to the north. [55]
<b>24 March 1873</b>	Newcastle on Tyne ... intends sinking a new shaft to strike the run of gold recently found by Thyre Co. [37] The Excelsior Mining and Crushing Company, Fryer's Creek. - The claim is known as Heath and Co.'s, and is situated to the north of Fryerstown, on the same line of reefs (clearly traced) as the claims now being so successfully worked by Messrs Rowe, Kitto, Mills, and others to the south; and to the north adjoins Messrs Bulkely and Pearson's claim, where good gold has lately been struck, next to which is the celebrated claim of Messrs Sorensen and Co., which continues to yield about 1 oz per ton upon the average. Further north and adjoining Messrs Sorensen and Co., are the Specimen Hill claims, from which an enormous amount of gold has been obtained. Heath and Co's claim is situated on the southern slope of a hill...the lode as proved by shallow shafts. The deepest shaft is but eighty feet. [37]
<b>Dec 1882</b>	A new rush has recently taken place on the Cemetery line of reef, Two-foot Gully, near Specimen Hill...this particular line was well worked and tested many years ago, by Messrs. Heath and party, Pearson and party, and others. About three months ago, the ground was occupied by Conrad Frank, under the leasing regulations, but little or no effort was made to prospect or otherwise work the reef. Mr E. Petersen, of Specimen Hill, was the first to take possession of a portion of the leased ground immediately after forfeiture; he has had two crushings, the first, 27 tons, yielding 17 1/2 oz.; the second, 60 tons, yielding 12 oz. 11 dwts., taken from the tunnel immediately contiguous to where the former ceased working, and not more than 20 feet from the surface. The adjoining claim, south (Kemp and party), promises to be equally valuable... Leases and claims are being applied for, and marked out in various directions... The line of country which connects the Wattle Gully Reefs, Chewton, with the Ferron's and Cattle's, at Golden Gully, has always proved more or less auriferous, so that now the alluvial mines are becoming exhausted, there are sure indications that greater attention will be paid to quartz mining, that the old reefs will be more systematically worked, and a large number of miners constantly engaged in remunerative employment. [10]
<b>end 1884</b>	By the end of 1884 the ground was once more abandoned. [50: p.29]
<b>March 1887</b>	Ground abandoned - 145 ounces got from 310 tons at depths between 30 and 45 feet. [56]
<b>March 1889</b>	Cemetery Reef. - This reef was opened out and the surrounding ground well prospected by Messrs. Heath, Babcock, Williams, Pearson, and others, during the years 1867, 1869, 1870, and 1871; several shafts sunk, the principal one being 120 feet in depth. The strike of the reef is N. 4° 30' E. The reef is not abandoned, but no work is being done at the present time. [10]
<b>late 1889</b>	Browning and party, working for the Fryerstown Prospecting Association, succeeded in getting some two-ounce stone in surface shows. [50: p.29]
<b>1930s-40s</b>	It seems likely that the area may have attracted renewed attention during the early 1930s, when the ground sluices, on the slope into Two Foot Gully to the west of the reef, were constructed, between 1937 and 1939 when some of the ground was taken up by the Central Wattle Gully Company ... and sometime thereafter - probably after 1945 - when the northern end of the reef, as it slopes into Long Gully, was sluiced hydraulically. [50: p.29]

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**2.10**

**TWO-FOOT GULLY OR LOST GULLY**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Cemetery Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>7 Oct 1861</b>	Nightingale and Company, working Eldorado Reef (continuation) have a lease situated to the north of Blacksmith's Gully and south of Two-Foot Gully. (grid ref. 560891) Lawson has a small claim/lease on Two-Foot Gully. Also, one puddling machine. [25]

- Dec 1864**  
**1867-70**  
**March 1871**  
**Dec 1882**
- Parties crushing quartz: Morrison and Co. [10]  
Cemetery Reef, Two-Foot Gully. This reef was opened up and prospected by Heath, Babcock, and others during the years 1867 to 1870. [55: p.22]  
Heath and Co. (the Excelsior) have driven in a tunnel from Two-foot Gully a distance of 90 feet into the hill, along the line of lode, and, as gold can be obtained from every prospect tried, they are pretty confident that their stuff will pay moderately well, even without a plant of their own, and that with a plant upon the spot the mine will pay handsomely. [10]  
A new rush has recently taken place on the Cemetery line of reef, Two-foot Gully, near Specimen Hill. [10] [see CEMETERY REEF]

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**2.11** **GOAT'S GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Hill

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**Sept 1878** In quartz mining a new rush has taken place near Specimen Hill, at Goat's Gully, the prospectors having obtained, on a trial of two dishes of quartz, half-an-ounce of gold, taken from near the surface on the cap of the reef. [10]

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**2.12** **BRISTOL REEF**


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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Hill

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**Dec 1864** Roland and Co., of the Bristol Reef, Specimen Hill, are making good wages... [10]  
**Dec 1864** Parties crushing quartz: W. Rowlands. [10]  
**1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865:  
Rowlands [10]  
**1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
Rowland and Company [10]  
**1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
Rowland and Company [10]  
**1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
Bristol Reef Company [10]  
**June 1871** The Chapel Hill Reef, the Adelaide Reef, Frenchman's, Mopoke, and the Bristol Reef are now again held by parties who evidently desire soon to prove their value. [10]

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**2.13** **BLACKSMITH'S REEF & BLACKSMITH'S GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Blacksmith's Reef, Prince of Wales Reef

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**July 1860** Little work being done at present. [52]  
**Dec 1860** Auriferous reefs include Blacksmith Reef, 4 miners working [10]  
**March 1861** There is only 1 quartz claim within the area [of Fryerstown], and that employing only 4 men. This reef, although little in this particular locality, is I believe as much worked as any reef in Victoria. It is a southerly continuation of Ferron's Reef, and the latter is believed to be a continuation of Blacksmith's, El Dorado, Wattle Gully, (in the Castlemaine Division), Chewton and Sailors' Gully Reefs, and thence goes on to Barker's Creek. It is remarkable that all the alluvial deposits around this line of quartz reefs have been extremely rich. [10]  
**7 Oct 1861** Between the junction of Spring Flat and Spring Gully and the point where Blacksmith's Gully branches off to the east, are several puddling claims, held by James and Company, Thomas and Company, and Baistow.  
There is a reservoir at the junction of Spring and Blacksmith's Gully (grid ref. 554891) Nightingale and Company, working Eldorado Reef (continuation) has a lease situated to the north of Blacksmith's Gully and south of Two-Foot Gully. (grid ref. 560891)  
A lease abuts Blacksmith Gully's north side - D. Jackson, working Blacksmith's Reef. (grid ref. 561889) [25]  
**10 March 1864** Blacksmith Gully - Alexander and Co. have erected 25 horsepower engine. [37]

- June 1864** The Alexandra Company has done nothing, until within the last few days, since my last report, a very great pity, seeing they possess a good mine and fair plant. Mr Price, one of the shareholders, has taken it on tribute from the others and will make the mine pay. [10]
- Sept 1864** I am sorry to have to report, that the machinery on the Eldorado mine, Specimen Hill, as also that of the Alexander Company, Blacksmith's Gully, has been idle during the quarter [10]
- Sept 1864** 60 miners at work. [52]
- Dec 1864** The machinery of the Alexandra Company, Blacksmith's Gully, has been sold to a party who intend working the White Horse Reef, Forest Creek. The Blacksmith, or Alexandra Company, scarcely had their machinery in position before dissension arose in the party, and the consequence is a valuable plant has to be removed without having done a good week's work. [10]
- Dec 1864** 28 miners at work. [52]
- Dec 1865** 21 miners at work [52]
- June 1866** 10 miners at work. [52]
- March 1867** 20 miners at work. [52]
- 1860s** The arrangement of the tracks [in Blacksmith's Gully] suggests that most of the stone taken out at the southern end was crushed at the battery on the southern end of the Prince of Wales line. Any stone taken out at the northern end was probably crushed at the battery which, to judge from the existence of battery sand in the vicinity, was located at the northern end of the Prince of Wales Reef. [50: 1989: p. 37]
- March 1869** Blacksmith's Gully Company has been at work about a month, and has very favourable prospects... The reef is 4 feet thick; 15 men are employed. A new shaft is being sunk to strike the lode at a lower level. [10]
- Sept 1871** In [quartz] mining a further inducement is advanced by the successful operations of the Anglo Australian Company, situated between the Golden and Blacksmith's Gully. [10] [See HERON'S REEF for details of Anglo Australian Co.]
- early 1872** Great rush. [52]
- 1872** Ground occupied by Lord Lorne, Lady Lorne, Fryers Energetic and William Tell companies. [55]
- Sept 1876** A new rush has lately taken place at Blacksmith's Gully, on the western side of the main road, near Specimen Hill; the ground was originally taken up and pegged off during the "great rush" in the early part of 1872 but very little was done at that time in testing the value of the ground. Messrs. Weatherly and Co. have been prospecting in this neighbourhood for many months past, with little or no encouragement until very recently; they have now succeeded in discovering auriferous quartz... A trial crushing of 6 tons has yielded 5 oz. 10 dwts.; at present there is nothing like a properly defined reef to be seen... A great many claims have been taken up north and south of the prospectors', and a considerable amount of energy is being displayed in sinking, &c. [10]
- Dec 1876** The new rush at Blacksmith's Gully...has not been so energetically followed up as anticipate; but there are still some grounds for presuming that a series of reefs of a remunerative character will yet be discovered running on the western side of the main road between Golden Gully and Chewton. [10]
- 1881** Ancient Briton Co., North Star Co. [50: p. 129]
- Sept 1882** Messrs. Hazlett and party are making Arrangements for sluicing all the old workings between Specimen Hill and Church's Flat. [10]
- 1883** In 1883 Hazlett's water race had been extended to Blacksmith's Gully and sluicing operations were in progress. [50: 1989: p.37]
- March 1883** The example of Messrs. Hazlett and party is likely to be followed by other parties, so far as sluicing different portions of Spring gully and its tributaries is concerned. Hazlett and party are working vigorously in Blacksmith's Gully, and it may be safely surmised that their weekly earnings are satisfactory. [10]
- March 1887** Reef abandoned - 235 oz obtained from 819 tons at depths of between 16 and 80 feet. [52]
- March 1889** Blacksmith's Gully Reef.- This line of reef is situated a few chains to the eastward of the Prince of Wales, and bears N. 2° W...very little prospecting has been done on this line since 1871. When the reef was first opened out, the quartz yielded from 31/2 to 14dwt. to the ton. The principal shaft has been sunk to a depth of 120 feet... The crushings, as recorded, are as follows: Surface to 50 feet, 121 oz.; to 100 feet, 10oz; to 150 feet, 37oz.; 598 tons average 5.6dwt. to the ton. The reef is abandoned for want of energy and capital to develop its resources. [10]
- 16 Dec 1889** Browning Brothers, Welshman's Reef, Blacksmith Gully, are working at a depth of 63 feet on the stone that they worked at the surface for 3.5dwt to the ton. [37]
- Dec 1889** Browning Bros - working since September for the Fryerstown Prospecting Association. [52]
- June 1891** Messrs. Browning and party...continue to work payable stone in their mine at Blacksmith's Gully, the gold averaging 9dwt. to the ton. [10]
- 15 Oct 1894** Browning and Knowles - 1oz from one ton. [37]
- 6 July 1897** Blacksmith Gully Gold Mining Co. - sinking shaft. [37]

<b>7 March 1898</b>	Blacksmith Gully United Co. - Meeting to decide whether to take over claims north and south. Trial crushing of 90 tons has yielded 67oz. The company has a lease 1600 feet along the line of reef. [37]
<b>March 1898</b>	Blacksmith's Gully Co.: 66ton crushed, 118oz gold [10]
<b>25 April 1898</b>	Blacksmith Gully United Co. - started crushing. [37]
<b>25 April 1898</b>	North Blacksmith Gully Co. - Shares on market. [37]
<b>2 May 1898</b>	Blacksmith Gully Extended Co. - Cleaned and logged No. 1 shaft - good yield obtained here in past - squared up No. 2 shaft. [37]
<b>June 1898</b>	Blacksmith's Gully Co.: 178 ton crushed, 186oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1898</b>	Blacksmith's Gully Extended Co.: 16 ton crushed, 3oz gold [10]
<b>20 Dec 1898</b>	Amalgamated Meeting of Blacksmith's Gully Companies set forth the following resolutions: "That a company be formed to take over the leases of the Blacksmith's Gully United, North Blacksmith's Gully, and Blacksmith's Gully Extended Co.'s, to be called the Blacksmith's Gully Consolidated Co. The Chairman, on behalf of the North Blacksmith's Gully Co., Mr Sheridan for the Blacksmith's Extended, and Mr W. Newham on behalf of the Blacksmith's United, stated their companies were in favour of amalgamation - Mr Newham adding that they were pretty well all agreed that they had done enough scratching about the surface; the Blacksmith's United had had some good patches, but they had nipped out. It was desirable for all concerned that they obtain machinery and work the mine properly. Mr Finlason asked how it was proposed to work the ground, as there were two lines of reef about 400ft apart. Mr Felstead said they could sink between and crosscut to both lines, and drive on what was found to be best; to do this they must have machinery. [37]
<b>9 Jan 1899</b>	Ford & party are working on stone along the New Era Line at a mine called the Saxon adjoining the Blacksmith Gully Extended Co. [37]
<b>3 June 1901</b>	Blacksmith Gully Consolidated - prospecting shaft sunk 9ft - passed through 5ft of well-mineralised stone, but of low grade. [37]
<b>1 Dec 1903</b>	Blacksmith Gully Syndicate - Extended east crosscut 9ft - total 14ft ... [37]
<b>Sept 1903</b>	Blacksmith's Gully Co.: 310 ton crushed, 18oz gold [10]
<b>March 1990</b>	[On the east side of the road, on north side of Blacksmith's Gully] ... that's where the old candlestick factory was. My mum and dad told me that's where it was...just off the road. Above the gully, on the south side, is the site of a house. A bloke named Bill Loffel...he built a house there. Bill used to work at Wattle Gully. Lived there in the depression years. [Peter Milner's HSF 133 site] [Blacksmith's Gully, west side of the road] ...just off the road, that's where a bloke called Thompson sank a shaft...in the depression years...got a fair bit of gold. [68]
<b>March 1990</b>	Bert Miller first sluiced Blacksmith Gully and then Alf Cox took over. [48]

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**2.14****PRINCE OF WALES REEF**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Hill, Blacksmith's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>17 Nov 1862</b>	New reef found near Blacksmith Gully, between Specimen Hill and Golden Gully. Discovered by Mr Musgrave on Prince of Wales' birthday. Holman and Co. - colours showing in their claim. [37]
<b>5 Dec 1862</b>	Musgrave and Co. - 3 tons yielded average 17dwt/ton, at Pilcher's machine in Golden Gully. [51]
<b>8 Dec 1862</b>	Hutton and Co. - 3 tons yielded 17 dwt/ton. [51]
<b>11 Dec 1862</b>	Crushing at Fairbairn's machine in Wattle Gully. [52]
<b>14 Jan 1863</b>	Morley - crushing at Fairbairn's machine. [52]
<b>5 Feb 1863</b>	All claims either registered or abandoned. [52]
<b>19 Jan 1864</b>	Bisser and Co. - struck leader with good specimens - have sparked a rush. [37]
<b>27 Jan 1864</b>	Rossan and Co. - sinking a second shaft. [37]
<b>June 1864</b>	A fresh discovery has been made by a party of Danes on the Prince of Wales Reef (north), where it traverses Cemetery Hill, Specimen Hill. The reef was struck by the prospectors at a depth of 60 feet. The result from the crushing of 11 tons of stone is 24 oz. 4 dwt. [10]
<b>Dec 1864</b>	Parties crushing quartz: Miller and Company, from Prince of Wales (north). [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Manuel and Company. [10]
<b>1869</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1869: Bates and Co., Stephens and Co., Smith and Co. [52]

- 1860s** The arrangement of the tracks [in Blacksmith's Gully] suggests that most of the stone taken out at the southern end was crushed at the battery on the southern end of the Prince of Wales line. Any stone taken out at the northern end was probably crushed at the battery which, to judge from the existence of battery sand in the vicinity, was located at the northern end of the Prince of Wales Reef. [50: 1989: p. 37]
- March 1869** Cattle's, Ferron's, Heron's, Prince of Wales, Cemetery, and Specimen Hill Reefs constitute nearly one continuous, unbroken line of reef, although there are what are denominated the eastern and western lodes, 9 or 10 chains apart, with numerous veins and leaders running at different angles between them. [10]
- end of 1869** To all intents and purposes ... production [on this reef] ceased at the end of 1869. [50: p.39]
- 22 Sept 1871** William Tell Co. (Reando and Fiori) - now sunk to 200 ft and driving to cut the reef. [37]
- 1871** During the revival of company mining in 1871 the ground was occupied by the Royal Prince and Princess companies, and it may have been then that the batteries were erected. [50: p.39]
- March 1889** Prince of Wales Reef, Blacksmith's Gully. - The bearing or strike of this reef is N. 9° W... The reef has not been traced or worked to any great extent either in length or depth, but a great number of the surface leaders have been taken out and crushed. The principal shaft is 100 feet in depth. The yields, so far as have been recorded, are as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 72oz.; to 100 feet, 10oz.; 181 tons average 9 dwt. to the ton. The ground is occupied at the present time, but not being worked. [10]
- Feb 1900** Delaray: prospecting flat spurs west of main workings - tunnel being driven on the reef. [52]
- 1900** [Delaray] - tunnel being driven, presumably at the southern end of the reef, as a connection with the Royal Saxon workings was envisaged. Nothing seems to have come of all this. [50: p.39]



2.15

## SPRING GULLY/SPRING FLAT &amp; EMU REEF

**Mining Division** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Emu Reef, Hand of Friendship Reef

DATE	HISTORY
26 Aug 1854	Spring Gully is nearly in the same condition, and little or nothing doing by those who are staying there. [47: p. 4]
22 June 1855	The business of the Licensing Bench [heard] the applications from the Fryer's Creek district. Hoskins applied for a license for the Emu Inn. Mr Hackett (who had inspected the district) said the house was good enough for the situation in which it was placed, in a gully off the main road, and there being no objection to the house, it was granted. [47: p.3]
10 Aug 1855	The roads and crossings in the Fryer's Creek district are certainly a disgrace to the colony ... take the Spring Gully road for instance; in some parts it is almost impossible to effect a passage with a horse and cart, as the road has been so completely undermined that the heavy rains have caused them to give way. R.W. Schmidt, M.D., From the Burra Burra Mines, Adelaide. At Fryer's Creek, on Mondays and Thursdays from eleven till one, at the Emu Inn. [47: p.2]
30 Nov 1855	At the upper end of Spring Gully, and a short distance only from Dr Meears' steam crushing machine [Specimen Hill], is in play one of Wilson's and Crease's pendulum lever crushing machines, and this appears the nearest approach to simplicity, next after the hammer and block. A man pulls a rope towards him at an angle of 45 degrees, with the horizon, and draws a long vertical iron lever, which near the middle parts into two rods, at the end of which hangs suspended a strong box charged to the brim with heavy stones, and which answers to the pendulum bob. The machine certainly appears to possess an advantage not to be seen in others. The pull is of course so much labour bestowed, but the return stroke confers a force due only to gravitation, and not to muscular exertion; the oscillation of the pendulum carries a curved surface of furrowed steel backwards and forwards against a steel surface adapted to it, not much unlike the manner in which the top of the thigh-bone plays in the socket of the pelvis. The quartz, burnt and broken to small a size, slides into this mill through a common wooden shoot. The machine appeared to crush very finely, and to be worked very easily, so much so that it would seem as if one strong horse would be motive power enough for a dozen pendulums. It is expected that one machine will turn out three tons daily when got into full play, after the lengthening of the leverage. It certainly has the recommendations of simplicity, facility of working, portability, and above all the wearing parts are so made that they can be easily copied and replaced at a very small expense. [47: p.2]
1855	Emu Reef, Spring Gully. At the time this reef was discovered by Jeff and party, in 1855, crushing and other appliances were very imperfect, and, after the first shoot of gold was worked out, the reef was neglected for a long period. [10: March 1889]
1855	Emu Reef. This reef was first opened in 1855, a large outcrop of quartz standing several feet above the surface attracting attention while the alluvial deposits were being worked. This reef, from 20 to 40 feet in width, was a saddle formation, and was extensively worked by small parties. In 1855, the original finders, Jeff and party, obtained 60 ounces to the ton; Tregallis and party 23 ounces to the ton; Lindsay and party, 20 ounces to the ton; Shepherd and party, 3 to 9 ounces to the ton; Howard and Harvey, 14 ounces to the ton; Cartwright and party, 33 ounces to the ton; and Searle and Stacey, from a reef 21/2 feet thick, 5 ounces to the ton for a distance of 61 feet... [55: p.24]
25 Jan 1856	The poor Chinamen in our neighbourhood seem to be always in difficulties; last week a dog was set on one somewhere in Spring gully, and the animal tore the Chinaman's ear completely off and broke his finger... [47: p.4]
11 March 1856	The diggings in New Year's Flat, Spring Flat and Gully, maintain a large population. [47: p.5]
27/3/1857	Most successful reefs to date: El Dorado, Specimen Hill; Eureka, Poverty Gully; the Emu Reef near Spring Flat; the Old Specimen Hill Reef and small reefs or leaders on Wattle Gully. [37]
June 1859	Spring Gully - Rowe and Co. - one 10hp horizontal engine, 8 stamps; crush 18 tons in 24 hours. Spring Gully - Flaxman, Lawler, and Co. - one 12hp horizontal engine, 4 stamps; crushes 40 tons per week, 24 hours per day. Spring Gully - Lindsay and Co. - one 8hp steam engine, 4 stamps; crushes 50 tons per week, 24 hours per day. [10]

- June 1859** Emu Reef:  
Rowe & Co. Crushed 150 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 8 dwt. Depth from surface - 8, 40 and 80.  
Sutton & Co. Crushed 4 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 36 oz. Depth from surface - 8 feet.  
Lindsay & Co. Crushed 30 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 9 1/2 dwt. Depth from surface - 25 feet. (This party has been repairing their machinery during the past month.)  
Lawlor & Co. Crushed 160 ton in past month. Yield per ton - 0. Depth from surface - 35 feet. [10]
- June 1859** In Spring Gully & Church's Flat:  
71 puddling machines, operated by 270 non-Chinese and 139 Chinese  
170 non-Chinese and 231 Chinese involved in ordinary mining  
30 non-Chinese involved in quartz mining [10]
- June 1859** At the head of Spring Gully some few have done well on short outside runs of gold. These, however, seldom run far ere they fall into the main leads. [10]
- July 1859** The Emu Creek Gold Mining Company - A short time previous to the existence of the above company, the original proprietors had registered their claim, and I believe for two reasons - 1st., that they could amalgamate with an adjoining claim; and, 2nd, to furnish an opportunity of establishing a company, in order that a sufficient amount of capital might be raised for better conducting their operations, improving their machinery, etc. They have now 370 feet run of the reef  
Sutton, Smith, and Co. (private company) - [ no machinery as yet]  
Rowe and Co. - [adjoining claim to Sutton, Smith and Co.] ...they have a steam engine and crushing machine.  
[Table of monthly yields] list Lindsay and Co., Sutton, Smith and Co., Rowe and Co. as working the reef. [10]
- July 1860** Emu Company. This is in status quo for want of funds. They have a large strong lode to operate on, but in their part of the reef they have not as yet sunk sufficiently deep to strike the shoots of gold [10]
- July 1860** Golden and Spring Gullies appear at present to be the favoured localities [for puddling], there being scarcely a foot of ground in these places unoccupied. [10]
- August 1860** Spring Gully. This has been one of the richest portions of the Fryer's Creek Mining Division. It was partly worked and deserted 7 years since. It then turned out several fortunes. Some four years and a half ago, it was re-rushed, and again made splendid returns, from that time to about 2 years since. The wash-dirt or auriferous drift average from 4 to 5 feet in thickness. During this working, the gully was literally undermined, and fairly stood on props.  
As the plan will show you, it is again the scene of very active labours. About 40 acres of its area is occupied by puddlers, who are carting out the whole of the alluvial soil to the bed-rock, and puddling it, and are in most instances content with their returns. Most of the dams and water holes shown on the plan are excavations to the bedrock. The portions of the gully not occupied by extended claims are either entirely worked out or occupied by miners with the ordinary tub and cradle. The depth of the alluvium varies from 15 to 35 feet.  
There are now fully at work in the gully 58 puddling machines and 12 horse pumps. [10]
- August 1860** On the Emu and El Dorado the few private parties are making average wages. [10]
- August 1860** The Emu Company has become bankrupt. [10]
- Sept 1860** No. 1 claim (Rowe's) on this reef is turning out very well just now, as also is No. 2. The other part of the reef, held by Emu Company, has been rushed; but it being in the hands of the Court of Mines, the miners were obliged to retire. [10]
- Nov 1860** On the southern continuation of the Emu Reef, the Spring Gully Prospecting Association has discovered the main lode, after spending a great amount of time and money. They tried a prospect last week, which produced 12 dwt. to the ton. [10]
- Nov 1860** Stephens and Company, on the Emu, got 60 oz. of gold from 100 tons of stone. [10]
- Dec 1860** Auriferous reefs include Emu Reef, 16 miners working [10]
- April 1861** The Emu has again started to work under the direction of the purchaser of the plant, who is engaged in prospecting the ground. [10]
- May 1861** The Ferron's Reef Company is still idle, as also is the Emu Company. [10]
- August 1861** The new plant of Odgers and Company (lately the property of the Emeu ...[or Emu] Company) is in full working order. Mr Odgers informed me that the tailings and refuse thrown away in washing and sluicing will produce 2 dwt. to the ton, and the produce will give the shareholders £6 per week. [10]
- Sept 1861** Quartz crushed & gold obtained in past month:  
Dawe and Company, 35 feet from surface, 89 ton yielded 4 dwt. [10]

- 7 Oct 1861** Several gullies branch out at the head of Spring Gully. These include Abrahams Gully, Specimen Gully, Goat Gully and Long Gully. Between the junction of Spring Flat and Spring Gully and the point where Blacksmith's Gully branches off to the east, are several puddling leases or claims, held by James and Company, Thomas and Company, and Baistow. There is a reservoir at the junction of Spring and Blacksmith's Gully (grid ref. 554891) [25]
- Dec 1861** Odgers and Company has netted £40 per man for the past month, certainly no bad result from *debris* and tailings, which had been pronounced worthless. [10]
- June 1864** The Hand of Friendship Company, on the Old Emu Reef, is doing well. From the commencement, the mine has been giving a profit over working expenses...a new shaft being met by the yields from the mine. The engine shaft, from which no stone has been crushed by the present proprietors, shows good stone. [10]
- June 1864** Most of the puddlers are making good wages, while many are doing very much better; from careful calculation, those mining at Spring Gully average over £4 per week per man. [10]
- Dec 1864** The Hand of Friendship Company have been engaged up to the present time in crushing headings and other *debris* lying about the mine; as also in sinking a new engine shaft, on which they are placing a new whim, for the purpose of obtaining supplies of quartz from the deeper parts of the mine. [10]
- March 1865** Mining population: 149 [10]
- June 1865** The Hand of Friendship Company, Emu Reef, has suspended operations, for the purpose of making some alteration in the share list, and other improvements. [10]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Hand of Friendship Co. [10]
- Sept 1866** The Hand of Friendship Mine, on the Old Emu Reef, after various failures, has at length begun to pay. The shareholders consider their prospects sufficiently encouraging to warrant their removing their engine from one part of the mine to another; and have decided on sinking a new engine shaft. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Hand of Friendship [10]
- March 1867** These gullies have ever been remarkable for apparently inexhaustible mineral wealth. Alluvial mining operations are, as heretofore, confined to puddling. The claims have been in work for some years, and from the systematic and energetic manner in which the operations were conducted, the permanent dwellings erected, and the blocks of ground cultivated, it is not unreasonable to suppose the average earnings of the puddlers are satisfactory. [10]
- June 1867** A party of Chinese purchased a block of ground (three times worked) in Spring Gully; they have been working the same for the past 13 months. The party consists of 8 men. [10]
- June 1867** In the neighbourhood of Golden and Spring Gullies, places which have been most prospected, from time to time veins or spurs have been struck which for a short period have paid well, but ultimately had to be abandoned. The ranges between and on either side of these gullies are intersected by innumerable quartz veins, apparently almost at equal distances apart. It is to be hoped that the day is not far distant when prospecting at a great depth will be carried on with energy and spirit; previous returns establish the fact that nearly all our best crushings have resulted from the deeper workings. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Hand of Friendship. [10]
- Sept 1868** The Emu Company [Hand of Friendship?]. This Company is about reorganising, as it is found the plant as at present is not adequate to perform the work required. The returns for the quarter, although small, would be remunerative to a company with a powerful plant. [10]
- Dec 1868** Some parties are prospecting the southern end of the Emu with fair indications. [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Hand of Friendship. [10]
- June 1869** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings: Rowbotham and Co. [10]
- Sept 1869** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings: Rowbotham and Co. [10]
- Sept 1873** During the past two or three weeks a new reef has been discovered near the head of Spring Flat, running nearly parallel with the Irish Reef; this reef was discovered by Mr Lewis, of Castlemaine, in a very simple manner, with the aid of a tin dish, pick, and shovel. In traversing the ranges he observed an outcrop of reef running along a ridge bearing a little west of north. This outcrop, presenting a very promising appearance, induced him to wash a few dishfuls of earth and quartz at a depth of surface to 2 feet, when both rich specimens and loose fine gold were found, sufficient to warrant the supposition a rich reef exists. The prospector was occupied a week in making the discovery; it is not unreasonable to suppose that many valuable reefs remain undiscovered through the tin

- dish being ignored. In this instance merely cracking the quartz and looking for specimens would have led to no satisfactory result. [10]
- March 1875** The Southern Cross, Spring Gully. The machinery and plant of this company have been removed from the district, the mining operations being unprofitable for years. [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties puddling or sluicing: Thomas & Co. Spring Gully; Roberts & Co. Spring Gully [10]
- March 1883** The example of Messrs. Hazlett and party [sluicing gullies from Specimen Hill to Church's Flat] is likely to be followed by other parties so far as sluicing different portions of Spring Gully and its tributaries is concerned. [10]
- Sept 1884** SITUATION AND CAPACITY OF RESERVOIRS:  
Spring Gully 7,000,000 gallons [10]
- March 1885** A new reef has recently been discovered at the head of Spring Flat, Fryers, which promises to be payable, Messrs. Pryor and party, the discoverers, having had one or two trial crushings, yielding 9dwt. to the ton. [10]
- Dec 1885** Quick and party have lately been prospecting the old Emu line of reef, Spring gully, a trial crushing giving 4 dwt. to the ton ... the sinking of a main shaft has been commenced. [10]
- Dec 1886** A new and important discovery has been recently made in Spring Gully by a party of Chinese and Europeans, viz., the striking of a quartz reef near the surface, which, in the first trial crushing, yielded 11/2oz. to the ton. The leader is very flat, and is supposed to be a continuation of the Emu line of reef, being contiguous thereto, and near the old workings. This particular reef was known to some Chinese twenty years ago, but it was never worked, the adjoining alluvial ground claiming their undivided attention, as they were entirely ignorant of quartz mining. [10]
- March 1887** Rosewall and Party, Spring Gully have been compelled to suspend mining operations owing to the great influx of water into their shaft from underground drainage. A short time ago this party had very encouraging prospects...but, not being able to obtain machinery at once, through misunderstandings or disorganisation, a temporary cessation of work was the result. The party consists of Chinese and Europeans, but the combination up to the present time has not proved very satisfactory so far as working the mine and general management is concerned. There are several other companies whose blocks adjoin Rosewall's lease. [10]
- June 1888** Quick and party have recently discovered a new quartz reef at the foot of Spring Gully Hill, adjoining Windlass Flat, a short distance west from, and running parallel with the No Surrender line of reef, which was opened out some fifteen years ago, but abandoned without being properly tested.  
Another line of reef nearer Spring Gully, about 20 or 30 chains west of Quick's line, has also been re-opened during the past fortnight (June 30th); it is supposed to be identical with the Emu. A great deal of activity is being displayed, and some good specimens obtained...but the party (Messrs. McLean and Roberts) have had no crushing up to the present time. [10]
- Sept 1888** Woo Sung and party, Emu Reef, Spring Gully, have resumed active mining operations. [10]
- Dec 1888** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings: McLean and Party [10]
- n.d.** Williamson and party, Spring Gully Hill, Fryerstown, worked for a short time on a leader 14 feet from surface, and raised 59 tons which gave 4dwt. to the ton, but was abandoned without a sufficient trial. [10: March 1889]
- Sept 1889** A party of seven or eight Chinamen [are] working the old ground at the head of Spring Flat. The party have had a large puddling claim surveyed, and are working with great energy and spirit. [10]
- Sept 1890** Spring Flat. Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings: Browning and Party, Browning and Knowles [10]
- Dec 1890** Spring Flat. Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings: Browning and Party [10]
- 1893** In 1893, the Spring Gully Company started to exploit the continuation of [the Emu] line of reef at a depth, with the result that large bodies of auriferous stone were opened up and profitable employment found for a considerable number of miners. [55: p.24]
- 1894-8** It was in August, 1894, that the property, which includes a lease of 21 acres, upon which a considerable amount of work had previously been done, was purchased by the present holders [Spring Gully Co.]. Several shafts had been sunk by the former proprietors, one of which, 88 feet deep, was sunk another 42 feet. After considerable unprofitable prospecting an auriferous spur was struck in a crosscut out 500 feet. It was decided to sink a new shaft 700 feet south of the old one, and when this was down 212 feet winding gear was erected. [45: pp. 124-5]
- 27 Jan 1898** Spring Gully Co. - 19 loads crushed, for 15-1/4 oz yield. Cleaned out 50 ft of south drive from old shaft to improve ventilation. Mine Manager: W.G. Blackham [37]
- 2 March 1898** Spring Gully Co. - Half-yearly report by Mine Manager, A. Schonfelder. £759-11-11d gold attained. Crushed 177 loads for a yield of 195 oz 18 dwt. [37]
- March 1898** Ford and Party: 272 tons crushed, 116oz gold. [10]
- March 1898** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 134 ton crushed, 89oz gold. [10]

- 25 April 1898** Spring Gully Co. - (Report by Bendigo journalist) - The shaft is 213 feet deep - 12 feet for well. To the north of this mine gold was struck in a 40-foot shaft by Quick, with whom negotiations have been made and the property placed on the market. [37]
- 25 April 1898** North Spring Gully - Tenders for sinking new shaft 60 feet accepted. [37]
- 16 May 1898** North Spring Gully - This claim is immediately north of Spring Gully Co. [37]
- June 1898** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 673 ton crushed, 575oz gold [10]
- 29 June 1898** Spring Gully Junction - shaft sunk 18 ft - total 36 ft. [37]
- 8 Aug 1898** North Spring Gully. The new main shaft was started on Tuesday last, and is now down 37 feet in good country. [37]
- Sept 1898** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 318 ton crushed, 306oz gold [10]
- 10 Oct 1898** North Spring Gully - cleaned up small trial at Schraeder's battery - 5 tons yielded 5 dwts. [37]
- 12 Oct 1898** Spring Gully Mine - Washed off 30 loads crushed at new battery, for 29 oz 5 dwt gold. [37]
- 26 Oct 1898** Spring Gully Mine - Bricks arrived for new chimney stack. [37]
- 1 Nov 1898** The Spring Gully Co. has arranged with Mr McBean, contractor, to supply bricks to complete the stack, which is now at a height of 30 feet, and should be finished within a fortnight. [37]
- 26 Nov 1898** The Spring Gully Mine...now ranks as our only dividend-paying venture within the Castlemaine radius. It is only during the past few years that this mine has sprung into notoriety as a good gold producer.  
The battery of 20 heads is of the Langland pattern, and the stamps weigh about 7 cwt. each. At the end of the copper plates are Halley's percussion tables and blanket tables, which deliver the tailings to a chute that carries the material to the tyes outside the main buildings. The engine driving the battery has a 16-in. cylinder and 36 in. stroke making 60 strokes per minute. In addition to driving the battery it works the supply pump by means of spur gear of the usual description. An Arastra pan is continually in motion, grinding mundic, and everything works very smoothly, and is compact and handy. The battery-house is commodious and built of iron and woodwork, with concrete floor throughout. There is a tramway over the battery on which a trolley runs the stamps in and out with the greatest ease. The winding gear has fast and loose drums 7ft 6in. in diameter driven by a 16in. cylinder and 36in. stroke, provided with all the necessary attachments for making it effective. Steam is generated by a couple of Jackass boilers each 17ft long and 5ft 6in. in diameter... [47]
- 30 Nov 1898** South Spring Gully - Mine manager's half-yearly report - The main shaft was 10 ft x 14 ft and sunk to a depth of 120 feet when I took over this mine on Oct. 17. [37]
- 7 Dec 1898** Spring Gully Co. - Now sinking air or mullock shaft from surface. [37]
- 1898** Spring Gully Mine - 3939 tons mined, average yield 17.4 dwt/ton, total yield 3433 oz. - dividend-paying mine. [36]
- 31 Jan 1899** The Spring Gully Junction holds 450 yards along the reef, and has started a new shaft. [37]
- 8 Feb 1899** South Spring Gully - Put in a drive 6 ft north and started to rise on old workings... Erected windlass on old shaft on western workings to meet rise. [37]
- 17 Feb 1899** Spring Gully Junction. A few months ago this company put a shaft down on the west portion of their lease, 98 feet. Finding nothing there, a tribute block was acquired from Spring Gully Co., and another shaft sank upon it. The company has 420 yards along the reef and their east ground takes in a portion of the Irish reef, which had a good reputation in olden days. [37]
- 1 March 1899** Spring Gully Co. New company to be formed to work the south end of the lease. To be called Williams' No. 1 Spring Gully Co. [37]
- 6 March 1899** Spring Gully Junction - have started a north shaft and sunk same 28 feet. [37]
- 22 March 1899** Spring Gully Co. - main engine shaft sunk 8 feet - total 244 feet - fixed Tangye pump. [37]
- March 1899** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1010 ton crushed, 1036oz gold [10]
- March 1899** Spring Gully Junction Co.: 399 ton crushed, 195oz gold. [10]
- 1 May 1899** North Spring Gully - Main shaft sunk to 215 feet. Tenders have been called to sink a new prospecting shaft near our eastern boundary. This work will now be proceeded with, and at the same time a further effort will be made to dispose of forfeited shares at present in the hands of the company - if this is successful we will then sink the engine shaft a further 100 feet. The new shaft will be between the Junction Co.'s and the main engine shaft. [37]
- 1 June 1899** Spring Gully. Spring Gully is another revival in the immediate neighbourhood of Castlemaine which promises to greatly improve the mining prosperity until a comparatively recent period, like many of the surrounding localities, it remained in practically the same state as it was left by the pioneers of the fifties, whose general rule of procedure was to merely "scratch" the surface wherever a rich prospect was obtained, and then leave for a fresh field. After the superficial areas had been thus treated, and the rich gullies apparently exhausted, Spring Gully became almost a thing of "past glories." Occasionally a spasmodic effort was made to work the various quartz veins that were

known to exist, but no organised attempt at development took place till quite recently, when operations were resumed with satisfactory results.

The principal mine on the field is the Spring Gully, worked by a local company formed with a capital of £6000 in 24,000 shares. Since regular crushing from the reef, at present under operation, 6664 loads have been crushed for 5914oz., an average of 17.5dwt. to the load. Dividends amounting to 9s. 6d. per share, absorbing £11,400, have been paid. The company is in possession of a fine plant, and only 5s. 2d. per share has been called up. For a long time the crushings barely paid working expenses; but now, owing to the large extent - 14 feet - of the reef, which pitches south, and the excellent quality of the crushing dirt, the company proposes to pay regular dividends, and is adding 20-head of stampers to the battery, 10 of which will be placed at the disposal of the public.

- The Spring Gully Junction is the next in importance on the field. Here the shaft has been sunk on the north side of the gully, which runs between it and the parent mine. At a depth of 45 feet stone was met, and the next 30 feet was in quartz. The footwall was then reached, and in the neighbourhood good gold was obtained. The reef in this mine is directly opposite in pitch to that in the Spring Gully. The company has a 12-head battery and high-class winding plant.
- The Spring Gully Freehold lies further north again, while on the western side the North Spring Gully is proving the existence of the reef in that direction. [45: pp. 124-5]
- 2 June 1899** Spring Gully Junction - Half-yearly Mine Manager's Report. In the north shaft situated about 100 yards from your northern boundary, we have done a fair amount of prospecting... In the tribute shaft we have extended the level on the large slide 103 feet... Finding no improvement and poor ventilation, it was decided to stop both of these shafts and sink a main shaft 135 feet from your southern boundary, just east of centre country. This shaft, 9 ft x 4 ft in the clear and three compartments, has been sunk to 118 ft. [37]
- 1899** Spring Gully Mine - 10874 tons mined, average yield 14.1 dwt/ton, total yield 7681 oz. - dividend-paying mine [36]
- 1900** [for Spring Gully Monk Gold Mining Company, see MONK HILL, Castlemaine Division]
- 5 April 1900** Spring Gully No. 1 Mine - Official Opening. The mine is situated about 700 ft south of the main Spring Gully mine, and about 1000 ft north of the South Spring Gully, and the intention is to keep No. 1 shaft going down, thus draining the mines on each side of it. The water from the three mines will be pumped from the No. 1 shaft. A first class winding and pumping plant was obtained consisting of two engines 16 in. cylinder and 3 ft stroke; the winding engine is geared 2 to 1, and the pumping engine 6 to 1. The winding drums are 8 ft in diameter. The shafting on the pumping gear is 8 1/2 in. in diameter, and the lift is 9 in. The boiler is a multitubular 6 ft x 20 ft - one of Thompson and Co.'s best. [47: p.2]
- April 1900** Spring Gully Junction Co.: 210 ton, 157oz gold [10]
- 2 May 1900** Official opening of Spring Gully No. 1 [37]
- May 1900** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1310 ton crushed, 597oz gold [10]
- June 1900** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1775 ton crushed, 467oz gold [10]
- June 1900** Spring Gully Freehold Co. [10]
- June 1900** Spring Gully Junction Co.: 627 ton, 265oz gold [10]
- 13 Aug 1900** Spring Gully No. 1 - expect to cut Spring Gully reef in 20 feet east, and similar distance to the west should tap the Hand of Friendship reef. The two reefs gradually work together as they go south and are expected to be within 60 feet of one another. [37]
- 23 Aug 1900** Spring Gully Co. - On 9th June Mr Schonfelder tendered his resignation as mining manager, and Mr F. Jolley was appointed in his stead. Since taking charge, he has increased the output by about 220 tons per fortnight with practically the same expense. [37]
- 21 Sept 1900** Spring Gully No. 1. Shaft sunk to 314 feet. [37]
- 8 Oct 1900** North Spring Gully - Company reorganised - east shaft abandoned and sinking of main shaft resumed. [37]
- Oct 1900** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 500 ton crushed, 236oz gold [10]
- 29 Nov 1900** South Spring Gully - shaft sunk from 227 to 293 feet. Sinking stopped due to water. [37]
- 24 Dec 1900** North Spring Gully - main shaft sunk total 307 feet. [37]
- 1900** Spring Gully Mine - 17541 tons mined, average yield 6.7 dwt/ton, total yield 5888 oz. - dividend-paying mine
- Spring Gully Junction Mine - 4766 tons mined, average yield 9.1 dwt/ton, total yield 2171 oz. dividend-paying mine [36]
- 29 Jan 1901** North Spring Gully. The company presented a petition to the court last week praying that the company be wound up - the application was granted. [37]
- 26 Feb 1901** Spring Gully Co. - Cross-cut has been driven to meet Chinamen's Shaft. Hand of Friendship Shaft cleaned out to 200 feet.
- The value of the property was greatly enhanced by striking of the Hand of Friendship reef about 130 feet west and 228 feet south of our main shaft. [37]
- Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1020 ton crushed, 243oz gold [10]
- Spring Gully Freehold Co.: 50 ton crushed, 6oz gold [10]
- Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 630 ton crushed, 106oz gold [10]
- Spring Gully Junction Co.: 123 ton crushed, 51oz gold [10]
- Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 10 inch x 20 inch x 30 inch compound steam battery engine [13: 10801]
- Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: Thompson 9-inch plunger workings [13: 13701]
- August 1901** Cumberland and Phoenix Co. have accepted tenders for removal of North Spring Gully's winding plant and poppet legs - work starts today. [37]
- 5 Aug 1901**
- Sept 1901** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1740 ton crushed, 538oz gold [10]
- Sept 1901** Spring Gully Junction Co.: 499 ton crushed, 104oz gold [10]
- 3 Oct 1901** Spring Gully No. 1 shaft is 764 feet south of Spring Gully main shaft. [37]

- 1901** Spring Gully Mine - 13593 tons mined, average yield 7.3 dwt/ton, total yield 4989 oz. - dividend-paying mine [36]
- 21 Jan 1902** Spring Gully No. 1 - Main shaft is down 502 feet. [37]
- 24 Feb 1902** South Spring Gully - Sinking main shaft to 300 feet. [37]
- 19 March 1902** Spring Gully No. 1 - At surface 140 feet north of main engine shaft a prospecting shaft has been sunk 58 feet, the first 30 feet sunk was through the old workings. [37]
- 31 March 1902** South Spring Gully - Work suspended - too expensive without machinery. [37]
- 29 May 1902** South Spring Gully - Half-yearly meeting - sinking in main shaft stopped on account of difficulty of hauling with a whip. Started a prospecting shaft on hill north of main shaft, and sunk to 45 feet. [37]
- May 1902** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: Thompson egg-ended air receiver, 25 feet x 5 feet 6 inches [13: 48.02]
- July 1902** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1390 ton crushed, 774oz gold [10]
- July 1902** Spring Gully Freehold Co.: 107 ton crushed, 17oz gold [10]
- 1902** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 40 head battery [12: p.29]
- 26 Aug 1902** Spring Gully Co. - East cross-cut from 318 ft south level has been driven 48 feet from drive...is going out for Thompson's reef which should be cut shortly. [37]
- 1902** Hands Across the Sea - 3086 tons mined, average yield 4.7 dwt/ton, total yield 732 oz.  
No. 1 Spring Gully - 180 tons mined, average yield 3.6 dwt/ton, total yield 33 oz.  
Spring Gully Mine - 17007 tons mined, average yield 8.1 dwt/ton, total yield 6920 oz. - production to date: 63129 tons mined, total yield 28993 oz.  
Spring Gully Junction - 2077 tons mined, average yield 8.8 dwt/ton, total yield 910 oz. - total yield to date: 4036 oz.  
Spring Gully Freehold - 496 tons mined, average yield 5.7 dwt/ton, total yield 141 oz. [36]
- 17 Feb 1903** Spring Gully Co. - Main shaft sunk total 532 feet [37]
- 16 March 1903** Spring Gully Co. - East cross-cut started 100 feet south of shaft...to intersect Thompson's reef, last worked at 242 feet. [37]
- March 1903** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 4890 ton crushed, 848oz gold [10]
- March 1903** Spring Gully Junction Co.: 261 ton crushed, 114oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** Spring Gully Junction Co.: 845 ton crushed, 333oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 2643 ton crushed, 732oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** Spring Gully No. 1 Co.: 209 ton crushed, 20oz gold [10]
- 1903** Spring Gully Dredging Co.: Jet elevator pump plant operating [12: p.53]
- 1903** Hands Across the Sea - 4640 tons mined, average yield 1.1 dwt/ton, total yield 256 oz.  
No. 1 Spring Gully - 524 tons mined, average yield 1.9 dwt/ton, total yield 49 oz.  
Spring Gully Mine - 13702 tons mined, average yield 4.4 dwt/ton, total yield 3017 oz.  
Spring Gully Junction - 2543 tons mined, average yield 9.4 dwt/ton, total yield 1197 oz.  
The principal quartz mine in this division, viz., the Spring Gully Company's mine, after paying £58,800 in dividends, has of late, I regret to have to state, been barely paying expenses. The directors of this company, I also regret to have to state, decided (almost immediately the stone ceased to yield a profit) to stop all work in the lower and bottom levels, where there (in my opinion) was a probability of something being found that would again place the mine in the front rank of dividend payers, and started, what few wages men they continued to employ, fossicking about in the old backs over the 318 and 240 feet levels. They also let portions of the backs, over the same levels, to several parties of tributers... Development work in this mine, has, in my opinion, been sadly neglected, the main shaft being only about 550 feet deep, when at the very least it should have been twice that depth.  
The Spring Gully Junction Company's mine, on the north of and adjoining, the Spring Gully Company's lease, has, during the latter half of the year, more than paid its way, and its prospects appear to be fairly satisfactory. The Spring Gully No. 1 Company, on the south of the Spring Gully Company, has not yet found anything payable. Its main shaft is 600 feet in depth, being the deepest on the line of reef. Here, as in the Spring Gully mine, no work has been done for some time below the 300-ft. level.  
The Hands Across the Sea and the McDonald's Reef Companies have suspended operations for some time and I am afraid the probabilities of an early resumption are somewhat remote. Neither of these mines has been anything like thoroughly tested. [36]
- 1903** Spring Gully Junction Company - work at this mine has been confined to operations on the eastern side of centre country.  
Spring Gully Company. This company is engaged working a large spurry reef formation in the vicinity of the old Emu Reef, from which profitable returns were obtained in early days. The main shaft is sunk to a depth of 390 feet.  
Spring Gully No. 1 Company - This company is working the southern portion of the Spring Gully Company's lease. As the payable formation in the parent mine pitches south, the No. 1 Co sunk a shaft, in the hope of meeting with its continuation, to a depth of 500 feet. [36]



- 19 Feb 1904** Mr C.W. Steiner, of Castlemaine, has just completed a survey of underground workings of the Spring Gully and No. 1 mines at Fryerstown, and has forwarded to the legal manager's office his plans and report of same.  
The reef that has been worked with such success by the Spring Gully Co. during the last six years is shown to be a western formation, making away from the main "axial line" or centre country, visible on the surface 200 feet east of the Spring Gully shaft. This formation has been worked with splendid results down to 378 feet level, but at this point a disturbance in the reef has taken place, in consequence of it striking the axial line of the Hand of Friendship reef (worked with good results in the early days).  
Centre country is situated about 90 feet west of the shaft. From the 378 feet level down to the 560 feet level the ground, which has only been prospected by the extension of cross-cuts at 480 feet and 560 feet, is recommended by the surveyor to be further prospected to test the legs of saddle reefs that should be found making away from the caps of reefs presumed to exist on this untried line. The payable reef in the No. 1 mine is proved conclusively to be the Spring Gully lode, and the Spring Gully Co. should intersect this stone shortly at the 242 feet level.  
The No. 1 reef at 275 feet is presumed to be the cap of a formation having a strong eastern leg which should be met with by the extension of the 300 feet east cross-cut a further 20 feet, as recommended by the report. [37]
- 25 Nov 1904** South Spring Gully - machinery purchased. [37]
- 28 Nov 1904** South Spring Gully - Half-yearly meeting - Decided to abandon prospecting shaft, and instead to sink new prospecting shaft on eastern formation. [37]
- 2 Dec 1904** Spring Gully Co. - Marley and Party obtained specimen gold, 246 oz., at 242 feet level. [37]
- 1904** Spring Gully Dredging Co.: Jet elevator pump plant operating for a short time; reconstructing mine [12: p. 55]
- 1904** No. 1 Spring Gully - 3389 tons mined, average yield 4.5 dwt/ton, total yield 776 oz. - production to date: 4095 tons mined, total yield 857 oz.  
Spring Gully Mine - 8410 tons mined, average yield 4.6 dwt/ton, total yield 1952 oz. - production to date: 84,441 tons mined, total yield 33,962 oz.  
Spring Gully Junction - 477 tons mined, average yield 4.2 dwt/ton, total yield 101 oz. - production to date: 13,003 tons mined, total yield 5333 oz.  
Practically no prospecting work has been done in the Spring Gully Company's mine, which is the principal mine in the division. The directors are apparently working this mine with the object of either shutting it down as soon as the upper levels are worked out, or are trusting to the Government to eventually provide the funds to do the developmental work. Two dividends of sixpence each were declared by this company during the last quarter of the year. One of these was obtained from a rich patch discovered by one of the parties of tributers working in the old stopes. This makes the total amount paid in dividends by this company £50,000.  
The Spring Gully No. 1 Company, which is managed practically by the same board of directors as the Spring Gully Company, has confined its operations to a large body of stone discovered over the 300-foot level, with results that have proved scarcely payable. The company's main shaft is 500 feet deep.  
The Spring Gully Junction Company's operations during the year have principally been of a developmental character. The main shaft has been sunk to a depth of 485 feet. Very little work has been done by the Spring Gully Freehold Company during the past year. The prospecting work done by this company has been such as might have been expected from a comparatively impecunious co-operative one.  
The Spring Gully Consols Company is doing a little prospecting work without, so far, meeting with anything meeting special note. [36]
- 1 March 1905** Spring Gully Co. - Marley and Party, tributers, chanced upon a nest of nuggets totalling 247 oz., the largest nuggets of which weighed 79 oz., 59 oz., and 49 oz. [37]
- 5 July 1905** Spring Gully No. 1 struck off Bendigo Stock Exchange listing. [37]
- 13 July 1905** The longitudinal extension of the reef is considerable judging by the mine workings and surface outcrops - probably not less than half a mile of unbroken quartz in the vicinity of the Spring Gully mine.  
Report by W.H. Candy, Geological Surveyor, of Bendigo. The Reef upon which the Spring Gully and Spring Gully No. 1 Co.'s are now working is formed on a slide making from the Hand of Friendship channel of reef country and having a bearing of south 16° south west. In its course south it diverges from the Hand of Friendship Reef, and going northward would junction with it at a point opposite to the Spring Gully shaft. I consider that the Hand of Friendship reef (in proximity to the centre country) will be found to be the main reef channel of this locality, and it would be as well to keep this in mind and not neglect it in following too closely other subsidiary reef formations. [37]
- 20 Dec 1905** Main shaft sunk total 616 feet [37]

- 1905** No. 1 Spring Gully - 3023 tons mined, average yield 9.2 dwt/ton, total yield 1396 oz. - production to date: 7131 tons mined, total yield 2252 oz.  
 Spring Gully Mine - 9682 tons mined, average yield 8.4 dwt/ton, total yield 4098 oz. - production to date: 94123 tons mined, total yield 38400 oz.  
 Spring Gully Junction - 690 tons mined, average yield 20.1 dwt/ton, total yield 695 oz. - production to date: 13,693 tons mined, total yield: 6027 oz.  
 Spring Gully Consols - 43 tons mined, average yield 5.5 dwt/ton, total yield 12 oz.  
 South Spring Gully - 86 tons mined, average yield 4.4 dwt/ton, total yield 19 oz  
 The Spring Gully Company's mine ... gave the profitable yield of 4,098 oz. of gold. This enabled the directors to distribute £8,400 in dividends. A shallow shaft near the north boundary of the lease was sunk during the year from 96 to 256 feet.  
 The average number of men employed by the company (not including wood carters and cutters and timber getters, who really should be counted) was 68, of whom 47 worked below ground.  
 The Spring Gully No. 1 Company, which adjoins the Spring Gully on the south, is the next largest contributor. This company's shaft is the deepest on the line, being now 625 feet deep, and I am pleased to report that the company has again commenced shaft sinking. This is the only shaft in Spring Gully equipped with pumping machinery. Thirty men, on the average, were employed on the mine during the year, of whom four only were employed on the surface.  
 The Spring Gully Junction Company, whose shaft is 485 feet deep. Twenty men, on the average, were employed, six of who worked on the surface. This mine is well equipped with winding and crushing machinery.  
 South Spring Gully Company's mine, as its name indicates, is situated to the south of the Spring Gully No. 1. Its shaft is 300 feet deep.  
 The deepest shaft on the line of reef is situated on the western side of Spring Gully. [36]
- 1905** Spring Gully Dredging Co.: 3 head battery [12: p. 44]  
 Spring Gully Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 82-3]
- 1905** Spring Gully Junction Co.: Shaft down 485 feet; winding and crushing machinery erected [12: p.98]
- 1905** Spring Gully No. 1 Co.: Pumping machinery erected on a shaft down 625 feet [12: p.98]
- 5 Feb 1906** The next mine south (from South Spring Gully) is South Extended Spring Gully. No plant has been erected, hauling by means of a windlass. [37]
- 24 Nov 1906** Meeting of all three Spring Gully mining companies to consider offer from English company - Spring Gully Co., Spring Gully No. 1, and South Spring Gully. [37]
- 1906** Spring Gully No. 1 - 1442 tons mined, average yield 4.8 dwt/ton, total yield 350 oz. - production to date: 8573 tons mined, total yield 2603 oz.  
 Spring Gully Mine - 7909 tons mined, average yield 6.8 dwt/ton, total yield 2672 oz. - production to date: 102030 tons mined, total yield 40733 oz.  
 Spring Gully Junction - 262 tons mined, average yield 7.2 dwt/ton, total yield 95 oz. - total yield to date: 6122 oz.  
 South Spring Gully - 382 tons mined, average yield 9.2 dwt/ton, total yield 176 oz. - production to date: 461 tons mined, total yield 190 oz.  
 The Spring Gully Company has during the year...equipp[ed] the north shaft with a steam winding plant. An average of 66 men have been employed, 21 on the surface, and 45 underground.  
 The Spring Gully Junction Company. An average of fifteen men has been employed during the year, five on the surface, and ten underground.  
 The Spring Gully No. 1 Company. An average of 23 men was employed of whom five only worked on the surface.  
 The South Spring Gully Company. An average of twelve men has been employed, of whom four were surface hands. [36]
- 1906** Spring Gully Dredging Co.: 3 head battery [12: p. 42]  
 Pumped sluicing plant operating. [12: pp. 94-5]
- 1907** Spring Gully Dredging Co. Pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 10 inch gravel pump, 120 horsepower noncondensing steam engine [12: pp. 114-5]
- 1907** Spring Gully No. 1 - 552 tons mined, average yield 3.0 dwt/ton, total yield 84 oz. - production to date: 9124 tons mined, total yield 2687 oz.  
 Spring Gully Mine - 6390 tons mined, average yield 4.3 dwt/ton, total yield 1381 oz. - production to date: 108420 tons mined, total yield 42114 oz.  
 Spring Gully Junction - 2032 tons mined, average yield 6.2 dwt/ton, total yield 635 oz. - total yield to date: 6757 oz.  
 South Spring Gully - 33 tons mined, average yield 4.4 dwt/ton, total yield 7 oz. - production to date: 494 tons mined, total yield 197 oz.  
 The Spring Gully Company... Fifty-four men have been employed, on an average, 40 below ground, and 14 on the surface. [36]

- 1908** Spring Gully No. 1 - 72 tons mined, average yield 2.4 dwt/ton, total yield 9 oz. - production to date: 9162 tons mined, total yield 2696 oz.  
Spring Gully Mine - 4889 tons mined, average yield 4.2 dwt/ton, total yield 1017 oz. - production to date: 113309 tons mined, total yield 43130 oz.  
Spring Gully Junction - 177 tons mined, average yield 2.5 dwt/ton, total yield 22 oz. - total yield to date: 6779 oz.  
The results from the Spring Gully group of mines have been very disappointing, and outside of this group, no work of any moment has been done... [36]
- 1908** Spring Gully Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]  
**March 1908** McDonald and Co./ McDonald's Reef Co.: 42 ton crushed, 9oz gold - A.G. McDonald, Chewton, Legal Manager [10]
- 1909** Spring Gully No. 1 - 1199 tons mined, average yield 5.5 dwt/ton, total yield 328 oz. - production to date: 10325 tons mined, total yield 3016 oz.  
Spring Gully Mine - 5878 tons mined, average yield 7.2 dwt/ton, total yield 2119 oz. - production to date: 119187 tons mined, total yield 45250 oz.  
Spring Gully Junction - total yield 40 oz. - total yield to date: 6819 oz. [36]
- 1909** Spring Gully Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 10 inch water pump, 12 inch gravel pump, 120 horsepower condensing steam engine [12: pp.106-7]
- June 1909** Spring Gully Dredging Co: 129oz gold [10]  
**June 1909** Spring Gully Junction Co: 34oz gold [10]  
**June 1909** Spring Gully No. 1 Co: 36 ton crushed, 4oz gold [10]  
**1910** Spring Gully No. 1 - 35 tons mined, average yield 7.2 dwt/ton, total yield 13 oz. - Spring Gully Mine - 6804 tons mined, average yield 6.0 dwt/ton, total yield 2055 oz. - production to date: 125991 tons mined, total yield 47305 oz.  
Spring Gully Junction - 925 tons mined, average yield 6.1 dwt/ton, total yield 284 oz. - total yield to date: 7102 oz.  
The Spring Gully Company has continued to crush stone... with barely payable results. I understand this company now proposes to connect its main shaft with a rise that it had put up from the 700-ft. level of the Spring Gully No. 1 Company's shaft.  
The Spring Gully Junction Company resumed work during the year by letting a portion of the mine to a party of tributers, who have not yet met with the success deserved. [36]
- March 1910** Spring Gully No. 1 Co: 35ton crushed, 3oz gold [10]  
**March 1910** Spring Gully Junction Co: 107 ton crushed, 29oz gold [10]  
**March 1910** Spring Gully Dredging Co: 66oz gold [10]  
**March 1910** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co: 1788 ton crushed, 785oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1910** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co: 1940 ton crushed, 521oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1910** Spring Gully Junction Co: 196 ton crushed, 69oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1910** Spring Gully No. 1 Co: 9oz gold [10]  
**1910** Spring Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 120 horsepower noncondensing steam engine. [12: pp.114-5]
- 1911** Spring Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.106-7]  
**1911** Spring Gully Mine - 3957 tons mined, average yield 5.5 dwt/ton, total yield 1097 oz. - production to date: 129948 tons mined, total yield 48377 oz.  
Hooper and Co. [tributers working Spring Gully Junction?] - 9 tons mined, average yield 21.2 dwt/ton, total yield 10 oz.  
The Spring Gully Junction Company closed down, and there does not seem to be any immediate prospects of its re-opening. [36]
- Sept 1911** Hooper and Co. [10]  
**Sept 1911** Spring Gully Dredging Co.: 17oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1911** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 543 ton crushed, 272oz gold [10]  
**1912** Spring Gully Mine - 1552 tons mined, average yield 4.6 dwt/ton, total yield 359 oz. - production to date: 131500 tons mined, total yield 48736 oz.  
Hooper and Co. - 17 tons mined, average yield 6.0 dwt/ton, total yield 5 oz. [36]
- 1913** Spring Gully Mine - 6082 tons mined, average yield 10.8 dwt/ton, total yield 3304 oz. - production to date: 137582 tons mined, total yield 52040 oz.  
Following on the success of the Spring Gully Company, the Spring Gully No. 1 and the South Spring Gully companies have resumed work...  
A syndicate known as the Spring Gully Freehold (situated a little to the north of the Spring Gully Company's mine) has opened up a well-defined reef... [36]
- 1913** McDonald and Co./ McDonald's Reef Co.: 4 head battery [12: p.37]  
**June 1913** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1220 ton crushed, 733oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1913** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 1763 ton crushed, 1630oz gold [10]  
**Dec 1913** Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 2141 ton crushed, 674oz gold [10]  
**1914** McDonald and Co./ McDonald's Reef Co.: Winding plant erected [12: p.93]  
**1915**  
**1914** Spring Gully Mine - 1537 tons mined, average yield 5.9 dwt/ton, total yield 459 oz. - production to date: 139119 tons mined, total yield 52449 oz.  
Hooper and Co. - 28 tons mined, average yield 16.5 dwt/ton, total yield 23 oz.

- South Spring Gully - 11 tons mined, average yield 2.2 dwt/ton, total yield 1 oz.  
 Spring Gully Syndicate - 114 tons mined, average yield 21.3 dwt/ton, total yield 122 oz -  
 production to date: 132 tons mined, total yield 138 oz. [36]
- Dec 1914**  
**1914**  
**1915**
- Spring Gully Syndicate: 49 ton crushed, 63oz gold [10]  
 Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: 40 head battery [12: p.35]  
 Spring Gully Mine - 412 tons mined, average yield 3.5 dwt/ton, total yield 73 oz. -  
 production to date: 140126 tons mined, total yield 52518 oz.  
 Spring Gully Syndicate - 90 tons mined, average yield 8.9 dwt/ton, total yield 40 oz. -  
 production to date: 222 tons mined, total yield 178 oz.  
 The Spring Gully Freehold Syndicate. A new shaft is now being sunk South of the  
 original shaft, to intersect the payable shoot of stone that has dipped in that direction.  
 [36]
- 1916**
- Spring Gully Syndicate - 705 tons mined, total yield 91 oz.  
 Fryerstown. - The Spring Gully Company is the only one working in this part.  
 Developmental work has been carried as far as the finances would allow - 750 feet of  
 ground being opened up and 805 tons treated, yielding 118 oz. of gold. Hooper and  
 party of two men, working under Mining Development Act, are prospecting a line of reef.  
 [36]
- 1917**  
**1917**
- Spring Gully Gold Mining Co.: Mine closed, plant and machinery sold [12: p.13]  
 Spring Gully Syndicate - 97 tons mined, total yield 21 oz.  
 The Spring Gully Quartz Company closed down early in the year, and sold off plant.  
 Hooper and party are driving on stone carrying a little gold. [36]
- 1918**
- Hooper and Co. - 30 tons mined, total yield 4 oz. - crushings at Govt. Battery, Chewton.  
 [36]
- 7 Feb 1939**
- At the general meeting of shareholders in Spring Gully Gold No Liability today, the  
 chairman of directors (Mr E.H. Williams) said...the mine had been closed for the past six  
 or eight months as the results were disappointing in the north shaft and Thompson's  
 lease, which was purchased last year. All the gold-bearing stone had been cut out and that  
 accounted for the present position. After a long delay they had got a report from the  
 Mines Department, but what was suggested was greatly beyond the finances of the  
 company... [80: p.180]
- Mar 1990**
- Sluicing in Spring Gully - My father and I worked there for several years [at Cornish  
 Town]. It was much as you see it today, but more ruins. It's much cleaner now. They have  
 taken away a lot of the remains of the old buildings, for stone...that's been done recently.  
 There were lots of remains, you could see a lot, but no one living there...all the old ones  
 had gone. There were a few graves out there, Dad showed me...when went out there in 1931  
 you could still see several mounds. I've been back recently and you cannot see them, too  
 much rubbish. It's all grown over. We worked there for a few years. [72]
- Mar 1990**
- Junction mine's dam. Turned of Eureka road and heading down hill towards Spring  
 Gully. Large dam on the north of the road used to belong to the Junction Mine. They used  
 the water to drive their battery. Verne Hooper enlarged it with a bulldozer.  
Spring Gully. The remains range from stone paddocks, stone walls, still lived in houses,  
 two church sites, one school, several mines, the old Coach road from Fryerstown to  
 Castlemaine and the ruins (now being re-built) of Hoskin's Emu Hotel and Store.  
Surviving stone paddock - quite different construction to large paddock that survives by  
 Dingo Farm. Here there is not the use of large stones, more like you see in Scotland, use  
 of thinner stones. On SE corner of this stone paddock is the site of Butcher William's  
 Spring Flat Hotel.  
Hydraulic sluicing. This stretch of the gully, opposite where several of the houses are  
 still lived in, was sluiced by Alf Cox ... he sluiced from Californian Gully down through  
 Spring Gully to near the Junction mine. The flat, now covered by blackberries was where  
 the Chinese camped. Last Chinese man to live there was named Tim. My brother and I  
 found him dead.  
Methodist Church. Heading from residence towards Junction mine. We stopped at the  
 site of the Methodist Church. Alf Cox used the site as a blacksmith's shop. Forge still  
 survives, surrounded by scraps of iron.  
re. Junction Mine. My grandfather was underground manager here. Remains identified  
 by Verne included stamp battery of ten heads, concrete floor for tables, winding engine,  
 boiler room, and air compressor. The shaft is open.  
Spring Gully Central - south of the Junction mine. Remains include one engine  
 mounting block and spread of bricks. Shaft was sunk to about 120ft. We re-worked this  
 shaft with an air-winch. Opposite the Spring Gully Central, on the east side of the gully  
 is the site of the Chinaman's shaft. Verne Hooper was involved in sinking a prospecting  
 shaft, which cut some of the cross-cuts from the old Chinese shaft. Also near the  
 Chinaman's shaft is Thompson's shaft, sunk after sluicing operations exposed a new reef.  
 Also on the east side are some house sites; and a brick forge used by Alf Cox when he  
 sluiced the gully and flat.

Hoskin's Emu Hotel & Store - remains are currently being renovated. Quite extensive array of out buildings, and at least on brick-lined beehive well.

Cribbes' Flat - located between the new Telecom cable route and Hoskins store, on the east side of old Coach Road from Fryerstown-Castlemaine is Cribbes' Flat. A big flat where football and cricket was played, then it was sluiced by Ford.

North Spring Gully - Located west of the Junction mine. Shaft has been filled, only a small section of mullock heap survives. Located on the east side of the Coach Road.

Spring Gully School - Opposite the North Spring Gully mine, on the west side of the old Coach Road, are the stone footings of the school. One brick-lined beehive well is visible on the north side of the ruins.

Puddling machine site - Located on the south side of the new Telecom route, approaching the Spring Gully mine, from the west. The slope above the remains of the puddling machine has been seen extensive ground sluicing ... some of the early workings.

Spring Gully mine - sequences

phase 1 (earliest working) - Emu Reef open cut.

phase 2 - after the open cut, the reef was followed through shaft sinking. Mullock from these shafts was dumped into southern end of open cut. Still observable in the southern end of the open cut. One shaft survives from this phase, the Emu shaft.

phase 3 - Spring Gully mine operating, second phase of mullock dumping.

phase 4 - Spring Gully mine re-opened in the 1930s and more mullock dumped in the open cut.

Description of Spring Gully ... the remains there today are much the same as when we re-

opened the mine. When we re-worked it, we didn't touch it. We put our plant on the southern side and didn't interfere with much of the old stuff. Wooden battery foundations, each one represents 5 head of stamps, all in all there were 40 to 50 head.

Quartz from Spring Gully No.1 and South Spring Gully was also crushed here in the old days. The reason the battery area has been excavated, for the recovery of lost amalgam and gold. Bin behind the stamps was for loading the stamps, shoots would feed quartz into the battery. You can still see the original blacksmith shop and forge.

When mine re-worked in the 1930's, Verne Hooper helped build the concrete engine mounting blocks that lie close to the shaft. The engine room had one big shaft over it, and contained link motion winding engine with a standing boiler; Cornish boiler; steam driven air compressor; generator for power; and a steam engine for driving generator. Operations went for 5 or 6 years. Further over, near the open cut was the store shed and office.

Spring Gully No. 1. To the south of Spring Gully, remains consist of engine mounting block, site of winding engine, boiler and ash pit. Closer to the shaft is an excavation, which once contained a Cornish draw-lift pump. We tried to work this mine, but we lost our pump down the shaft. We didn't work it, all the remains are pre-1930s.

South Spring Gully - mullock heap still survives, but little else. Situated on the south side of Murray's or Wiley Gully [48]

**22 March 1990**

Cornish Town. Coming from Vaughan, go through Fryerstown, cross the bridge and instead of following bitumen road when it turns to the east, go straight on along the dirt road. Along this road will be a gate, marking the start of Jimmy Cole's grazing paddocks. Go through the gate, cross Golden Gully and over the hill and then descend the eastern slope of Spring Gully. Stretching either side of the gully at this point was a settlement that George O. Brown [32] refers to as Cornish Town.

Until several years ago, there were several house sites and stone paddocks still standing. All but one house site, on the western slope of the gully, have been demolished for the stone.

All that survives on the eastern slope are some fruit trees, mainly quince; the odd mound of building stone and levelled building site; possible graveyard (there may be one grave visible); and the site of a store and hotel. According to George Brown [32], this large store and hotel was opened in the 1850's, built by William Malone. All that remains of this site is a mound of rubble.

Ground sluicing - the eastern slope has seen extensive ground sluicing. This was one of the earliest operations carried out in Spring Gully. The shedding of the reef was on the eastern side. That is why there are no alluvial workings on the western slope. This may well be original mid- to late-19th century workings.

Hydraulic sluicing - gully in NW corner of Cornish Town, taken out by George Brown and his father, Edward (1931 to 1939). That's why George knows the area so well. Also, Edward Brown may have been involved, in an earlier time, in sluicing Spring Gully through Cornish Town, going south.

Hydraulic sluicing - Spring Gully, at the northern end of Cornish Town, narrows considerably. From this neck to the site of the Spring Gully Junction mine, was sluiced by Bart Ford.

Murray's Gully - This small gully runs into the eastern side of Spring Gully. On the south of Murray's Gully is the site of the Spring Gully south mine, and to the north lies

Spring Gully No. 1 and Spring Gully mines. Murray's Gully was named after the Murray family who used to live in a large house situated SE of Spring Gully No1. Until recently, there were still substantial evidence existing of the Murray residence, including walls, stone paddocks and flowers. [46]

**April 1990**

Chinaman's Flat, Spring Gully

Track branches, the most southerly track goes to a modern house (a big green house) on east side of Spring Gully. Where modern house is now a family named Kompt used to live...still some old trees there. Later on, some people by the name of Thomas lived there. Now it has been taken over and the new people have built on the old site. Below this new house is Chinaman Flat. About 200 Chinese used to live here once. Land now claimed under adverse possession. On this flat, near two large gum trees and surrounded by blackberries, is where the last Chinese man lived. My brother and I found him dead in his hut. Nothing visible today...he lived in a stone house. NE of the site of the Chinese stone house is some stone footings - this was the site of a large stone house. There is also a beehive well here. Chap by the name of Sharp lived here. 20m NE of this house site, is a small pressure dam. [68]

**2.16**

**IRISH REEF**

**Mining Division  
Associated Fields/Reefs**

Fryer's Creek  
Spring Gully

**DATE**

**HISTORY**

**20 Oct 1863**

Mr Vincent - started sinking new shaft in order to intersect leaders supposed to run into main reef. [37]

**June 1864**

The proprietor of the Irish Reef has merged his interest into a public company, and I learn that the whole of the shares is taken up. His prospects in the mine are good, but the water was too strong to be kept under except by steam machinery. [10]

**1865**

Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865:  
Croesus Company. [10]

**1866**

Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
Croesus Company. [10]

**March 1889**

Irish Reef, Spring Gully. This reef is situated near the Spring Gully Reservoir, and was discovered by some Irishmen in 1855, who obtained 5ozs. per ton from their first crushing; the cartage cost £6 per ton. The reef was struck at 15 feet from the surface, 12 inches in thickness, and adjacent to rich alluvial workings. At this period, quartz was reduced by Chilian mills, worked by steam-power. Messrs. Browning and Williams worked on the same reef, also, in 1855, and obtained 56oz. from 7 tons, 16 feet in depth. Other parties worked the reef at the same time as above stated, and got payable gold, but no records can be found. A feeble effort was made during the year 1867 to organise a company and thoroughly test the ground at different levels, and a certain amount of work was accomplished, but in the course of twelve months or so the reef was abandoned, the prospects not being sufficiently encouraging; 39 tons were crushed for 16dwt. to the ton, 100 tons for 8dwt., and the last crushing 41/2dwt. to the ton; 30 to 130 feet in depth. No attempt has been made to re-work any portion of this reef during the past twenty years, although the original prospectors are still residing in the neighbourhood. [10]

**2.17**

**ABRAHAM'S GULLY**

**Mining Division  
Associated Fields/Reefs**

Fryer's Creek  
Spring Gully

**DATE**

**HISTORY**

**2.18**

**CHURCH'S FLAT**

**Mining Division**  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Fryer's Creek

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**DATE**

**26 Aug 1854**

**HISTORY**

A few scattered tents are still to be found in Choke'm Flat, and the adjoining gullies, but, owing to the great prevalence of water, the mining operations are impeded in the lower portions of the ground; but great hopes are entertained of this place; so soon as the dry weather sets in. Butchers' Hill and Gully are being reworked, but with only casual success - making a living, and no more. Church's Flat is now totally deserted, but, like Choke'm Flat, is held in reserve. [47: p. 4]

- 3 Nov 1854** Public Meeting at Fryer's Creek - Leasing or Letting 'Worked Out' Lands  
It having become known that an application has been forwarded by certain parties to Government, with a few to lease Church's Flat and Murdering Flat, a public meeting of the diggers residing in the locality, and of Fryer's Creek generally, was convened for Friday last... Accordingly, at the time appointed (5 pm), a numerous body of miners and others interested assembled in front of Mr Church's store, Church's Flat. [47: p.7]
- 2 March 1855** Williams and Co., Ginger Beer and Lemonade Manufacturers, Church's Flat, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.1]
- 15 June 1855** Church's store, on Church's Flat, was robbed a short time ago; 40s. in cash was all that was missed. [47: p.2]
- 22 June 1855** The Welcome - Mr Cornelius Henry Sullivan applied for a renewal of license for this house [see Sullivan's Hill].  
Mr Church, of Church's Flat, then advanced and alleged that he appeared on behalf of a large number of residents at Fryer's Creek, to complain of the disorderly manner in which applicant conducted his business. His house was the constant resort of bad characters, who kept the neighbourhood in a continual state of alarm, and by whom many robberies were perpetrated. Two or three times robberies had been committed about the house, and his (Mr C's) store was robbed only a few days ago by men whom he believed to have come out of the house.  
Mr Hackett - How long is it since you have been fined for sly-grog selling Mr Church?  
Mr Church - I have not been fined, but I was charged with it six or seven months ago. [47: p.3]
- 10 August 1855** Wanted, three young men, as assistants in a Store. Apply to Bergin Brothers, Church's Flat, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.2]
- 5 Oct 1855** Bergin Brothers, being about to go out of business..., have determined on disposing of their Stocks and Stores, situate on Nuggetty Hill, Church's Flat and Kangaroo Hill, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.1]
- 1 Feb 1856** Mr Church, of Church's Flat, [is] en route to England. [47: p.4]
- May 1859** [A] rush in the neighbourhood of Church's Flat, upon a surface hill, has afforded occupation to a considerable number of miners - some 200 Chinamen and a few Europeans. In this instance, a foot of dirt from the surface is washed, comprising 3 inches of black loamy soil, and 9 inches of drift, gravel, and stones, including occasionally large boulders. Pieces of gold, varying in size from 1/2 oz. to 2 oz. have been discovered, and not unfrequently. [10]
- June 1859** In Spring Gully & Church's Flat:  
71 puddling machines, operated by 270 non-Chinese and 139 Chinese  
170 non-Chinese and 231 Chinese involved in ordinary mining  
30 non-Chinese involved in quartz mining [10]
- March 1865** Mining population: 85 [10]
- Dec 1880** It can be safely affirmed that alluvial mining has not altogether died out in this division, as evidenced by the puddling returns from old workings, as Church's Flat and the Horse-shoe Bend maintain a fair average yield, giving good wages to a number of men employed. [10]
- Sept 1882** Arrangements are being made by Messrs. Hazlett and party for sluicing all the old workings between Specimen Hill and Church's Flat. A race has been surveyed and levelled for about four miles, following a contour at a very high elevation, with a fall of 8 feet in the mile. Small dams will be constructed at suitable places along the course. The Coliban water is to be used, and taken from the aqueduct a little above the Renaissance Company's works, Specimen Hill. It is not expected that a large supply of water will be available, nevertheless it is presumed that, by prudent economy, a considerable quantity can be stored in small reservoirs during the night and judiciously distributed during the day. It is well known that the old gullies were exceedingly rich during the early days, and that although the tub and cradle and puddling machine have done much towards clearing away the rich alluvial deposits, sufficient gold is still left to remunerate the sluicer, whose expenses will be but trifling, with a moderate supply of water at command. [10]
- Dec 1882** Messrs. Hazlett and party have made a fair start in sluicing the old shallow gullies and workings along the course of the new race from Specimen Hill. The race, which has been surveyed for about four miles, has been cut to the extent of about one mile... Other parties, residing at Vaughan and elsewhere, contemplate imitating the example of Messrs. Hazlett and party by making use of the waste water (Coliban), and sluicing the Bald Hill, New Year's Flat, &c., &c. The hills in the vicinity of Vaughan, Tarilta and Guildford continue to maintain a mining population, which has not materially decreased during the past year; their earnings, however (except in a few instances), have not exceeded from 30s. to 35s. per week per man. The Chinese miners are generally satisfied, if their earnings reach from 15s. to 20s. per week per man. [10]
- Sept 1889** A party of seven or eight Chinamen [is] working the old ground at the head of Spring Flat... There are two or three other parties doing moderately well in the neighbourhood of Church's Flat and New Year's Flat. [10]



- 1990** Crossing Forest Creek, on the N side of the road, is the site of T. Walder & Co Brewery and Store (now marked by one section of stone wall).  
Black Douglas, bushranger - past Forest Creek, on the S side of the road, is the site of a pub that Black Douglas held up. All you can see today are some stone footings and a depression. An old uncle of mine showed me this, my old uncle Jim, he showed me this. [72]
- March 1898** Otter and Party (sluicing): 10oz gold [10]  
**March 1898** Thomas and party: 6oz gold [10]  
**June 1898** Otter and Party (sluicing): 5oz gold [10]  
**June 1898** Thomas and party: 6oz gold [10]

**2.19** **HORSESHOE BEND/FLAT**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Murdering/Chokem/New Year's Flats

- | <b>DATE</b>         | <b>HISTORY</b>  |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>6 April 1855</b> | Choke'em Flat, Murdering Flat, and Horseshoe Flat have all been opened very lately, and have paid well. [47: p.2]   |
| <b>Dec 1876</b>     | Parties puddling or sluicing:<br>Ellis and Co., Horseshoe Bend<br>Parsons and Co., Horseshoe Bend [10]  |
| <b>Sept 1877</b>    | In the neighbourhood of Horseshoe Bend, the puddlers occasionally find some good patches, and are altogether doing very well. [10]  |
| <b>Dec 1877</b>     | Parsons and Co., of the Horseshoe Bend, are still working the old ground, with good results, 11 men being employed washing about 4 feet of drift and clay. They average about 7 oz. per week, which is equal to a little over 1/2 dwt. to the load. They have still a large quantity of auriferous ground to operate on, which will, no doubt, profitably employ the party for some years to come. [10] |
| <b>Dec 1880</b>     | It can be safely affirmed that alluvial mining has not altogether died out in this division, as evidenced by the puddling returns from old workings, as Church's Flat and the Horseshoe Bend still maintain a fair average yield, giving good wages to a number of men employed. [10]   |

**2.20** **MURDERING FLAT**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Chokem/New Year's Flats, Horseshoe Bend

- | <b>DATE</b>          | <b>HISTORY</b>  |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>3 Nov 1854</b>    | Public Meeting at Fryer's Creek - Leasing or Letting 'Worked Out' Lands. - It having become known that an application has been forwarded by certain parties to Government, with a few to lease Church's Flat and Murdering Flat, a public meeting of the diggers residing in the locality, was convened for Friday last. [47: p.7]    |
| <b>23 Feb 1855</b>   | To Bakers. For sale by private bargain, a Bakehouse and Baking Utensils. Enquire on the premises of Messrs Maltby and Smith, Murdering Flat, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.5]   |
| <b>16 March 1855</b> | Marshall and Eaves's Branch Store, Choke'em Flat, Fryer's Creek. Selling off at a great sacrifice, at the above store, the following articles - Drapery, Grocery, Ironmongery, Diggers' Tools, and General Stores. Also the Store and Butcher's Shop, and likewise the Store and Butcher's Shop on Murdering Flat. [47: p.5]          |
| <b>6 April 1855</b>  | Choke'em Flat, Murdering Flat, and Horseshoe Flat have all been opened very lately, and have paid well. [47: p.2]   |
| <b>14 Dec 1855</b>   | For Sale. A first-rate Quartz Stamping Machine, together with steam engine and amalgamator complete ... the stamping machine is warranted to crush and amalgamate at least four tons of raw quartz per day; the engine is ten-horse power. For further particulars apply to Mr Thomas Johns, Murdering Flat, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.3] |
| <b>June 1859</b>     | 28 pudding machines on Murdering & Chok'em Flats<br>50 non-Chinese and 45 Chinese puddlers in Murdering Flat & neighbourhood<br>200 non-Chinese and 105 Chinese ordinary miners in Murdering Flat & neighbourhood. [10]   |
| <b>March 1865</b>    | Mining population: 91. [10]   |

<b>March 1867</b>	Murdering, Chokem, and Deadman's Flat, and Fryerstown - The usual signs of contentment appear in these localities, and the returns sufficing to check any migratory propensities. The old ground is being continually re-worked - the puddlers' earnings ranging from £2 to £6 per week. [10]
<b>Sept 1878</b>	Messrs Parsons, Tonkins, and Co., of Murdering Flat ... averaged 1 dwt. to the load, and puddled 3,900 loads. [10]
<b>March 1880</b>	In puddling, Parsons, Tonkin, and Co., of Murdering Flat, continue to realise good returns, but the claim is becoming gradually worked out. [10]

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**2.21** **CHOK'EM FLAT**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Murdering/New Year's Flats, Horseshoe Bend

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>26 Aug 1854</b>	A few scattered tents are still to be found in Choke'm Flat, and the adjoining gullies, but, owing to the great prevalence of water, the mining operations are impeded in the lower portions of the ground; but great hopes are entertained of this place; so soon as the dry weather sets in. [47: p. 4]
<b>9 Feb 1855</b>	We have also been informed that a lump weighing 24 lbs, was found by a Chinaman on Tuesday last, in Choke'em Flat, some two hundred yards from the resting place of the nugget chronicled above. [47: p.5]
<b>23 Feb 1855</b>	On Monday last the Talbot Inn was opened at Choke'm Flat; several wrestling matches took place, and some hundreds of parties were present. [47: p.5]
<b>9 March 1855</b>	Puddling Machine For Sale - In complete working order, together with every requisite for conducting the same. There is a never failing supply of water... There are two excellent horses staunch in harness. Apply to Messrs Cambron and Sutherland, opposite Belling's Stores, below Choke'em Flat, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.5]
<b>16 March 1855</b>	Marshall and Eaves's Branch Store, Choke'em Flat, Fryer's Creek. Selling off at a great sacrifice, at the above store, the following articles - Drapery, Grocery, Ironmongery, Diggers' Tools, and General Stores. Also the Store and Butcher's Shop, and likewise the Store and Butcher's Shop on Murdering Flat. [47: p.5]
<b>30 March 1855</b>	Several pieces of old ground in the vicinity of Choke'em Flat and the Loddon are being re-worked, and the yield is remunerative. [47: p.3]
<b>13 April 1855</b>	For Sale, a Horse Puddling Machine, with Tom and Pump; also Two Horses, with Dray and Harness. To be sold together, or separate. Apply at the last Machine in Chok'em Flat, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.1]
<b>22 June 1855</b>	The business of the Licensing Bench [heard] the applications from the Fryer's Creek district. Talbot, William Belling... These applications for renewal were granted. [47: p.3]
<b>25 Jan 1856</b>	The old ground in the neighbourhood of the Junction, on New Year's and Choke'em Flats, is still occupied by a large number of miners. [47: p.2]
<b>June 1859</b>	28 puddling machines on Murdering & Chok'em Flats 70 non-Chinese puddlers on Chok'em and New Year's Flats 19 Chinese puddlers on Chok'em Flat 50 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining on Chok'em & New Year's Flats 111 Chinese engaged in ordinary mining on Chok'em Flat [10]
<b>March 1867</b>	Murdering, Chokem, and Deadman's Flat, and Fryerstown - The usual signs of contentment appear in these localities, and the returns sufficing to check any migratory propensities. The old ground is being continually re-worked - the puddlers' earnings ranging from £2 to £6 per week. [10]
<b>Dec 1880</b>	Chokem and New Year's Flats continue to give fair returns to the various puddling machines engaged. [10]

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**2.22** **RED HILL**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Chokem Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>22 June 1855</b>	Since last week, there has been a slight rush to the old Red Hill, opposite Sullivan's Welcome Inn. A number of diggers are at work, and are reported to be doing well.

**June 1859**

Although the hill was partially worked out some two or three years ago, it appears there is still plenty of gold left. [47: p.2]  
20 puddling machines in Red Hill & neighbourhood, operated by 90 non-Chinese  
110 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining in Red Hill and neighbourhood [10]

- June 1869** The Red Hill Company hold about 1,200 feet along supposed line of reef, south of the No Surrender Company [Windlass Flat]. This company consists at present of thirty shareholders, who contribute weekly to the prospecting of the ground held by them. A shaft of dimensions above the ordinary prospecting was commenced sinking a fortnight back upon the Red Hill, and is now down 22 feet, being well timbered. It may be worthy remark, that of the No Surrender and Red Hill Companies, the greater number of shares are held by tradesmen and working men in the immediate locality, many of whom were not known previously to evince an interest and faith in the quartz mines of the neighbourhood. [10]
- March 1874** A company are erecting a water-wheel at the foot of the Red Hill, Chokem Flat, to drive a small battery to reduce the cement upon that hill and the Welsh Mount; they contemplate obtaining water from Fryers Creek in the winter months generally, and from the River Loddon and Tributaries Company when the creek fails them. [10]
- June 1874** Water Power for Crushing Cement. - Messrs. Broad and Company have recently erected a 20-foot overshot water-wheel. They are using four heads of water from the Loddon Company, and driving 10 heads of stamps, thus re-working a block of ground, which would otherwise be considered useless. They are crushing cement taken from the Old Red Hill, Chokem Flat (famed in the early days for its rich alluvial deposits). [10]

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**2.23** **NEW YEAR'S FLAT**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Chokem Flat

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- | <b>DATE</b>          | <b>HISTORY</b>   |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>9 Feb 1855</b>    | A most beautiful nugget weighing 22 lbs 5 oz ... was obtained last Friday by a party of five at New Year's Flat, Butcher's Gully, Fryer's Creek. The Bank of New South Wales has since purchased it for the sum of £1,000. The specimen is a solid lump of gold about nine inches in length, five inches in width, and three inches in thickness at the broadest part. It contains not one particle of quartz. [47: p.5]   |
| <b>30 Nov 1855</b>   | The new rush at New Year's Flat is turning out well, the old ground from the flat to the junction being very remunerative. [47: p.2]   |
| <b>22 Feb 1856</b>   | New Year's Flat continues to bear well. [47: p.4]  |
| <b>21 March 1856</b> | The diggings in New Year's Flat and Spring Flat and Gully maintain a large population. [47: p.5]   |
| <b>June 1859</b>     | 10 puddling machines in New Year's Flat & Vaughan<br>70 non-Chinese puddlers working Chok'em & New Year's Flats<br>28 Chinese puddlers working New Year's Flat<br>50 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining on Chok'em & New Year's Flats<br>282 Chinese engaged in ordinary mining on New Year's Flat [10]  |
| <b>March 1865</b>    | Mining population of New Year's Flat and Bald Hill: 218 [10]   |
| <b>March 1866</b>    | In quartz mining there has been considerable briskness; quite a new feature has presented itself in this branch of industry; Chinese are, for the first time in this locality, engaged in quartz mining. A Chinaman at New Year's Flat, named Ti Pang, uncovered a strong lode while working the alluvial soil; gold being visible in small quantities, the Chinaman immediately secured a quartz claim, and a trial crushing has yielded 1 oz. 16 dwts. to four tons of stone. There are ten Chinese working in this and the adjoining claims on the reef. I fear, however that their efforts will be useless, from their want of experience in working quartz rock. [10] |
| <b>1866</b>          | Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:<br>Ti Pang. [10]   |
| <b>Dec 1876</b>      | Parties puddling or sluicing:<br>Riddle and Co., New Year's Flat<br>Brewer and Co., New Year's Flat<br>Stephens and Co., New Year's Flat<br>Williams and Co., New Year's Flat<br>Trethewey and Co., New Year's Flat [10]   |
| <b>Dec 1879</b>      | There is now some likelihood of Middleton's Reef, Vaughan, being taken up and re-worked, also an old line of reef intersecting New Year's Flat. Mr Edhouse, lately a resident of the Bald Hill, Vaughan, is about introducing capital into the district, having great faith in the auriferous character of certain special localities. [10]  |
| <b>Dec 1880</b>      | Chokem and New Year's Flats continue to give fair returns to the various puddling machines engaged. [10]   |



1990

Daphne water race

It is not known when the Daphne water race was constructed. It may initially have supplied water for domestic purposes to the township of Specimen Hill, and only later have been used to convey water to the Daphne mine in the period from 1872 to 1875. Daphne water race - commencing on the east side of Specimen Gully and west of Fryers Road, running in a generally southerly direction, and terminating near the Daphne shaft Daphne water race – entrance - 55HBU558896. [50]

2.26

**LONG GULLY****Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Cemetery Reef, Specimen Hill

**DATE****HISTORY****20 Nov 1871**

Long Gully - Excelsior Co. [working Cemetery Reef] - will cut west near end of tunnel on hanging wall. [37]

**1872**

Interest in re-working the area occurred in 1872 as the result of the construction of the Poverty Gully water race. Originally it had been intended to construct a tunnel between White Horse Gully and one of the northern branches of Long Gully, and to bring the water around the southern and western slopes of Specimen Hill... But the revival of mining at Specimen Hill by the Thyra Company at this time seems to have brought about a change of plan so that the water was trained around the northern edge of the hill instead. Obermann and Company commenced sluicing in 1872 and in a little more than a year they, and the Bismark Company which succeeded them, treated some 13,000 tons of wash for 237 ounces of gold at a yield comparable to that obtained on the more extensive deposits of Golden Gully and Spring Gully. The northernmost section of the lower end of the eastern branch of Long Gully was probably sluiced at this time and this undoubtedly removed any traces of the earlier diggings in that area. This operation ceased in June 1873 and left the earlier...workings southwards across the gully undisturbed. [50: p.23]

**1 Feb 1872**

Long Gully...tunnel stopped and Ree's shaft being put down 40 ft. [37]

2.27

**UNITED REEF****Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Lost/Two Foot Gully, Blacksmith's Gully

**DATE****HISTORY****15 Jan 1872**

Royal Prince Co. [see Prince of Wales Reef] - In No. 2 shaft a very promising reef. [37]

**1872**

Ground taken up by the Royal Prince and Princess companies. [52]

**1880s**

By March 1883 Hazlett and party had constructed their water race into Blacksmith's Gully from Specimen Hill and were vigorously sluicing the various gullies. [50: p.59]

**1903**

In 1903 two parties - William Quick and Sons and the Thomson brothers - worked a rich shoot of stone with a windlass and whip to a depth of 100 ft and gained 1197 ounces of gold from 250 tons of stone for a yield of 4 ounces 16 dwt per ton. The shoot was subsequently lost on a west-dipping fault and the ground was abandoned. [50: p.59]

**25 Feb 1937**

Central Wattle Gully Co - prospectus issued - to acquire leases numbered 8619 and 8675. On 8619 there are two small shafts sunk by the prospectors to a depth of 25 feet; small parcels from one of the shafts yielded up to 15 dwt per ton. On 8675, 500 feet from the northern boundary a rich shoot worked by a syndicate down to the water level at 70 feet and then abandoned; using a windlass and whip. [56]

**12 March 1937**

Wattle Gully United Company - company formed to acquire Lease No. 8151 from John Duffy whose syndicate followed the fault found earlier by Thomson and Quick down to 140-ft. [60]

**30 March 1937**

Central Wattle Gully Company - work started on cutting a roadway and clearing site for plant and machinery. [56]

**27 April 1937**

Wattle Gully United Co. - 3-compartment shaft, 10 ft by 4 ft, sunk to 221 feet using a windlass, on the site of the former prospecting shaft. [60]

**31 Aug 1937** Central Wattle Gully Co. - serviceable surface equipment purchased and erected, consisting of: high-pressure boiler, 10-inch winch and air compressor. Plant, machinery and buildings valued at £1854. [56]  
**Sept 1937** Wattle Gully United company - contract completed for the removal and re-erection of machinery and plant at the mine. [60]  
**28 Feb 1938** Central Wattle Gully Co. - shaft sunk to 206 feet mainly in east-dipping beds of sandstone and slate. Two new winding ropes installed. Plant, machinery and buildings valued at £2072. [56]  
**31 Aug 1938** Central Wattle Gully Co - development work to date has not found any gold bearing formation diamond drilling for better prospects at the 193-ft level. Plant machinery and buildings valued at £2092. [56]  
**Nov 1939** Central Wattle Gully Co - company wound up. [56]  
**1946** Wattle Gully United Co - 61 ounces of gold produced. [52]  
**1948** Wattle Gully United Co - mine closed - heavy water encountered in fault - some mineralised quartz. [60]

**2.28** **JOE'S GULLY**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Spring Gully

**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**1990** Travelling down dirt track to Spring Gully. This track follows the south side of Joe's Gully - The first dam encountered was put there by Alf Cox...when he was sluicing in Spring Gully. This was his pressure dam, this is where he got his water from. It was fed by a race he used to bring the water in from the Coliban race right around the hills, and from here he would take it to Spring Gully.  
 Next dam along the track (W) is Joe Thompson's. Joe put this in as a stock dam. Below the stock dam, just before the track branches - the site of a battery. I can remember the time the chimney stack was knocked down. It was about 35 feet high, all brick. I think it was square. On the opposite side of the road, in Jimmy Cole's property is a house site...where Alf Cox used to have a house [ all that remains are some footings, scatter of bricks and galvanised iron] [68]

**2.29** **SPECIMEN GULLY**

**Mining Division** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

**DATE** **HISTORY**

**2.30** **BINDON REEF**

**Mining Division** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

**DATE** **HISTORY**

**2.31** **CHAPEL HILL & CHAPEL HILL REEF**

**Mining Division** Fryers Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Murdering Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>21 Dec 1855</b>	Talbot Inn, Chapel Hill, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.2]
<b>July 1859</b>	The Chapel Hill Quartz Mining and Crushing Company - This company has been formed by storekeepers and others for the purpose of working the Chapel-hill Reef, which has been abandoned for some considerable time. The company is at the present making arrangements for a steam engine and crushing apparatus. [10]
<b>July 1860</b>	Chapel Hill Company - This has failed, as any intelligent miner might have predicted. They started to work a series of leaders, without searching for the main lode (if there is one in the vicinity) [10]
<b>August 1860</b>	The Chapel Hill Company is about to be re-organised, under the name of Excelsior. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	The Chapel Hill Company's engine, of 20 horse-power, is ... the property of working men, and is being removed to Vaughan ... for crushing cement. [10]
<b>March 1861</b>	On the Sebastopol Reef [Castlemaine division] the claimholders have wisely combined for the purpose of erecting steam machinery for draining, having purchased, and are now erecting the engine and pumping apparatus formerly belonging to the Chapel Hill Company, Fryer's Creek division. [10]
<b>March 1868</b>	This reef ... [Chapel Hill Reef] ... was worked by a public company some years ago, and furnished satisfactory returns for a space of two or three months, the quartz having been excavated to an average depth of 20 feet. The company sunk a shaft to water level, but never properly tested the quality of the lode. The ground is now occupied by a private company, who are raising quartz from the water level and otherwise exploring the mine. [10]
<b>June 1871</b>	The Chapel Hill Reef, the Adelaide Reef, Frenchman's, Mopoke, and the Bristol Reef are now again held by parties who evidently desire soon to prove their value. [10]
<b>Sept 1872</b>	McDonald and Wilson, German Gully, at a depth of 25 feet, have averaged over 2 oz. per ton; this lease is situate about 4 chains west of the Eagle or Tarr's line, and about 50 chains south; generally supposed to be a continuation of the old Chapel Hill Reef. [10]
<b>June 1873</b>	It is contemplated by a company who now hold the Old Chapel Hill ground to provide for the erection of a crushing plant for public purposes in connection with their mine - a more central position could not be proposed, seeing the excellent returns from Wilson and McDonald's, the Eagle, and those of the Little Nugget, near New London, all of whom cart to, and crush at, Small's, in Fryerstown; cartage costs therefrom 4s. per ton, hence it is obvious that a great impetus would be given to quartz mining by the erection of the plant purposed. [10]
<b>March 1881</b>	Chapel Hill Company. A new company has been formed for working the reef, which proved moderately remunerative some years ago; the main shaft has been cleaned out and timbered, and the old workings properly drained. [10]
<b>March 1882</b>	McDonald and party, German Gully. The reef which they are working is presumed to be on the same line as the reef at Chapel Hill, where a company has recently been started. [10]
<b>June 1882</b>	Chapel Hill Company will soon be in a position to crush their own quartz, having recently purchased a plant, which is about to be removed and re-erected on their own ground. [10]
<b>Sept 1883</b>	Chapel Hill Gold Mining Company. - Now that the company have succeeded in securing a valuable plant, comprising two steam engines and crushing machine, and all fixed in most convenient position, it is found that the supply of auriferous quartz for the battery is exceedingly limited. [10]
<b>March 1889</b>	Chapel Hill Company. - The Chapel Hill reef was first opened out by a public company in 1860, and the quartz taken from an open cutting, 738 tons averaging 8dwt. to the ton from a large body of quartz. Prior to 1860, several private parties worked near the surface, the yield of gold averaging 1oz. to the ton. The bearing of the reef is N. 19° 44' W. The reef has been worked continuously 250 feet in length to a depth of 86 feet. The yields from various depths are as follows: surface to 100 feet, 173oz.; to 200 feet, 6oz.; 1,300 tons average 3dwt to the ton. The reef is still in work, but not proving remunerative. [10]
<b>Dec 1889</b>	The New Era, Chapel Hill, and Fryer's Creek G.M. Companies have had a long struggling career, and it is not from any simple reasons that they have been reluctantly compelled to stop work, and in some cases to sell and remove their plant. [10]
<b>March 1898</b>	Chapel Hill Co.: 30 ton crushed, 4oz gold. [10]
<b>March 1898</b>	Chapel Hill Extended Co: 7 ton crushed, 2dwt gold [10]
<b>June 1898</b>	Chapel Hill North Co.: 45 ton crushed, 30oz gold [10]

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2.32

**ROCKY GULLY**

Mining Division

Fryers Creek



**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE**  
**1990****HISTORY**

Rocky Gully - Cox sluiced up Rocky Gully a bit, then Jimmy Miller took over and worked the gully further up. These two men were continually competing for the best sluicing ground. There are lots of stone retaining walls associated with the sluicing. Road along the S side of Rocky Gully - this is a real early one. There is also a tunnel on the N side of the gully. It is opposite some quartz outcropping visible from the road. This was an early time mine...it was never worked in the depression years. When they came through with the sluicing dredge this area had lots of mullock. The mullock was all sluiced off ... they washed the gold off it. Perhaps the road was put in to cart quartz from the mine to a battery elsewhere. There are a couple of house site (stone fireplaces) associated with the workings. Jim Goodfellow used to live in one of the houses in the depression years.

Re. quartz outcropping - some of the fellows worked down on the side of the reef ... it had a casing on the side of the reef and they stripped it off and crushed that.

Continuing on past the quartz outcropping. Lots of stone retaining walls ... this was done in the early days, long before the sluicing dredges came.

Spring Gully Reservoir, stone by-wash still visible.

Going up Rocky Gully [Rocky Gully forms the lower part of the Gully which when it branches becomes Blacksmith's Gully and Two Foot Gully. A well-made water race runs up the S side of the gully, this would have conveyed water to Spring Gully from the Spring Gully Reservoir. [68]

**ZONE 3: VAUGHAN/LOWER LODDON****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>3.1</b> Vaughan	<b>3.2</b> Hit-or-Miss Reef	<b>3.3</b> Bald Hill
<b>3.4</b> Sailor's Hill	<b>3.5</b> Butcher's Hill	<b>3.6</b> Kangaroo or Hard Hill/ Kangaroo Creek & Kangaroo/Boddy's Reef
<b>3.7</b> Ballarat/Jackson's Hill	<b>3.8</b> Scotch Point/Gully	<b>3.9</b> Table Hill
<b>3.10</b> Tarilta	<b>3.11</b> Oven Gully	<b>3.12</b> Butcher's Gully
<b>3.13</b> Sailor's Gully	<b>3.14</b> Liverpool/Greenwood's Reef	<b>3.15</b> Middleton Creek
Sebastopol Gully/ Sebastopol Reef	<b>3.17</b> Adelaide Reef	<b>3.18</b> Holcombe
<b>3.19</b> Green Gully	<b>3.20</b> Glenluce	<b>3.21</b> Heron's Hill
<b>3.22</b> Rae's Hill	<b>3.23</b> Smyth's Hill	<b>3.24</b> Kitto's Hill
<b>3.25</b> Verdon's Hill	<b>3.26</b> Buscombe's Hill	<b>3.27</b> Stone's Gully
<b>3.28</b> Italian's Hill	<b>3.29</b> Patten's Reef	<b>3.30</b> Salter's Creek
<b>3.31</b> Shicer's Hill/Gully		

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**3.1****VAUGHAN**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****HISTORY****3 Nov 1854**

Loddon Junction [Vaughan] - The appearance of things at the junction of Fryer's Creek and the Loddon is not greatly changed from what has been for the last few months. This may be stated as holding true for about two miles up or down the stream in the immediate vicinity of the junction, we have it upon the authority of an intelligent and able miner who has been nearly two years on the spot, there are not more than one hundred men at work; but the greater part of these are considered to be doing very well in a quiet way. [47: p.8]

**23 March 1855**

Wanted, a Second-hand Baker. Apply to Richard Youldon, at the Junction of Fryer's Creek and the Loddon. [47: p.1]

**13 April 1855**

The Bald Hill and the workings in the vicinity of the Loddon are yielding richly, and from the appearance of the habitations, a large and fixed population will remain there during the winter. [47: p.2]

**22 June 1855**

The business of the Licensing Bench [heard] the applications from the Fryer's Creek district... The Union - This house, a new one, is situated at the Junction. Application for a license, by Bond, was granted, the Bench expressing their high approval of the manner in which the establishment had been fitted up.

The Junction - This hotel is situated immediately opposite the Union. Applicant Ellis.

Mr Hackett said the building was chiefly of calico, and there was no other floor than the bare earth. In fact, it was only a tent, with calico partitions. When this license was granted twelve months ago, there was a much larger population round it than now, and some regular house was required in order to stop the illicit trade that was being carried on. The landlord had done nothing to improve his premises or to make them more convenient to the public. The application must be refused.

Mr Paynter asked for an adjournment for a fortnight, in order that the applicant might be able to make improvements. He intended putting up a wooden building. [47: p.3]

**17 Aug 1855**

At the Junction a substantial bridge for foot passengers and equestrians has been erected by Messrs. Bond, Brothers, but all vehicles have to be driven through the current, which is here 30 feet wide. [47: p.2]

**28 Sept 1855**

The foot bridge over the Loddon, which Messrs Bond Brothers, had erected at their own expense, has been swept away by the recent floods, and it is proposed to put a cart bridge on the same spot, by subscription among the inhabitants... There is a day school, well attended. A sergeant and four policemen very well behaved. [47: p.2]

**19 Oct 1855**

Opening of New Concert Room, Union Hotel, Junction of Fryer's Creek and the Loddon. [47: p.3]

- 2 Nov 1855** We leave Kangaroo, and journey over the steep and rugged hills, reach the river Loddon...and then arrive at the Junction. What a marvellous change has Kangaroo effected in this spot! It has always been a kind of little sequestered hamlet, but now it has the appearance of a busy little town, with its hotels, and ball and concert rooms unequalled in size on the Mount Alexander diggings, and erected at great expense by Messrs Bond Brothers, and other substantial buildings. [47: p.2]
- 16 Nov 1855** In the neighbourhood of the Junction and the Bald Hill; the prevalent opinion is that the flats which were hastily opened some three years ago will now undergo a proper and profitable system of working. [47: p.2]
- 16 Nov 1855** On Sunday last, a neat little weatherboard chapel was opened at the junction of Fryer's Creek and the Loddon, near the Kangaroo diggings. [47: p.3]
- 23 Nov 1855** An inquest was held at Kangaroo on Thursday, the 15th instant, on the body of Joseph Vaughan, who had been killed on the previous day by the breaking of a windlass... The deceased is a native of Flintshire, and a single man. He appears to have been highly respected. A subscription to defray his funeral expenses was so liberally filled up, that a considerable surplus appeared, and it was resolved [to] place a substantial rail Fencing round his grave... [47: p.3]
- 30 Nov 1855** The neighbourhood of the Junction exhibits signs of improvement. Many additional tents have lately been put up. A large number of Chinese are at work in the flat under the Bald Hill. [47: p.2]
- 28 Dec 1855** A great number of diggers have taken up their summer residence at the Loddon Junction, from the proximity of water, and are working on the neighbouring banks and flats, and many of the storekeepers having followed them, the place has assumed a very busy aspect. [47: p.2]
- 1 Feb 1856** The surveyors have been very busy at work on the Bald Hill and Junction of the Loddon, surveying the ground, which will soon be sold. The position of the Junction is very good in every point; but the land itself is very awkwardly situated, being nearly all worked out on a narrow frontage, and high hills behind. [47: p.4]
- 8 Feb 1856** On the 5th and 6th proximo the following lots of Crown lands will be sold at Castlemaine: 31 [lots] in the hamlet of Glenluce, and 19 in the hamlet of Vaughan. [47: p. 4]
- 22 Feb 1856** Sale of Crown Lands - Hamlet of Vaughan... upset price £8 per acre. [47: p.8]
- June 1859** 10 puddling machines in New Year's Flat & Vaughan  
80 Chinese engaged in ordinary mining at Vaughan  
30 Chinese sluicing at Vaughan [10]
- June 1859** A party of five (Englishmen) has a claim on the banks of the Loddon, at the junction of Fryer's Creek, equal to an area to half an acre, which they work by paddocking. After sinking through about 11 feet of black loamy soil, there is a stratum of red gravel and stones, intermixed with small quartz pebbles, and extending to the bottom (black slate); the whole of this (8 feet) is washed through sluices, the yield varying from 1/2 oz. to 1 1/2 oz. to the load. One man can wash seven loads per day. The party has averaged £16 per man per week for some time. A party of 18 (the majority being Chinese) in an adjoining claim have also 8 feet of washdirt of the same gravelly nature. This is yielding on an average 11 dwt. to the load, and the gold is pretty evenly distributed through the dirt. The ground is very wet but with simple mechanical appliances is not difficult to work. [10]
- July 1860** Tunnelling - The basaltic hills around the Loddon, near the hamlets of Vaughan, Kangaroo, and Pennyweight, are the favourite localities for tunnelling. [10]
- Nov 1860** The Chapel Hill Company's engine, of 20 horse-power, is...the property of working men, and is being removed to Vaughan...for crushing cement. [10]
- Dec 1860** The Junction Crushing Company (Private) consists of a party of ten; they have nearly finished the erection of the engine purchased of the Chapel Hill Mining Company. [10]
- Feb 1861** The Vaughan Crushing Company...has been christened the Perseverance. [10]
- April 1861** The Perseverance Company has completed the erection of a six horse-power steam engine, which is engaged in pumping only. This company has had a good prospect from the bottom of a small paddock. [10]
- April 1861** The (Vaughan) Perseverance Company is busily engaged in crushing for the public... [10]
- May 1861** The Perseverance Company are busily at work, and are making fair returns; their wash-dirt averages 7 dwt. to the load. Their engine, only an 8 horse-power, is sufficiently large for the purposes of draining and winding. [10]
- Oct 1861** Cement mining is a large interest in this division, especially around Kangaroo and Vaughan. No less than five steam engines, having an aggregate of 92 horse-power, are engaged in crushing cement in these localities. [10]
- Dec 1861** The Perseverance Company (Vaughan) is making considerably more than wages. [10]
- Sept 1864** Messrs. Fairbairns and Company's new plant, in Wattle Gully, is not completed, being delayed while sinking the engine shaft. The Perseverance and Victoria machines and plant have changed hands, and will be used for crushing from the Bolivia and Wattle Gully Reefs. [10]

<b>March 1865</b>	Mining population of Vaughan &c.: 407 [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Thomas and Company [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1868: Thomas and Company [10]
<b>Sept 1872</b>	The Perseverance Company is working at a depth of 235 feet at their engine-shaft. From their paddock shaft a large reef has been cut, and splendid prospects obtained; this is at a depth of 185 feet, and is expected by the company to yield an ounce per ton. [10]
<b>Sept 1877</b>	At Tarilta and Vaughan there are a few alluvial claims which have recently paid very well for working, and are likely to prove remunerative for some time to come. [10]
<b>Dec 1878</b>	The Vaughan district still continues to support its usual population, but mining progress is very slow in that neighbourhood. [10]
<b>Dec 1882</b>	...the hills in the vicinity of Vaughan, Tarilta and Guildford continue to maintain a mining population, which has not materially decreased during the past year; their earnings, however (except in a few instances), have not exceeded from 30s. to 35s. per week per man. The Chinese miners are generally satisfied, if their earnings reach from 15s. to 20s. per week per man. [10]
<b>Dec 1883</b>	The basaltic hills about Vaughan still maintain a fair number of miners, who, having been settled in the locality for many years, and become possessed of comfortable homes, are content with moderate returns for their labour. [10]
<b>March 1889</b>	At the present time the Vaughan district has reached a very low ebb with regard to mining, but, as a counterpoise, it may be stated many of the old residents are comparatively independent, with their prolific gardens and small selections under the Land Act... [10]
<b>1904</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: p.52]
<b>1905</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp. 80-81]
<b>1906</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp. 90-91]
<b>1907</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating: 4 cubic foot buckets, 13.5 buckets per minute, 25 horsepower steam engine. [12: pp. 110-11]
<b>1908</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating: 13 buckets per minute, 20 horsepower steam engine. [12: pp. 96-7]
<b>1909</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating: 32 horsepower steam engine [12: pp. 104-5]
<b>June 1909</b>	Greenwell and Co.: 227oz gold [10]
<b>1910</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp. 96-7]
<b>March 1910</b>	Greenwell and Co: 75oz gold [10]
<b>March 1910</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: 275oz. gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: 269oz gold [10]
<b>1911</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp. 104-5]
<b>Sept 1911</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: 233 oz gold [10]
<b>1912</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp. 82-3]
<b>1913</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp. 78-9]
<b>June 1913</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: 270oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1913</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: 262 oz gold [10]
<b>Dec 1913</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: 375 oz. gold [10]
<b>1914</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp. 72-3]
<b>Dec 1914</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: 92 oz gold [10]
<b>1915</b>	Vaughan Bucket Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge operating: 4.5 cubic foot buckets [12: pp. 32-3]

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**3.2**
**HIT-OR-MISS REEF**


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<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Vaughan

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1865</b>	A very rich leader of quartz has been struck...at Hit-or-Miss Gully, near Vaughan, and some splendid specimens of gold, in lumps from 1 dwt. to several ounces, turned out. [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Hender and Company. [10]
<b>Sept 1868</b>	This reef is taken up by prospectors, and as it had only been tested to a depth of some 10 or 12 feet, and the yield was extraordinarily good, it is very probable that a well-defined and payable reef exist at a greater depth. [10]

<b>June 1869</b>	Hit-or-Miss Reef, Vaughan. Scobell and Company (the working representatives of a company of twenty-four shareholders) have been for some time prospecting this reef (near Vaughan cemetery). They have had two crushings; the first of which was payable, the second not so. They are still prospecting. Nearly all the shareholders in this company are miners at Eldorado, near Beechworth. [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	Garnet and Hender. Upon the line of the Hit-or-Miss Reef, about 10 chains to the north of the old workings of Hender's Company, which yielded so well from surface leader a few years back, have obtained 1 oz. to the ton. This has led to the ground adjacent thereto being taken up under the Gold Mining Leases Regulations, and there is now every probability of this hitherto neglected line of reef being properly prospected and attention drawn to a locality which has already become noted for its rich alluvial deposits, and extending south for many miles. [10]
<b>Dec 1873</b>	In ordinary alluvial mining two men at Hit-or-Miss Gully, near Vaughan, obtained 50 oz. in three weeks, in 4 feet sinking... [10]
<b>March 1889</b>	Hit or Miss Reef, Vaughan. - This reef has attracted little or no attention during the past twenty years; the ground, however, has been fairly prospected at different periods, and gold invariably found in the quartz leaders, but seldom of a payable character. The strike of the reef is N. 18°W. The reef has been worked in length 800 feet, and depth 100 feet, in separate shoots. The yields are recorded as follows: Surface to 50 feet, 69oz. to 100 feet, 236oz.; to 150 feet, 2oz.; 454 tons average 131/2dwt. to the ton. The reef is not abandoned. [10]
<b>30 June 1907</b>	For the quarter ending 30th June 1907, 5 tons for 2 oz. 8 dwt. are recorded. [81: p.531]
<b>9 Dec 1935</b>	The Golden Sunrise mining company holds a lease on what was formerly known as the Hit or Miss line of reef, situated about 30 chains north from the Loddon River bridge at Vaughan. The workings consist of a main two-compartment shaft, sunk to 100 feet, from the bottom of which 500 feet, or more, of driving and crosscutting has been carried out. Connection has also been effected with Everett's stopes. The Golden Sunrise mining company has erected a fine milling and suitable haulage plant capable of economically handling and treating the ore. The successful future of the mine from a company's point is, in my opinion, somewhat doubtful. [81: pp. 529-30]
<b>1990</b>	Golden Sunrise Mine in Hit-or-Miss Gully. You can still see the shaft, the rest has been bulldozed. [71]

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**3.3****BALD HILL**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****HISTORY**

<b>13 May 1854</b>	Bald Hill, Fryer's Creek - A rush has recently taken place in this locality, and the reports of success have been of an exceedingly favourable nature. The spot is situated at the junction of Fryer's Creek with the Loddon, and it is no doubt only one of the numerous auriferous tracts in this district. No instances of extraordinary success have as yet come to our knowledge, but the great numbers employed there seem to indicate that there is success of the most satisfactory kind, that is, the diffusion of average gains amongst the multitude. [47: p.3]
<b>27 May 1854</b>	Fryer's Creek. Many of the people that were working on the Bald Hill have left in consequence of the great expense attending the sinking. If the Hill had not turned out pretty rich, a large number of people would have been entirely ruined, considering they have from fifty to sixty feet of iron-stone, and from twenty to thirty feet of clay to go through. [47: p.2]
<b>17 Nov 1854</b>	The deep sinking on the Bald Hill is considered very remunerative to the parties who have possession of the ground, but will hardly pay a new chum. [47: p.2]
<b>9 Feb 1855</b>	The Bald Hills in the neighbourhood of Fryer's Creek are turning out very well, and the district can be said to be decidedly looking up. The dry summer has enabled the diggers to work the low grounds with most satisfactory results, and several fresh pieces of ground have been opened up. 50 lbs weight of gold has been taken out of the Bald Hills by three men in three weeks. [47: p.5]
<b>2 March 1855</b>	The Bald Hills in the vicinity of the Loddon are being worked in many instances with great success. [47: p.2]
<b>13 April 1855</b>	The Bald Hill and the workings in the vicinity of the Loddon are yielding richly, and from the appearance of the habitations, a large and fixed population will remain there during the winter. [47: p.2]

- 18 May 1855** Head House, storekeeper, of the Bald Hill. [47: p.1]  
**2 Nov 1855** Leaving the Junction for Fryer's Creek, we cross and pass the Bald Hills; here, also, there are many diggers at work. [47: p.2]  
**28 Dec 1855** ...the neighbourhood of Fryer's Creek, especially towards the Bald Hill, is infested by a gang of desperadoes who have lately migrated from Melbourne... It is stated that they have already committed many robberies in this district... [47: p. 3]  
**21 March 1856** The Bald Hill is being reworked. [47: p.5]  
**1 April 1856** On the Bald Hill, facing the Loddon, claims are being marked out for tunnelling. [47: p.4]

<b>June 1859</b>	20 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining at Kangaroo & Bald Hills 36 non-Chinese engaged in tunnelling at Kangaroo & Bald Hills 26 non-Chinese engaged in deep hill sinking at Kangaroo & Bald Hills 8 non-Chinese quartz mining at Kangaroo & Bald Hills [10]
<b>June 1859</b>	15 tunnels are being worked, and 7 abandoned - 13 of the 15 are the property of Chinese. [10]
<b>July 1860</b>	The other hills being tunnelled are Bald Hill, Sailor's Hill, and Kangaroo Hill. [10]
<b>March 1865</b>	Mining population of New Year's Flat and Bald Hill: 218. [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1868: Thomas and Company. [10]
<b>March 1871</b>	The introduction of water to many of our old rich hills in the neighbourhood of Nuggetty Gully and Sullivan's Hill has led to sluicing being adopted generally, in lieu of puddling ordinarily. The company is now about cutting a branch race to the Bald Hill. [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	During the past quarter the [Loddon water] race has been extended to the Bald Hill, near Vaughan. [10]
<b>Dec 1871</b>	Alluvial mining has not advanced during the past three months - the puddling returns are evidently falling off; considerable activity has, however, been displayed in sluicing operations, owing to the very favourable season we have experienced in the shape of the water supply. The Loddon Water Supply Company have been very fortunate in the number of sluice-heads they have been enabled to supply, and a great portion of the Bald Hill, Vaughan, and other hills in the vicinity, have been reduced under this system of mining. The returns are considered remunerative. [10]
<b>Sept 1873</b>	Sluicing is carried on as vigorously as ever, especially among the Chinese on the Loddon... Some Chinese on the Bald Hill, near Vaughan, have been very successful of late. [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Quantity of Cement Crushed and Gold Obtained Therefrom: Thomas and Co., Bald Hill, 10 oz. from 30 tons, at 100 feet. [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Parties puddling or sluicing: Thomas and Co., Bald Hill; Hines and Co., Bald Hill. [10]
<b>1990</b>	re. Red Knob (close to, or even part of Bald Hill). Spencer Horner was involved, with others, in sluicing [Butcher's] gully. Also involved in sluicing a part of McCann's Gully. After leaving Butcher's Gully, Spencer Horner/Ray Bradfield went up Dan Smith's Gully...they sluiced that out. After Dan Smith's...went into the bottom of Nuggetty Gully and Ray Bradfield went into Red Knob. [71]

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### 3.4 SAILOR'S HILL

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<b>MINING DIVISION</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Vaughan

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
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<b>12 Oct 1855</b>	Within the past day or two there has been a great rush towards Sailor's Gully... A large nugget, weighing more than 7 lbs. was taken out last week of the Old Hill. [47: p.2]
<b>June 1859</b>	16 non-Chinese engaged in tunnelling 8 non-Chinese engaged in deep hill sinking [10]
<b>July 1860</b>	The other hills being tunnelled are Bald Hill, Sailor's Hill, and Kangaroo Hill. [10]

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### 3.5 BUTCHER'S HILL

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Middleton's Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
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<b>26 Aug 1854</b>	Butchers' Hill and Gully are being reworked, but with only casual success - making a living, and no more. [47: p. 4]
<b>19 Oct 1855</b>	On Butcher's Hill, near the Hard [Kangaroo] Hill, many are doing very well. [47: p.2]
<b>18 Jan 1855</b>	The late rush at Butcher's Hill, promises to result satisfactory... Several claims are bottomed, and nuggets, varying from half and ounce to thirteen ounces are not uncommon. The principal workings are over Jackson's Hill, towards Kangaroo. [47: p.2]
<b>5 Feb 1856</b>	The rush at Butcher's Hill...is a disappointment to most concerned. [47: p.5]

- June 1859** 16 non-Chinese engaged in tunnelling  
18 non-Chinese engaged in deep hill sinking [10]
- June 1859** 4 tunnels are in work. [10]
- March 1865** Parties crushing quartz: Thomas and Company [10]  
**1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865:  
Thomas and Company, Perseverance Company [10]
- June 1867** The returns for cement crushing will show a falling off in those localities which have ere now been famed for alluvial deposits. The localities referred to comprise Pennyweight, Kangaroo, Table, Butcher's, and Guildford Hills. That these hills are becoming exhausted, and the yields therefrom inadequate to pay the current rate of wages, is becoming painfully apparent. [10]
- Dec 1871** Middleton's Reef, Vaughan, will shortly be at work. This reef is situated in an almost entirely unprospected district, which, however, is known to abound in good reefs. Years back such brilliant returns were obtained from this ground at a depth above water-level. [10]
- March 1872** Middleton's Reef, Vaughan. - A company has been formed for working this mine, and are progressing favourably. A shaft is being sunk near the old workings to strike the reef at a depth of 100 feet.  
The results of this company are very anxiously looked forward to, situated as it is in a hitherto rich alluvial locality, but the reefs almost undeveloped. [10]
- Sept 1872** The Middleton Company, by yield from stone crushed, occupies the premier position. This company has erected a water-wheel, 20 feet in diameter and 2 feet wide at point of delivery from the buckets. The latter are 56 in number, set 12 1/2 inches apart, and 15 1/2 inches at outer angle. The buckets are of 1-inch shelving boards, holding about 7 gallons. To this water-wheel is attached pumping gear to drain their mine, which must be of vital importance to the company, notwithstanding the splendid yields heretofore obtained; but from the fact that although a comparatively small depth is yet attained, the situation of these appliances is about three-quarters of a mile south-east from Vaughan, upon the Loddon slope of Butcher's Hill, some 20 feet from water-level and 2 feet above highest known flood; it is therefore, obvious that such appliance will drain the ground above, and all quartz existing can be readily worked. It seems that a better system could not have been devised. I consider this subject of vital importance to many interested in mining, and therefore beg to dilate upon it:
1. The advantages as exemplified, are simply an attainment of power by water (which is generally super-abundant at low levels), and by the storage and utilisation of water at higher levels it follows that great benefits must accrue.
  2. At the time of my visit not more than half a sluice-head (10 inches) of water was being used or delivered; this was ample to work the pumps freely and smoothly.
  3. The cost of this water is £2 per week, which is little more than adequate to the feed of two horses daily, which work the wheel was doing; this is reckoning the horses as working twelve hours per day.
  4. The greatest of all considerations in this power is the saving of firewood, now so important an item in reducing quartz or even alluvium.
  5. The actual cost to erect a whim and pumps similar to those erected would be at least £120, to suffice for the work now being done by the water-wheel, &c.
  6. It is not alone the great advantages accruing to the company from this local novelty that any basis can be founded, but a deduction can be drawn from the utilisation of water as a motive-power generally.
  7. I consider the water-wheel was doing the work of one horse (only 10 inches of water running at a slow rate), five revolutions per minute; this was draining the ground to a depth of 30 feet.
  8. The party are supplied by water from a small water-race contouring from Middleton's Creek, with a very slight fall; indeed the race itself was cut by Nolan and Co., generally by the waterflow from the source, consequently the weight of water is slight. This can be increased immensely by widening and trimming the race to a uniform fall, when (if such is done) I am of opinion that a sluice-head of water would drain the mine to a depth of 100 or 150 feet and drive a battery of 6 heads without intermission, unless the mine makes more water. I regard this as a great epoch in our local mining history, not alone from its novelty, simplicity, or utility, but practicability generally where water can be stored to command ground of an auriferous nature. This will undoubtedly lead others to the erection of smaller wheels upon the course of the River Loddon; and not only upon the river itself but upon the aqueduct of the River Loddon Company ample scope exists, and the elevation necessary to utilise water in lieu of horses by puddling operations; and I fancy ere long plenty will follow the excellent example set by Middleton's Company. I may here remark that this water-wheel should soon command the attention it deserves; for, with a confident expectation that ere long the Coliban scheme will be completed, many of our reefs or auriferous quartz lodes now dormant can be profitably worked; and in addition to this, an impetus will be given to mining that must ultimately lead to fresh



	discoveries; and further, that ere long we shall have great improvements upon this water-power appliance. [10]
<b>March 1873</b>	Middleton's Reef - From this reef excellent stone has been obtained lately at a depth of 70 feet; the stone averages in thickness eight inches. As the reef yielded well years back, when cartage and labour were more expensive. [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Parties puddling or sluicing: Gurr and Co., Butcher's Hill. [10]
<b>Dec 1879</b>	There is now some likelihood of Middleton's Reef, Vaughan, being taken up and re-worked... Mr Edhouse, lately a resident of the Bald Hill, Vaughan, is about introducing capital into the district, having great faith in the auriferous character of certain special localities. [10]
<b>June 1888</b>	Brown, Viney and party at Butcher's Hill, Vaughan...are engaged sinking a new shaft. [10]
<b>March 1889</b>	Middleton's Reef, Butcher's Hill. This reef was discovered accidentally in sinking for alluvial deposits during the year 1871, but, although the stone was exceedingly rich to a certain extent, the discovery was valueless, so far as opening out a line of reef of a permanent character... The shaft was sunk to a depth of 50 feet... The total number of tons crushed was ten, averaging 6 oz. to the ton... The reef was abandoned after a short trial, as the auriferous stone could not be traced either in a northerly or southerly direction. [10]

3.6

**KANGAROO, KANGAROO GULLY, KANGAROO HILL (OR HARD HILL), KANGAROO CREEK, KANGAROO OR BODDY'S REEF**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>c. 1853</b>	[Kangaroo Gully rushed] [47: 20/7/1855: p.2]
<b>6 July 1855</b>	A new hill has been opened at Kangaroo Creek (Loddon), the produce from, which is very good. [47: p.2]
<b>13 July 1855</b>	Fryer's Town. Our population has increased materially within the last ten days, in consequence of a great rush to the Kangaroo Hill, near the junction of the Fryer's Creek and the Loddon. The diggers are reported as doing very well. It is in the same direction as Stone's Gully, across the Loddon, proving that that part of the country is yet untried, and may be reckoned on as a rich and distinct gold field. [47: p.2]
<b>20 July 1855</b>	Kangaroo Hill. Within the last day or two, a number of diggers have arrived, tents are pitched, and a few stores are in course of erection. The gully below the hill, called Kangaroo Gully, was rushed about two years since, and some gold taken therefrom, but...was very poorly tested and soon left. The hill is now likely to be worked in every direction. The sinking is very hard, as the diggers have to go through a complete mass of ironstone, and in most instances to a great depth...many of the holes will take from a month to six weeks in bottoming... The principal part of the workings is at present at the western extremity of the hills, where the sinking ranges in depth from twelve to thirty feet. The lead is supposed to run through the hill, as some parties at the eastern end have succeeded in striking it, and it is determined to sink along the hill, to a depth from the crest of nearly 130 feet. Claims are marked out nearly all along the ridge. The road to the diggings is at present very rough and bad and, as traffic increases, a bridge will have to be placed across the Loddon. [47: p.2]
<b>27 July 1855</b>	Kangaroo Creek is still yielding largely, and it is anticipated that most of the hills in the vicinity will now be opened. [47: p.2]
<b>3 August 1855</b>	The rush at Kangaroo hill continues unabated. Parties are arriving from all quarters, not only diggers, but their usual followers, the blacksmiths, the storekeepers, butchers, and last, though not least, the light-fingered gentry, who commit numerous depredations. The run of gold seems, so far as traced, not to run across the hill, but along the western side. A rush has set in across the crown of the hill, and in almost every hill there is blasting. [47: p.2]
<b>10 Aug 1855</b>	The rush at Kangaroo... The hole on the crown of the hill has been bottomed at a depth of 80 feet. Another hill is being opened at this spot, and promises well. [47: p.2]
<b>17 Aug 1855</b>	Kangaroo Hill...it is now almost certain that the locality will become a settled and permanent field. The miners are branching out on the Guildford road. Kangaroo Hill is a high ridge, washed at its northern edge by the Loddon at the junction of that river with Fryer's Creek, and subsiding at its southern extremity into a gully through which flows the Kangaroo Creek. For upwards of two years the auriferous character of the neighbourhood has been ascertained but not generally known. Along the crest from north to south runs a mass of iron stone, varying in depth from 15 to 40 feet. An enterprising party, believing that the lead of gold was to be found beneath this barrier,

- determined on penetrating it, and after immense labour succeeded in reaching the bottom, the first tub from which yielded 5 oz; and their judgement was further confirmed by the subsequent extraction of nearly 7 lbs. weight in one load... at the present time the southern half of the hill is covered with a series of workings which have no parallel in the colony. Many of the holes are 100 feet deep, the iron stone presenting a formidable obstacle... In the northern side of the hill excavations have been made *under* the ironstone to a distance it is stated of 140 feet, by a party of Cornishmen. On the western side of the hill, a large number of holes have been sunk with the view of striking on branches of the main lead... Across the creek some surfacing ground has been opened, and promises well. The population is estimated at 3000, and is daily increasing. Several stores are on the ground, four public houses are in course of erection, an energetic baker is putting up an oven, the butchers and blacksmiths do a roaring trade, and a bowling alley will shortly offer a source of amusement. The only drawback to business there, are the villainous approaches across the Loddon. At the Junction a substantial bridge for foot passengers and equestrians has been erected by Messrs. Bond, Brothers, but all vehicles have to be driven through the current, which is 30 feet wide. The road by Guildford presents similar difficulties. [47: p. 2]
- 31 Aug 1855** The Union Hotel, "One and All." Kangaroo Flat, Loddon. [47: p.1]
- 31 Aug 1855** Kangaroo Hill continues to yield a considerable quantity of gold, and the hill opened out near the head of Butcher's Gully has turned out very largely. Another part of the hill opposite Scotch point has also been bottomed...but gold is patchy. [47: p.2]
- 14 Sept 1855** A Ball will be held at the Derby Hotel, Kangaroo Flat, Loddon Diggings... [47: p.1]
- 14 Sept 1855** Kangaroo Hill. The richest part of the diggings [is] that where the iron-stone was first penetrated at the southern extremity of the hill. From this point to Butcher's Gully, the hill has been extensively tried, but the gold lies so patchy that many of the holes have turned out 'shicers'. The gold is generally coarse, and several nuggets, varying from 10 to 15 ounces, have been lately taken out. It is believed that the Hill and its contiguous localities will at least maintain the population - between 300 and 4000 - now assembled there. The enterprising speculations in which the storekeepers have embarked here, show great confidence in the place, stores going up all over the flat, and many being constructed of weather boards and other materials more durable than would be employed if the diggings were regarded as merely a temporary rush... Bread is selling at 2s. the 4 lb. loaf - 6d. less than in Castlemaine. This perhaps, may be attributed to the fact that there are no less than seven ovens erected on the ground. There are four licensed public houses on the flat, namely, the Derby Hotel (by Mr Wheeler, of the Australian, Forest Creek); the Union Hotel (by Capt. Trewartha, of the Golden Hope, Forest Creek); the Welcome Inn (by Mr Sullivan, of Fryer's Creek); and another hostelry, by Mr Earles, formerly of the Junction. The proprietors have gone to a large expense in fitting up their houses comfortably and commodiously. To minister to their amusements, the people have Mr Jones' circus, to which is added the attraction of Mad. Dallescase, and her perilous ascents on a rope. A bowling alley is also in active operation. Medicaments for some of the 'thousand ills that flesh is heir to', are to be obtained at a dispensary. An auction room is already established. [47: p.2]
- 21 Sept 1855** The Floods. At Kangaroo two men are missing, and it is supposed they have met with their deaths in the Loddon. [47: p.3]
- 28 Sept 1855** There appears to be what may be termed three new rushes from Kangaroo. One on the side of the hill opposite to it on the southern side, where a very hard conglomerate has to be gone through. All sorts of depths prevail here from mere surfacing to sixty feet... The washing stuff (pipe-clay and small quartz gravel intermingled) lies for the most part upon a bed of sandstone, which is nearly even with Kangaroo Hill. Scotch Point Gully, to the west of the hill, is much like Sailor's and Butcher's Gully. [47: p.2]
- 5 Oct 1855** Bergin Brothers, being about to go out of business will dispose of their Stocks and Stores, situate on Nuggetty Hill, Church's Flat and Kangaroo Hill, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.1]
- 5 Oct 1855** The entire population [of Fryer's Creek] is now estimated at 6,400 souls, of whom over 5000 are settled on the [Kangaroo] Hill and its neighbourhood. The workings recently opened on the southern side of the hill, promise to rival the richest of their predecessors. The most remarkable claim on Kangaroo Hill is that known as 'the Yankees Claim', from which we are gold a party of eight men have divided 40 lbs. weight of gold each. Enquiries have been made as to quartz leases, the attention of several parties in this district is now turning to this branch of mining industry. [47: p.2]
- 12 Oct 1855** Kangaroo. It is stated that a township is about being laid out on the flat, and much speculation is already afloat as to the prospective comparative value of the sites occupied by the various business premises so thickly spread about. [47: p.2]
- 19 Oct 1855** Kangaroo. The Hard Hill is still turning out as productive as ever, three large nuggets having been found bordering on the famous Yankee claim. [47: p.2]
- 19 Oct 1855** T.H. Brown. Butcher, Draper, Grocer and General Storekeeper, Kangaroo Hill East...is prepared to deliver any article, however simple, at the tent of the party ordering - from a Leg of Mutton to a pair of Blankets. Guaranteed the Best Sausages on the Diggings. [47: p. 4]

- 2 Nov 1855** As soon as the dry season has fully set in the large flat below Mr Sullivan's hotel will be opened, and it is expected to be very rich. That part of the diggings presents a very animated appearance, the stores are very creditable, many parties having gone to great expense in the erection of their buildings. Frontages are scarce, and should Kangaroo continue to go a-head, sites for business will be very valuable. Three or four months ago, it was a quiet and retired gully rarely frequented, but it is now teeming with all the elements of a busy English town - hotels, restaurants, conveyances, libraries, concerts, balls, quadrille parties, &c. [47: p.2]
- 16 Nov 1855** Kangaroo seems to wear a very languid aspect to what it did; there is a great dullness at the present time. [47: p. 2]
- 23 Nov 1855** The One-and-All Hotel, Kangaroo Hill, will, in a few days, be offered by Public Auction. The House, now doing a business equal to any in the district, consists of a superior Bar, well fitted, 30 x 18; Dining-Room, 30 x 18; Concern-Room, fitted in a superior style, 45 x 18; Bed-Room, No. 1, 14 x 14, No. 2, 14 x 13, No. 3, 15 x 12; Kitchen, 18 x 14; 6-stall Stable, and other convenient buildings.  
For Sale. A Most Desirable Investment! The Kangaroo Hotel. Situate in the best position on the new diggings at Kangaroo. The proprietor is about to return home. [47: p.1]
- 30 Nov 1855** Kangaroo - The diggings at this place are duller than they have been at any time since the great rush took place. The population of the place has fallen off a great deal during the last month. [47: p.2]
- 14 Dec 1855** Bull and Mouth Hotel, Kangaroo. The proprietor, J. Rogers, begs to inform his friends and the public that the above first class, large, and extensive hotel is now opened. [47: p.2]
- 28 Dec 1855** The south-west corner of Kangaroo Hill, which, space for space, has proved as richly productive as any diggings in the colony, is now nearly worked out, after four or five months' remunerative occupation. The flat beyond Sullivan's hotel, of which such high expectations were formed, still remains a *terra incognita*. Although densely rushed a few weeks since, it was obliged, from the wet, to be suddenly abandoned, and continues untested. [47: p.2]
- 5 Feb 1856** Kangaroo is gradually losing the characteristics of a distinct gold field...it seems probably destined ere long, to become merely an appendage to the Fryer's Creek district. Most of the stores are removed or vacated. [47: p.5]
- 7 March 1856** Select Committee on Mining on Private Lands. Mr John Phillips called in and examined. [Phillips was asked] You are the discoverer of the Kangaroo Diggings, are you not? - No. I was the first upon the Loddon, I think, four years ago. [47: p.3]
- June 1859** 20 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining at Kangaroo & Bald Hills  
36 non-Chinese engaged in tunnelling at Kangaroo & Bald Hills  
26 non-Chinese engaged in deep hill sinking at Kangaroo & Bald Hills  
8 non-Chinese quartz mining at Kangaroo & Bald Hills [10]
- June 1859** 7 tunnels, 5 in work. [10]
- June 1859** Kangaroo - Reef - Boddy & Co. (When first struck, the capping of this reef proved very rich. The main body of quartz, however, would not yield more than 2 or 3 dwt. per ton.) [10]
- June 1859** Kangaroo Creek - Boddy and Co. - one 10hp high-pressure engine, 8 stamps; crushes 16 tons in 24 hours. [10]
- July 1860** The other hills being tunnelled are Bald Hill, Sailor's Hill, and Kangaroo Hill. [10]
- July 1860** Tunnelling. The basaltic hills around the Loddon, near the hamlets of Vaughan, Kangaroo, and Pennyweight, are the favourite localities for tunnelling. [10]
- Sept 1860** Vaughan Company. I am happy to have at least one prosperous company to report on. This is the smallest company in the district, but promises to be one of the most prosperous. It is divided into forty shares of £100 each, which are at about £20 premium. Last month they declared a dividend of £5 10s per share, and the same amount is expected this month.  
They occupy a lease of a portion of Kangaroo Hill near the Loddon, through which runs a promising quartz reef. [10]
- Oct 1860** Vaughan Mining Company. This little company is still going ahead. They have proved the stuff, which will not possibly pay for toming, or sluicing will yield a handsome profit by the more expensive process of crushing. It is found that the fine particles of gold washed away by the water in toming and sluicing, are retained by quicksilver in the process of crushing. [10]
- Nov 1860** The Vaughan Company is...the most successful one in the district: within the last three months, dividends to the amount of £22 on each of the £100 shares have been declared. This profit is derived from crushing auriferous drift that will not pay for sluicing. The company has many years working within their claim if the ground yields as well as it has done hitherto. [10]
- Nov 1860** The Old Pennyweight Hill plant has been purchased by a party of miners who intend erecting it at Kangaroo, near the Table Hill, for cement crushing. [10]

- Dec 1860** The Kangaroo Crushing Company (Private) consists of ten working shareholders. They are busily engaged erecting the engine purchased from the Old Pennyweight Hill Company. [10]
- Feb 1861** The Kangaroo Crushing Company has commenced work with 12 heads of stampers and is doing well. This company has reduced the price of crushing to 12s per ton, and makes a profit on that price. [10]
- Feb 1861** The Vaughan Mining Company is still working successfully. [10]
- Feb 1861** Applications for leases have...been made by Mr Thorburn, for 6 acres on Kangaroo Hill; and Mr Cook, for 21/2 acres in the same locality. [10]
- April 1861** The Vaughan Gold Mining Company is still progressing satisfactorily. The leads are running into the ground lately applied for on lease by H.C. Thorburn. [10]
- April 1861** The Kangaroo Company are at work and making good dividends. They are crushing with 12 heads of stampers, and intend putting 4 more in position, to be worked by the same engine.
- Another party has applied for a site for machinery at Kangaroo. [10]
- May 1861** The Kangaroo Company are making good returns. [10]
- May 1861** The Vaughan Company is still in a prosperous state, and declare regular dividends. [10]
- June 1861** The Vaughan Company has been making considerable alterations in their machinery during the past month, and has also erected a new stack (chimney) [10]
- Oct 1861** Cement mining is a large interest in this division, especially around Kangaroo and Vaughan. No less than five steam engines, having an aggregate of 92 horse-power, are engaged in crushing cement in these localities. [10]
- Oct 1861** Two machines are actually crushing the refuse from Kangaroo Creek and are making from £6 to £8 per week per man. [10]
- Dec 1861** Jenkins and Company, of Kangaroo, is making splendid wages. [10]
- Dec 1861** The Vaughan Gold Mining Company is not making such profit as they have hitherto done, but are sanguine of success. [10]
- June 1865** H. Rowe and Co. (Vaughan Company), at Kangaroo Hill, after much unproductive labour, have struck cement which promises well, and in other claims there has been a decided improvement. [10]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from crushing of quartz tailings and cement during 1865: Jenkin and Company [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1866: H. Rowe and Company. [10]
- June 1867** The returns for cement crushing will show a falling off in those localities which have ere now been famed for alluvial deposits. The localities referred to comprise Pennyweight, Kangaroo, Table, Butcher's, and Guildford Hills. That these hills are becoming exhausted, and the yields therefrom inadequate to pay the current rate of wages, is becoming painfully apparent. [10]
- Sept 1874** Puddling and sluicing. Some good ground has recently been discovered in the northern slope of Kangaroo Hill, fronting Vaughan; the sinking is comparatively shallow; some three or four claims are likely to do very well for some time to come. [10]
- Dec 1874** Tarilta Gold Mining Company, Kangaroo Hill. This company have recently taken up a block of ground intersected by an old abandoned quartz reef, with the additional advantage of a tunnel (400 feet long) already driven. Several years ago some very rich yields were obtained from this reef, and a vast extent of ground worked, but ultimately abandoned by the original holders. The present company, principally working men, conceived an idea that further rich deposits might be discovered by a more judicious system of management, and in this respect they have not been mistaken, for a trial crushing, 6 inches below of the level of the old workings, gave 20 oz. 19 dwts. from 5 tons of quartz, two men only were employed. [10]
- March 1875** The Tarilta Gold Mining Company, Kangaroo Hill... a £10 dividend having been paid during the past three months. [10]
- June 1881** Paull and Co., Kangaroo Hill, Vaughan. The company is working in a tunnel underlying the basaltic formation, on an immense lode of quartz. The last crushing realised 6 dwts. 3.24 grs. to the ton, but it is not known whether the quartz was taken out promiscuously or picked. [10]
- Dec 1881** Tarilta Gold Mining Company, Kangaroo Hill. The company has had such favourable prospects that they are about erecting new machinery, plant, &c., having secured suitable sites for water storage. [10]
- Sept 1883** Perseverance Company, Fryerstown, has recently purchased a valuable plant from the Tarilta Gold Mining Company, which is now being removed from Vaughan. [10]
- March 1884** Kangaroo Hill. It will be remembered, the Tarilta Gold Mining Company recently abandoned their lease, not being able to make the reef pay for working, although some fine crushings had been taken out. A considerable amount of prospecting was effected by the old company, and two mining managers reported that they could see no indications which would lead to the inference that a payable lode existed; the consequence was that a magnificent plant was removed from the ground in what might be considered a too hasty manner. The ground has been marked out afresh, and taken up under lease by Mr Paull, of

Tarilta, who has always expressed great confidence in the auriferous character of the reef. The results of a recent trial crushing of 20 tons were 4dwt. to the ton; so the new company consider they have ample encouragement for re-introducing machinery on the ground, the cartage of the stone to Fryerstown being too serious an item. [10]

**March 1885**

During the past quarter an old reef has been re-opened on the Sebastopol line, about four or five miles south from Vaughan, and probably identical with Greenwoods and the Liverpool and Body's line of reef at Kangaroo Hill. [10]

**March 1889**

Boddy's Reef, Kangaroo Hill. - When first struck, the capping of this reef was very rich, the main body, however, would not yield more than from 2 to 3dwt. to the ton. Messrs. Laity, H.O. Rowe, and others occupied claims, which paid well for working when first opened out in 1859, but no details of crushings can be furnished of a reliable nature by the present writer. The bearing or strike of the reef is N. 2° W., of great width, viz., 30 to 50 feet, and nearly vertical. A vast quantity of quartz has been excavated altogether, but, from 1874 to 1884, 6,577 tons have been crushed by different parties, the average being 41/2dwt. to the ton. The ground is still under lease, but no mining going on at the present time. [10]

3.7

**BALLARAT HILL OR JACKSON'S HILL**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Kangaroo Hill, Loddon River

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>31 Aug 1855</b>	The hill opened out near the head of Butcher's Gully has turned out very largely. [47: p.2]
<b>28 Sept 1855</b>	There appears to be what may be termed three new rushes from Kangaroo. One on the side of the hill opposite to it on the southern side, where a very hard conglomerate has to be gone through. All sorts of depths prevail here from mere surfacing to sixty feet. The washing stuff (pipe-clay and small quartz gravel intermingled) lies for the most part upon a bed of sandstone, which is nearly even with Kangaroo Hill. [47: p.2]
<b>18 Jan 1855</b>	The late rush at Butcher's Hill, promises to result satisfactory. Several claims are bottomed, and nuggets, varying from half and ounce to thirteen ounces are not uncommon. The principal workings are over Jackson's Hill, towards Kangaroo. [47: p.2]

3.8

**SCOTCHPOINT & SCOTCHPOINT GULLY**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Kangaroo Hill, Loddon River

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>31 Aug 1855</b>	Kangaroo Hill. Another part of the hill opposite Scotch point has also been bottomed but gold is patchy. [47: p.2]
<b>28 Sept 1855</b>	There appears to be what may be termed three new rushes from Kangaroo. Scotch Point Gully, to the west of the hill, is much like Sailor's and Butcher's Gully. [47: p.2]

3.9

**TABLE HILL**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields and Reefs** Guildford Hill

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>18 Jan 1856</b>	Prospecting parties are about to commence immediate operations on Table Hill, facing the Derby Hotel. [47: p.2]
<b>5 Feb 1856</b>	Kangaroo is gradually losing the characteristics of a distinct gold field. The Hard Hill and Table Hill are the only hopes of those interested in the continuance of this place. [47: p.5]
<b>June 1859</b>	75 non-Chinese engaged in tunnelling on Table & Guildford Hills; 114 non-Chinese engaged in deep hill sinking. [10]
<b>June 1859</b>	15 tunnels, 14 of which are being worked. [Table & Guildford Hills] [10]
<b>July 1860</b>	Tunnelling. On Table Hill especially, the miners are averaging over first-class wages, some clearing from £25 to £30 per week per man. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	In Table Hill several new parties have struck the lead, which is proving itself to be as good as in the older claims. In one claim, occupied by 14 miners, gold to the amount of £17 per week for each man is now being extracted. [10]
<b>May 1861</b>	On Table Hill, Harle and Company, Beatty and Company, and Bickham and Company are making splendid returns; and others are doing well. Day and Company are driving a new tunnel into the hill. There are eight shareholders in the party. [10]
<b>Nov 1861</b>	On Table Hill all the available ground is being worked, and this once famous hill is being fast gutted out, like all other portions of the diggings, however I expect it will have another turn over bye and bye. [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushing quartz tailings and cement during 1865: Jenkins Company, Odgers and Company, Table Hill Company, Shicer Gully Company [10]

<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1866: Table Hill Company, Jenkins and Company, Odgers and Company. [10]
<b>June 1867</b>	The returns for cement crushing will show a falling off in those localities which have ere now been famed for alluvial deposits. The localities referred to comprise Pennyweight, Kangaroo, Table, Butcher's, and Guildford Hills. That these hills are becoming exhausted, and the yields therefrom inadequate to pay the current rate of wages, is becoming painfully apparent. [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Champion and Company, Jenkins and Company, Table Hill Company [10]
<b>Sept 1868</b>	The Table Hill Company, comprising twenty-seven working shareholders, has invariably been successful for some time past. During the past three months they have averaged an ounce per man per week, without any cost by way of management or superintendence. [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1868: Champion and Company, Table Hill Company, Jenkins and Company. [10]
<b>June 1873</b>	In alluvial mining there is but little doing, except at Table Hill, where tunnelling operations are being successfully carried on by a company, consisting principally of Maldon shareholders. [10]
<b>June 1875</b>	[from Castlemaine Division surveyor's report]. On the deep leads, Table Hill, Guildford, seventy-seven men are profitably employed. [10]
<b>June 1875</b>	Alluvial Mining. The Homeward-bound Company, at Table and Shicer Hills, are obtaining fair returns from comparatively unworked ground, adjoining vast blocks of ground worked out. [10]
<b>Sept 1876</b>	Homeward-bound, Table Hill. This company occupy a large area of ground, which is being worked by tunnels; it was for many years occupied by a party of Italians, who relinquished their claim on the supposition that the various leads of gold had been exhausted. The present proprietors, in exploring the unworked portions, have discovered patches of gold more or less payable. During the past quarter they have found some good ground, the prospects being so highly encouraging that they expect to be in a position to declare dividends in a short time. The capital and labour expended have been very considerable. [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Quantity of Cement Crushed and Gold Obtained Therefrom: Homeward-bound, Table Hill, 2 oz. 18 dwt. 46 gr. from 650 tons at 100 to 110 feet. [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Parties puddling or sluicing: Houston and Co., Table Hill [10]

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### 3.10 TARILTA

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Mining population: 290 [10]
<b>Dec 1864</b>	Parties crushing cement: Odgers and Company, Jenkins Company. [10]
<b>March 1865</b>	Mining population of Tarilta and Shicer Gully: 236. [10]
<b>June 1865</b>	The tunnels in the banks of the Loddon, near Strathloddon and Guildford, and at Tarilta, have generally yielded well. [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Champion and Company. [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1868: Jenkins and Company. [10]
<b>Dec 1874</b>	(Tarilta Gold Mining Company - see KANGAROO HILL)
<b>Sept 1877</b>	At Tarilta and Vaughan there are a few alluvial claims which have recently paid very well for working, and are likely to prove remunerative for some time to come. [10]
<b>7 June 1879</b>	Tenders [called for] for the Construction of a Dam in Sweetcake Gully, near Tarilta. [47: p.3]
<b>Dec 1882</b>	The hills in the vicinity of Vaughan, Tarilta and Guildford continue to maintain a mining population, which has not materially decreased during the past year. [10]
<b>Sept 1911</b>	A. Potter [10]

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### 3.11 OVEN GULLY

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Sailor's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>c. 1980s</b>	We walk up Oven Gully to the breached dam (Smith and Greenwell's feed water dam [c. 1910s]). About fifty yards above this south end of the bank, you might be able to find what is left of the oven, for which the gully is named. The tree near it carries an old blaze, which I cut into it years ago. I quote notes from that time: Looking around on this side of the water course, you should be able to find the little oven. It's a neat little job, with its domed top. It may, or may not have had a chimney at one time, perhaps even a wooden one. Please don't disturb it, it has been there probably more than a hundred years, because it is a bit beyond the normal reach of vandals." I should have known better. As you can probably work out, it was inside fired, then ashes cleared out, the little flue hole at the back stopped up, and the bread or damper put in to cook." Sad to say, the little oven is no more. What a pity. [61]

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**3.12 BUTCHER'S GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>26 Aug 1854</b>	Butchers' Hill and Gully are being reworked, but with only casual success - making a living, and no more. [47: p. 4]
<b>2 Nov 1855</b>	The great rush seems at present to incline towards the Butcher's and Sailor's gullies; here there is a population of some hundreds recently tented. [47: p.2]
<b>18 Jan 1855</b>	The late rush at Butcher's Hill, promises to result satisfactory... The flat was re-attempted last week, and gold found near the slaughteryard. [47: p.2]
<b>June 1859</b>	22 puddling machines in Butcher's Gully, Sailor's Gully & Middleton Creek 28 Chinese puddlers in Butcher's Gully, Sailor's Gully & Middleton Creek 35 non-Chinese puddlers in Butcher's Gully 100 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining in Butcher's Gully 80 Chinese engaged in ordinary mining in Butcher's Gully, Sailor's Gully & Middleton Creek
<b>1866</b>	12 Chinese sluicing in Butcher's Gully, Sailor's Gully & Middleton Creek [10] Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1866: Perseverance Company. [10]
<b>March 1867</b>	Sailor's Gully, Butcher's Gully, and Middleton's Creek - These localities contain a scattered population, whose means of subsistence from mining would be uncertain, the cultivation of small plots of ground being important auxiliaries to their support. [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Perseverance Company. [10]
<b>1990</b>	Butcher's Gully - Spencer Horner was involved, with others, in sluicing this gully. Also involved in sluicing a part of McCann's Gully. After leaving Butcher's Gully, Spencer Horner/Ray Bradfield went up Dan Smith's Gully...they sluiced that out. After Dan Smith's...went into the bottom of Nuggetty Gully and Ray Bradfield went into Red Knob. [71]

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**3.13 SAILOR'S GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Liverpool Reef, Greenwood's Reef, Stone's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>26 Aug 1854</b>	Near Sailors' Gully a new rush has been made lately and most of the holes paid well, although it was had a deep sinking. [47: p. 4]
<b>27 April 1855</b>	Going from Fryer's Creek, the Loddon is crossed at the bottom of a narrow and very rugged gully, near the Bald hill; ascending a steep range, Sailor's Gully is reached: this was a rich and favourite spot of the diggers in the locality, and is of considerable length. [47: p.2]



- 12 Oct 1855** Within the past day or two there has been a great rush towards Sailor's Gully... A large nugget, weighing more than 7 lbs. was taken out last week of the Old Hill... [47: p.2]
- 2 Nov 1855** The great rush seems at present to incline towards the Butcher's and Sailor's gullies; here there is a population of some hundreds recently tented. [47: p.2]
- 16 Nov 1855** The rush is towards the banks of the Loddon and old Sailor's Gully. At that place there is great population, and daily increasing. [47: p. 2]
- June 1859** 22 puddling machines in Sailor's Gully, Butcher's Gully & Middleton Creek, operated by 28 Chinese - 25 non-Chinese puddlers in Sailor's Gully  
150 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining in Sailor's Gully  
80 Chinese engaged in ordinary mining in Sailor's Gully, Butcher's Gully & Middleton Creek  
12 Chinese sluicing along Sailor's Gully, Butcher's Gully & Middleton Creek [10]
- Sept 1860** I have to report the discovery of a new reef at the head of Sailor's Gully. The discoveries have realised 2 oz. per ton from the first crushing [10]
- March 1865** Mining population of Sailor's Gully and Middleton's: 69 [10]
- March 1867** Sailor's Gully, Butcher's Gully, and Middleton's Creek. These localities contain a scattered population, whose means of subsistence from mining would be uncertain, the cultivation of small plots of ground being important auxiliaries to their support. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
J. Greenwood [10]
- March 1868** Messrs. Greenwood and Co. have also made arrangements for erecting suitable machinery at the head of Sailor's Gully, near their present workings. [10]
- June 1887** Quartz Mining. The Liverpool and Greenwood's Reefs, Sailor's Gully, have again attracted attention. Some Melbourne speculators have recently taken up under lease two blocks of land in the locality mentioned, and has started mining operations in a *bonâ fide* manner. [10]
- Sept 1888** McLaren and party, Sailor's Gully, near Vaughan, are working on the Liverpool line of reef, which was highly remunerative in the early days; they have got a 10-horse power engine and battery of eight stampers, but at present they have an insufficient supply of water for crushing purposes. [10]
- c. 1980s** We arrive at the big chimney butt, opposite Oven Gully, and the top dredge paddock. One can see signs of many habitations, along the way we have walked so far, indicating that the gully once held quite a large population.  
Up here, the gully shows many signs of the puddlers, who were the last to work here on a large scale. There are 'dry-stacks', headings, overburden carted back to allow the extraction of the payable wash, left by the first miners, in their shafts and drives.  
Now we come upon a puddling machines site, very much as it was left, even to the small culvert, through which the sludge flowed, allowing the horse to walk easily, in its circular track around the machine. There are not many of these sites left in such good condition, now.  
Looking across the gully, you can see that the run of gold was over there, rather than on this side, here. The water-course has been 'stoned-up', so that the gully can actively erode, acting as a natural sluice, for the fossicker to clean up after winter freshets. This was common practice, but it was not always the fossicker who stoned-up the gully, who was first on the job, after the rains. [49]
- c. 1980s** Just below the bank [in a holding dam, for Nolan's water-race, on the east side of the northern end of Sailor's Gully], and submerged under the blackberry, I think that one would still find some engine retaining bolts driven into the bedrock. These were put in by Bill McLaren and my father, about seventy years ago, when a partnership (Fred Smith and Joe Greenwell) were installing a steam-powered dredging plant, to take out Sailor's Gully. In the event, they were not permitted to take out the old dam bank, and had to move the plant above the bank, to get started.  
As we go up Sailor's it is interesting to see the heads of tailings dumps, and to speculate on the great change brought about in the nature of the gully, and its ecology by this damming up...  
Over on the other (eastern) side of the gully, above the old bank, are the ruins of an old hut, a tiny place, about 6 x 4. Here lived, and died, an old Chinese fossicker.  
The main gully was dredged out as far up as Oven Gully. It was a rich gully in the first place, although rather patchy, over its whole length. It did not pay well for dredging. There was a good deal of coarse gold about. Running parallel to it, on this western side, and over the low range into Sebastopol Gully, perhaps six or seven miles, there are lines of auriferous quartz reefs. Mostly small bodies of stone they were profitably worked in places, and enriched the gully, here and there along its whole tract. Greenwood's Liverpool Reef was probably the best of the quartz shows.  
The best walking is on this side, and we pass by several old house sites, some of the dwellings being of some size.  
A chimney is about opposite Oven Gully and at the top end of the last paddock. Here it can be seen that the gully is now in its original, natural form, as a fairly deep water-course.

We should cross over the watercourse here, and I call your attention to the shafts here, many of them real 'copybook jobs, with stonewalled washdirt paddock on one side of the shaft, and mullock on the other. All fallen in of course, and the timber frames around their 'heads', rotted out a long time ago. [61

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**3.14**

**LIVERPOOL REEF AND GREENWOOD'S REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Sailor's Gully, Kangaroo Hill, Crimea

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**DATE**

**HISTORY**

**1854-5**

Liverpool Reef, Sailors' Gully. - The bearing of this reef is N. 9° W. The reef was discovered by J. Greenwood in 1854 or 1855, and was worked from the surface to a depth of 30 or 40 feet on payable quartz. [10: March 1889]

**14 Dec 1860**

A Splendid Yield. On Saturday, I saw, in the window of Moore Bros., Fryers Town, a cake of amalgamated gold, from the Liverpool Reef, Sailors Gully, Kangaroo, the weight of the whole thing being 275 ounces. 250 ounces of this was the produce of only six tons, the remaining 25 ounces being from refuse mineral. Greenwood & Co., the owners of the rich claim, it will be remembered, obtained about three weeks ago, 101 ounces more from 11 tons. The crushings in both cases took place at the Vaughan Gold Mining Co.'s machine. [47]

- 1860** The Liverpool Reef is well known in the district, situated about three miles from Vaughan township, and was originally discovered by John Greenwood, one of the early pioneers, who realised a large amount of gold in a very short time, but opened out the reef only to a very limited extent. "The ground was taken up by Greenwood and party in the year 1860, and from near the surface two or three leaders were struck realising from 3 to 31/2 oz. to the ton. In December, 1860...a total of 274oz. of gold from 31 tons of crushing stuff." [10: June 1887]
- Oct 1860** Liverpool Reef...situated at the head of Sailor's Gully.... there are four distinct leaders ... The leader at D [referring to a plan] had a shaft sunk on it some years since, which was eventually abandoned as unproductive. Sometime since, Greenwood and Company, who hold the prospecting claim were working a shaft ... and discovered the leader A ... they abandoned that shaft and sunk another new one. [10]
- Nov. 1860** From the prospector's claim on the Liverpool Reef ten tons of stone were crushed, producing (101) one hundred and one oz of gold. This is a most astonishing yield for this district. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz reefs proved to be auriferous [include]: Liverpool Reef, 82 miners employed [10]
- Dec 1860** The prospecting claim on the Liverpool Reef has been turning out remarkably well. Six tons of stone produced over 41 oz. to the ton and 25 tons of refuse over 1 oz. to the ton, making a total of 274 oz. of gold from 31 tons of stuff. [10]
- May 1861** By May [1861], the Mail was reporting that the gold had petered out. But Greenwood continued to work on. [49]
- Oct 1862** In October, '62 the Mail reported a return from Greenwood's reef, of 58 ounces from 25 tons, together with rich pyrites (mineral). Assays showed 1 dwt. to the pound weight, or about 100 ounces to the ton in this mineral. [49]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Thomas and Company [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: (Sailor's Gully) J. Greenwood [10]
- March 1868** Greenwood's Reef, Sailor's Gully - Messrs. Greenwood and others having recently taken up the ground formerly occupied by J.C. Atkinson, from inquiries and observations it would appear there are many reefs of a very promising character in the neighbourhood; the want of machinery on the spot has prevented them being properly tested. Mr. Greenwood has lately had 4 tons crushed, giving 1/2 oz. to the ton, a most satisfactory result. [10]
- March 1868** Messrs. Greenwood and Co. have also made arrangements for erecting suitable machinery at the head of Sailor's Gully, near their present workings. [10]
- March 1868** Messrs. Greenwood and Co. have also made arrangements for erecting suitable machinery at the head of Sailor's Gully, near their present workings. [10]
- June 1868** Table showing depths of some shafts sunk during the past six or seven years:  
 Liverpool Reef                      Depth of shaft 145 feet.  
 Greenwood's Reef                    Depth of shaft 135 feet. [10]
- March 1885** During the past quarter an old reef has been re-opened on the Sebastopol line, about four or five miles south from Vaughan, and probably identical with Greenwoods and the Liverpool and Body's line of reef at Kangaroo Hill. [10]
- June 1887** Quartz Mining. The Liverpool and Greenwood's Reefs, Sailor's Gully, have again attracted attention. Some Melbourne speculators have recently taken up under lease two blocks of land in the locality mentioned, and have started mining operations in a *bonâ fide* manner... A great deal of prospecting has been done on the same line of reef by various parties during the past twenty years, but no permanent or payable lode has yet been discovered. There are other auriferous reefs in the neighbourhood, viz., to the south and east, but they are allowed to remain unworked and unnoticed. [10]
- Sept 1888** McLaren and party, Sailor's Gully, near Vaughan, are working on the Liverpool line of reef, which was highly remunerative in the early days; they have got a 10-horse power engine and battery of eight stampers, but at present they have an insufficient supply of water for crushing purposes. [10]
- March 1889** Liverpool Reef, Sailors' Gully. The bearing of this reef is N. 9° W. The reef was discovered by J. Greenwood in 1854 or 1855, and was worked from the surface to a depth of 30 or 40 feet on payable quartz; the auriferous stone was, however, richer near the surface, and some 500oz. were taken out in the course of a few weeks. The ground has been taken up repeatedly during the past twenty years, and subsequently abandoned without being properly prospected. The main shaft is about 100 feet in depth, but several shafts have been sunk on the main line extending a distance of 40 or 50 chains in a northerly direction from the original prospecting claim. [10]
- c. 1980** Coming down again on the other side of Crimea [gully], we can see some of the quartz workings, the northern end of the Tubal Caine/Liverpool line of reef. Here it is mostly sandstone, as in the inclined shaft, and the costeans, on the southern hillside. The old hut on this side has been quite a place, actually still showing traces of its former internal plastering, and a chimney still stands.

Many companies have looked at the area in more modern times, but it is not really 'big company' mining, and in the opinion of many of the older men, now passed on, who worked in the area, there is a lot of payable stone left, in the small shows dotted along the line of reef.

As we go on, there are more costeans, we get an idea of the amount of work done. You could follow this line for another three or four miles, almost to the Porcupine Ridge. [49] Tubal Cain workings - line of parallel reefs spanning two gullies (Sailors and Stones Gully; and running south across Sebastopol Gully and Browns Gully, Middleton Creek. Whole are riddled with patches of workings - well-formed shafts, open cuts, costeaning, tunnels, mullock dumps and associated stone buildings. The workings run over a confusing tangle of gullies that form the watersheds of the main gullies. [71]

1990

3.15

## MIDDLETON CREEK

Mining Division

Fryer's Creek

Associated Fields/Reefs

Collier's Reef/Sebastopol Reef

## DATE

## HISTORY

c. 1855

Kangaroo" broke out. Finding a place called "Middleton's Creek" a suitable place for a store, I again started for myself, which I carried on with but moderate success. [23: p.54]

11 Jan 1856

A serious disturbance occurred, on Friday last, at Middleton's Gully. It appears that for some months past a party of Italians, who had gained a reputation for their orderly and respectable conduct, had succeeded in lighting on several claims of a remunerative character. Their success excited the cupidity of a mob of Irishmen, by whom the claims were rushed. [47: p.2] [see SEBASTOPOL REEF]

June 1859

22 puddling machines in Middleton Creek, Butcher's Gully & Sailor's Gully  
30 non-Chinese puddlers in Middleton Creek  
28 Chinese puddlers in Middleton Creek, Butcher's Gully & Sailor's Gully  
100 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining in Middleton Creek  
80 Chinese engaged in ordinary mining in Middleton Creek, Butcher's Gully & Sailor's Gully  
12 Chinese sluicing in Middleton Creek, & Butcher's & Sailor's Gullies [10]

March 1865

Mining population of Sailor's Gully and Middleton's: 69 [10]

March 1867

Sailor's Gully, Butcher's Gully, and Middleton's Creek - These localities contain a scattered population, whose means of subsistence from mining would be uncertain, the cultivation of small plots of ground being important auxiliaries to their support. [10]

1868

Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: (Collier's Reef) Collier and Company. [10]

Sept 1872

[Middleton Co.'s water-wheel, Butcher's Hill, is] supplied by water from a small water-race contouring from Middleton's Creek, with a very slight fall; indeed the race itself was cut by Nolan and Co., generally by the waterflow from the source, consequently the weight of water is slight. [10]

Dec 1884

Collyer's Reef, Middleton Creek. - This old reef has been again taken up, it may be for the fifth or sixth time, and a party from Malmsbury are about commencing operations. Many years ago this reef was worked to advantage, and although the leaders were very narrow, the quartz was exceedingly rich in places. [10]

March 1885

Attention has recently been directed to the numerous parties working out gullies and flats in the vicinity of Middleton Creek, Brown's Gully, Sebastopol, &c., and it has been suggested that a large extent of auriferous land exists which would prove moderately remunerative with an adequate supply of water for sluicing purposes... as this locality was very rich in the shape of nuggets during the early days, or at the first rush, it is considered there is ample scope for mining enterprise and speculation.

Mr James Hunt, residing at the Dry Diggings, Mount Franklin, is in possession of a splendid water race, which has furnished an abundant supply of water for many years to the miners located in the neighbourhood. This water right has proved exceedingly remunerative up to the present time, but now that the old alluvial workings have become comparatively exhausted, fresh fields are sought after. Mr Hunt now proposes to supply fourteen or fifteen sluice-heads to the Sebastopol and Middleton Creek locality. [10]

March 1889

Collyer's Reef, Middleton Creek. This so-called reef is situated about four miles south from Vaughan, and was accidentally discovered by Collyer and party in sinking for alluvial deposits. The total yield of gold from 22 tons of stone was 107oz. averaging 4oz. 17dwt. to the ton. [10]

3.16

## SEBASTOPOL REEF/SEBASTOPOL GULLY

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Middleton Creek

DATE	HISTORY
11 Jan 1856	A serious disturbance occurred, on Friday last, at Middleton's Gully. It appears that for some months past a party of Italians, who had gained a reputation for their orderly and respectable conduct, had succeeded in lighting on several claims of a remunerative character. Their success excited the cupidity of a mob of Irishmen, by whom the claims were rushed. [47: p.2]
18 Jan 1856	The latest rush, which is creating quite a <i>furor</i> here, is at Middleton's Creek at the top of Sailor's Gully, in the direction of the Jim Crow ranges, of which these diggings are essentially a continuation. Several stores are erected there. The digging is alluvial; in long, narrow gullies. The chief drawback is the absence of water, Middleton's Creek, which is nearest to the present spot, being nearly a mile distant. About one thousand persons are already busy there... The claim there, which occasioned the recent dispute between the Irish and Italians, is believed to have washed out from one ounce to seven ounces to the tub. [47: p.2]
29 Jan 1856	[Population] ... Sebastopol, 1000. The last named place is situated near Middleton's Creek, at the locality where a disturbance recently occurred between the Irish and Italians. [47: p.2]
5 Feb 1856	Middleton's Creek has proved a failure. [47: p.5]
22 Feb 1856	Sebastopol (Middleton's Creek) is almost abandoned... Little remains of the late rush at Middleton's Creek but mementoes, in the shape of unclad tent-poles. [47: p.4]
March 1877	On the old Sebastopol Reef, Middleton Creek; a party of miners (Messrs. Williams and Company) have taken up a claim there, which promises to pay very well. This small co-operative company have purchased and removed the engine and plant formerly in possession of the Cattle's Reef Company, at Fryerstown; the machinery is not very extensive or of great value, but will probably answer the purpose of the company, who will be able to crush their quartz on the spot, and thus save the serious item of cartage. The re-working of this reef is expected to lead to the prospecting of the ranges in the immediate neighbourhood the indications being highly favourable to the existence of numerous quartz reefs. Claims have already been taken up and operations commenced in the immediate locality. [10]
June 1877	McLaren and Company, Sebastopol Reef. Crushing operations have been carried on during the past quarter; and, although not quite answering their expectations, the yield has been of an encouraging nature. [10]
March 1885	During the past quarter an old reef has been re-opened on the Sebastopol line, about four or five miles south from Vaughan, and probably identical with Greenwoods and the Liverpool and Body's line of reef at Kangaroo Hill. Attention has recently been directed to the numerous parties working out gullies and flats in the vicinity of Middleton Creek, Brown's Gully, Sebastopol, &c., and it has been suggested that a large extent of auriferous land exists which would prove moderately remunerative with an adequate supply of water for sluicing purposes. As this locality was very rich in the shape of nuggets during the early days, or at the first rush, it is considered there is ample scope for mining enterprise and speculation. Mr James Hunt, residing at the Dry Diggings, Mount Franklin, is in possession of a splendid water race, which has furnished an abundant supply of water for many years to the miners located in the neighbourhood. This water right has proved exceedingly remunerative up to the present time, but now that the old alluvial workings have become comparatively exhausted, fresh fields are sought after. Mr Hunt now proposes to supply fourteen or fifteen sluice-heads to the Sebastopol and Middleton Creek locality. [10]
c. 1900	Ground Sluicing - Martin brought the water around from the dry diggings at Daylesford. He brought the water with him...he started digging the race after a rough survey...as he went along he sluiced out a lot of the little gullies. He also sold water to others so that they could ground sluice. Talking around the turn of the century. His water race crosses the Porcupine Ridge Track, it was a major engineering feat...and his idea was to ground sluice out Sebastopol Gully. He finally got the water through to Sebastopol Gully, down near the bottom and started sluicing. He sold water rights to Nuggetty Gully (which runs into Browns Gully, Middleton Creek). He thought it would take them 7 to 8 years to sluice out Nuggetty Gully - he would have a steady income over those years - but it

**c.1910s**

turned out that the gully was very rich and so they put on lots of men and sluiced the gully out in one year. [71]

[Wattle and Daub hut site at head of Sebastopol Gully] - Sanger used to live in this one...he was the last declared bushranger in Australia. He had about a half a dozen huts out here in the bush and used to travel from one to the other to evade the police. [71]

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**3.17****ADELAIDE REEF**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Sebastopol Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Oct 1861</b>	Parties crushing quartz: Adelaide Gully - Baker and Co, 20 ft deep, 10 tons yielded 1 oz 6 dwt. [10]
<b>Oct 1861</b>	The Adelaide Reef...is turning out a little gold and shows signs of improvement. There are scores of reefs in the vicinity, which are evidently connections betwixt the Castlemaine and Daylesford reefs, and are unquestionably auriferous at greater or lesser depths. [10]
<b>June 1871</b>	The Chapel Hill Reef, the Adelaide Reef, Frenchman's, Mopoke, and the Bristol Reef are now again held by parties who evidently desire soon to prove their value. [10]

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**3.18****HOLCOMBE**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1864</b>	The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown. [Registrations include:] J. Wildish, 20 men's frontage, Holcombe Hill C.J. Stacey, 80 men's frontage, Holcombe Hill [Applications lodged include:] Ricks and Co., 36 men's frontage, Holcombe. The Holcombe Company, after prospecting the shallow ground with varied success, has commenced a shaft in the deep ground, which is estimated to be nearly 200 feet from the surface to the bed-rock. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Mining population of Holcombe: 83. [10]
<b>March 1865</b>	Mining population of Holcombe and vicinity: 104. [10]
<b>Dec 1865</b>	Mining population: 164. [10]
<b>Dec 1865</b>	Although there are hundreds of acres of auriferous hills in this locality that will pay for being sluiced, no attempt has been made to bring water to bear on the ground referred to. A scheme is now on the <i>topis</i> propounded by Messrs. Wardle and Amos, which is in my opinion practicable, if the money can be obtained to carry on the works. The persons referred to contemplate taking their supply from the river Loddon, in the vicinity of Holcombe, and bringing it by a contour race to the heads of the various gullies at Fryer's Creek. They do not propose to dam the river, but to divert as much water as the race will carry while the river is running. As this stream runs, on the average, only for seven or eight months in the year, it will be for that period only that the sluicers will be enabled to work. While the water lasts, they contemplate both night and day work. [10]
<b>Dec 1866</b>	The race that was being constructed by Messrs. Wardle and Amos, to bring water from the Upper Loddon to a portion of the Fryers Creek gold field, is at a stand still. It appears that there is a want of funds to carry on the enterprise. If this work had been vigorously carried out, the company would undoubtedly have received a dividend by this. [10]
<b>March 1867</b>	Glenluce and Holcombe. The basaltic hills between these localities have been but little prospected, although gold has invariably been found in every partially tested hill, on either side of the Loddon. [10]
<b>Sept 1874</b>	A new reef is alleged to have been discovered near Holcombe Station, and gold found in the stone, but on examination, I could see nothing to warrant any great expectations, as the quartz veins are very narrow and near the surface. [10]

3.19

## GREEN GULLY

Mining Division

Fryer's Creek

Associated Fields/Reefs

Holcombe/Middleton Creek

## DATE

## HISTORY

June 1869

A new rush has taken place within the last week to Green Gully, near Middleton Creek, about eight miles south of Fryerstown, the prospectors (two parties) having obtained gold in very remunerative quantities; one party from J. Butler's 42nd section block, and the other party from near that block. The sinking is about 30 feet through loose alluvial soil and gravel, very wet, and resting upon a pipeclay bottom, and requiring close timbering. The gold is very lumpy, nuggets from 1/2 oz. to 8 oz. being obtained. The gully and its tributaries south (towards Holcombe and Glenlyon) are pegged out for about two miles, and a great number of miners are about commencing operations; but it will require a few weeks to determine the extent and value of the rush.

During the past seven or eight years there have only been about ten or twelve persons working in the neighbourhood, with variable success. I am inclined to the opinion that this rush will prove of considerable importance, and give an impetus to alluvial and quartz prospecting in the locality, no doubt comprising the whole tract of auriferous country between Vaughan, Holcombe, and Glenlyon. [10]

Dec 1869

There have been some very rich discoveries at Green Gully, Holcombe, but confined to a few only. [10]

March 1870

Having recently paid a visit to the scene of the rush, I feel justified in hazarding an opinion that more marvellous discoveries will yet be made. There are now about 130 miners located on the ground, the majority of whom are realising good wages. The extent of ground occupied in claims is from 11/4 to 11/2 miles in length, by an average of 11/2 chains in width, and every claim appears to be in work. The depth of sinking averages 30 feet...the shafts have invariably to be closely timbered, in consequence of the unreliable nature of the strata. A party of four miners during the past fortnight (21st and 26th March) succeeded in unearthing two nuggets, one 75 oz. and the other 55 ozs. another party secured an 8-oz. nugget about the same time. Many hundred ounces of gold, in the shape of nuggets, have been found during the past twelve months at this rush, but not publicly reported.

The great drawback at the present time is the want of water, as most of the washdirt has to be stacked until a storage of water can be provided; in the meantime nuggeting, in a general way, provides sufficient for current expenses. An impression prevails among the miners that a regular defined lead follows the course of the gully, but very narrow. The gully has been occupied by a few miners uninterruptedly for the past eight or ten years, who invariably represented themselves as unfortunate. The importance of this goldfield is now fully recognised as to its alluvial deposits, and the time is not far distant when some of our enterprising quartz miners will deem it advisable to test some of the reefs, which abound in the neighbourhood. [10]

June 1870

A few weeks since a 215-oz. nugget was unearthed from 27 feet sinking. Quartz Prospecting. - Some parties are engaged prospecting in the neighbourhood of the Green Gully Rush. [10]

March 1871

A nugget of 22 oz. was obtained a fortnight back at Green Gully rush; it was found some 15 chains west of Green Gully, upon one of the volcanic hills which skirts the gully upon the western side...all describe the ground as the most patchy and irregular in yield they have ever heard of; the color sometimes scarcely obtainable from a load of washdirt, while another load adjoining yielding ounces.

It is expected that another rush will set in here, when, in all probability, the ground will be well prospected under the volcanic formation. [10]

June 1883

An alleged discovery of a new lead of gold at Green Gully, Holcombe, supposed to intersect Butters' 42nd section block. The basaltic hills in the neighbourhood have been tested more or less during the past twenty years, but nothing discovered which would justify the inference that rich alluvial deposits exist. [10]

Sept 1883

Green Gully Rush, Holcombe. In my last report attention was directed to an alleged discovery of a new lead of gold supposed to intersect Butler's 42nd section block, and traversing other blocks in a northerly direction, occupied by different parties under the provisions of the 42nd section of the Land Act. There are good grounds for supposing there is a large and extensive tract of auriferous country still explored. The miners, however, located in the neighbourhood have met with unexpected difficulties and obstacles in prosecuting their search for the precious metal, inasmuch that the licensees



under the 42nd section have refused the right of entry, and the privilege of disturbing the surface, unless a liberal preliminary sum were deposited or guaranteed.

- Glass and party were the original prospectors; having bottomed a shaft 80 feet in depth near the boundary of Butler's 42nd section block. They then drove in an easterly direction towards Storie's block (now Fowler's), and met with very fair encouragement, having unearthed nuggets of various sizes. Jones and party have recently bottomed at 65 feet. Adams and party and several others having taken up claims within Storie's block, and bottomed on payable gold. One party realised £70 worth in ten days, including a 21/2 and 10 oz. nugget. Temby and party have also found payable gold in their claim. Adams and party have sunk through 25 feet of basaltic rock, and Mackenzie and party 27 feet, but they will not probably reach the auriferous drift under 60 feet. All the parties working inside Storie's or Fowler's block had to suspend operations in August last owing to an injunction from the Supreme Court; but they (the miners) suffered no hindrance during the time they were prospecting the ground. No sooner, however, had payable gold been struck, than it was discovered they were trespassers, and had to cease working. The warden has been requested to visit the ground, and adjust the differences between the various parties interested, by placing a proper interpretation on the meaning of the conditions attached to the 42nd and 49th sections of the Land Act. From present indications, a new and rather extensive field will probably be opened out, affording profitable employment to a large number of miners, if favourable terms can be arranged with the lessees of the blocks through which the lead of gold is likely to trend. [10]
- Sept 1884** Green Gully Rush, Holcombe. There are about 30 miners employed in and about Green Gully, the depth of sinking (alluvial) varying from 30 to 60 feet through volcanic rock. Nuggets varying in size from 1oz. to 19oz. have recently been unearthed, the gold being of a coarse and dark description. In Johnson's claim 30oz. of coarse gold was washed from three tubs of washdirt. The lead is being gradually traced from Butler's paddock (42nd section) down the ridge into Fowler's paddock. Fresh claims are being marked out daily, and the general prospects of the rush improving. [10]
- June 1887** On the 18th May last, a nugget, 26oz. in weight, was found in Butler's Paddock, Holcombe, in 80 feet sinking, by Adams and party. The nugget was worn-worn, and slightly impregnated with quartz. The same claim (on private property) was originally occupied by Jones and party, who failed to make the ground pay. [10]

3.20

**GLENLUCE**

**Mining Division**  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Fryer's Creek

- | <b>DATE</b>          | <b>HISTORY</b>   |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>23 Feb 1855</b>   | We are now all alive, looking forward to the Races, which are to come off...at the old racecourse. Fryer's Creek and Loddon Annual Races, March 6 & 7, 1855. [Races include:] Publicans' Purse, Storekeepers' Purse, Puddling Machine Purse, for all horses that have worked within the last month on Fryer's Creek. [47: p.5]   |
| <b>16 March 1855</b> | Fryer's Creek Races. Second Meeting, 6th & 7th March 1855. These annual sports came off on the Fryer's Creek race-ground. The course itself deserves a word. A worse place could scarcely be selected as a race-ground, as independent of the unevenness of the ground, there is not one spot where a spectator can stand and witness the progress of the horses round the whole of the course. For half-a-mile before coming to the distance-post it is a dead pull up hill, and the horses are invisible to the persons remaining at this or the winning post. [47: p.2] |
| <b>8 Feb 1856</b>    | On the 5th and 6th proximo the following lots of Crown lands will be sold at Castlemaine:<br>31 [lots] in the hamlet of Glenluce, and 19 in the hamlet of Vaughan. [47: p. 4]  |
| <b>22 Feb 1856</b>   | Sale of Crown Lands - Hamlet of Glenluce - situate on the Loddon, near the Fryer's Creek Race Course, and about two miles from the Township of Fryers. [47: p.8]   |
| <b>Sept 1864</b>     | The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown. [Applications lodged include:]<br>Graves and Co., 20 men's frontage, Racecourse. [10]   |
| <b>Sept 1864</b>     | Mining population: 134 [10]  |
| <b>March 1865</b>    | Mining population of Glenluce: 165. [10]   |

**March 1867**

Glenluce. The principal workings in this locality are on the banks and in the beds of the Loddon, and generally confined to the Chinese; their mode of operation is sluicing upon a small scale, washing from surface to bedrock, and averaging 30s. per man per week. [10] Glenluce and Holcombe. The basaltic hills between these localities have been but little prospected, although gold has invariably been found in every partially tested hill, on either side of the Loddon.

On the Race Course Hill a party of four miners has been prospecting since 1864, they have driven a tunnel into the hill 750 feet, along the whole course of the tunnel gold has been found, the drift yielding from 2 to 4 dwts. to the ton: the water, however, has proved a serious obstacle ... the cost of this tunnel has been £800 [10]

**March 1898** Glenluce Co: 80 ton crushed, 19oz gold [10]  
**June 1898** Glenluce Co: 150 ton crushed, 6oz gold [10]  
**June 1898** Knapman and Party: 6 ton, 27oz gold [10]

**3.21 HERON'S HILL**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	I have...to report that great expectations are being formed of another hill, named after the warden, "Heron's" Hill, on which a prospecting claim was granted 3 weeks since. The hills is of similar formation to the Table Hill; it is, in fact, one of the line of continuations of those tablelands which extend both up and down the Loddon River from Table Hill. [10]
<b>April 1861</b>	The tunnel in Heron's Hill has not up to this time reached the drift, although from the great quantity of water issuing from the rock, the miners cannot be far distant. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	At Heron's Hill twelve tunnels are being driven beneath the trap rock. The number of tunnels going into Heron's Hill exceeds those driven into any hill in the Fryer's Creek district. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown. [Registrations include:] Riddick and Co., 10 men's frontage, Heron's Hill [10]

**3.22 RAE'S HILL**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1864</b>	The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown... [Registrations include:] Rae and Co., 20 men's frontage, Rae's Hill [Applications lodged include:] Hedges and Co., 10 men's frontage, Rae's Hill. Rae and Co., the prospectors of Rae's Hill, obtained gold after sinking about 55 feet through the basalt, and are now driving a tunnel, in order to work their claim more efficiently. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Mining population: 20 [10]

**3.23 SMYTH'S HILL**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
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- Sept 1864** The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown. [Applications lodged include:]  
Cannon and Co., 50 men's frontage, Smyth's Hill. [10]
- Sept 1864** Mining population: 5 [10]

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**3.24****KITTO'S HILL**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****HISTORY****Sept 1864**

The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown. [Applications lodged include:]

Mayze and Co., 20 men's frontage, Kitto's Hill

Rutherford and Co., 20 men's frontage, Kitto's Hill. [10]

**Sept 1864**

Mining population: 13 [10]

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**3.25****VERDON'S HILL**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****HISTORY****Sept 1864**

The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown. [Registrations include:]

Plunkett and Co., 8 acres, Verdon's Hill

Landy and Co., 8 acres, Verdon's Hill

[Applications lodged include:]

Gray and Co., 10 men's frontage, Verdon's Hill..

Messrs. Plunkett Brothers, the discoverers of gold in Verdon's Hill, have fair prospects

[10]

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**3.26****BUSCOMBE'S HILL**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****HISTORY****Sept 1864**

The whole of the basaltic formation, lying between Daylesford and Glenlyon, having been leased and occupied by mining companies, attention began to be directed towards the areas of similar character on the Fryer's Creek side of the Loddon, in the district of Glenlyon; and the consequence is, the occupation of nearly the whole of the available country between the latter place and Glenluce, near Fryerstown. [Registrations include:]

Carmichael and Co., 100 men's frontage, Buscombe's Hill

[Applications lodged include:]

Dyer and Co., 85 men's frontage, Buscombe's Hill [10]

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3.27

## STONE'S GULLY

Mining Division

Fryer's Creek

Associated Fields/Reefs

Sailor's Gully (south)

## DATE

## HISTORY

27 April 1855

There has been a general rush during the week from the old spots of Fryer's Creek towards a newly discovered gold-field the other side of the Loddon. Going from Fryer's Creek, the Loddon is crossed at the bottom of a narrow and very rugged gully, near the Bald hill; ascending a steep range, Sailor's Gully is reached: this has been a rich and favourite spot of the diggers in the locality of the Loddon, and is of considerable length; having left Sailor's Gully behind and proceeding straight ahead, through the same kind of gully for a mile and a half, the new diggings make their appearance. The gully is terminating near Jim Crow, so, should the ground be rich, we have a splendid gold-field for the people of Fryer's Creek. Several hundreds of claims were marked out, but the day being wet not many diggers were at work; two holes were bottomed at a depth of 35 feet, and were reported as doing remarkably well, the report was they would not take £100 a foot for their claims. Tents were arriving fast, and judging from the appearance of the place another week will make it a busy thriving spot. The immediate neighbourhood of the gully looks very healthy, smaller gullies running into the larger one, and plenty of quartz hills, and there being a continuation of a rich gully like that of Sailor's Gully would auger greatly of its future. [47: p.2]

4 May 1855

The new rush at Stone's Gully has not turned out so well as was anticipated. So promising was the appearance of the new place, that several storekeepers were tempted to try their fortune there, but we understand they all returned disappointed. [47: pp. 2-3]

11 May 1855

Stone's Gully. This locality, which has lately been the scene of a rather extensive rush is reached by crossing the Loddon, near the Bald Hill, Fryer's Creek, and following the direction of Sailor's Gully for about two miles. Some months ago a prospecting party was established at Fryer's Creek, by whom Stone's gully was opened about three weeks since. The presence of gold was very soon ascertained, and the indications were so promising as to give rise to rumours that the whole ground was of an exceedingly auriferous character. A rush was the result, and a large number of holes were sunk without realising the golden hopes that had been entertained. The place became deserted as rapidly as it was filled, and on Monday last...there were not more than fifty men working on the ground. It does not appear to us, however...that the place has been given a fair trial. Firstly, the entire absence of water prevented any experimenting on the washing stuff, unless after a walk of more than a mile to the nearest water-holes... [In] the last ten days...from one load of washing stuff not a grain has been obtained, while the next, from the same heap, yielded six ounces and upwards. This stuff has to be carted to the Loddon, a distance of two miles, at a cost of 20s. per load. Another cause for the unfavourable opinion entertained of this gully may be found in the peculiarity of the bottom. Occasionally, this bottom consists of a 'black mullocky soil', in other places it appears as a mixture of sand and slate. No one seemed to imagine that the 'black mullocky soil' formed the bottom, until lately, when a large piece being broken a nugget weighing an ounce and a quarter was discovered. There are now between twenty and thirty windlasses in operation, all working in a line in the centre of the gully, through which it is supposed a vein of patchy gold must run in a zig-zag course. The sinking varies from twenty-five to nearly forty feet. Stone's gully...is a continuation of Sailor's gully, whose prolific yields of gold are well remembered. It extends...a distance of about twelve miles. Throughout its whole length it presents precisely the same features as the richest, of the older gullies, having branches from the north and south, and abundance of quartz; we believe it will be ultimately extensively worked. The easy distance of the ground from Fryer's Creek renders a walk to and fro easy... One storekeeper is so confident of the gully turning out well that he is 'making fixings' for the winter. [47: p. 2]

c. 1980s

Getting back to the main gully, there are many traces of the rich alluvial worked here, in what can now be called Stones Gully. Over on the east side, you can see one of the old square, riveted, water tanks that were sent out here in thousands, filled with goods for the colonies, on the old wind-jammers. 'Containers', if not as big as the container ships of today. There is a big old tree, felled, probably for a beehive. This gully has always been a great place for bee-trees. [49]

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**3.28****ITALIAN'S HILL**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Kangaroo Hill, Butcher's Hill

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**DATE****HISTORY****11 March 1856**

The rush on the hill near Kangaroo is daily increasing in importance and is likely to be a second Kangaroo Hill. [47: p.2]

**28 March 1856**

A newly erected Store, situated on the Italian's Hill, Kangaroo, to be sold, owing to the present proprietor having a reef to work. Price £60. [47: p.8]

**1 April 1856**

The principal diggings are at New Kangaroo Hill near the old workings, and above the Italian tunnel. These are proving very rich, washing from half an ounce to 18 ounces to the tub. The diggings are spreading towards Butcher's Hill, following a lead which tends in that direction. A quartz reef is struck on the crown of this hill by Blackmore's company. [47: p.4]

**c. 1980s**

Italian Hill was paddocked out, open cut style. Much of the alluvial gold from there was black coated. This is usually a thin film of manganese, and is the result of precipitation from the overlying gravel beds. It must have been pretty rich, as it was thoroughly worked over. [61]

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**3.29****PATTEN'S REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**none

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**DATE****HISTORY****n.d.**

An old chimney on the right verge of the road, and nearby the old quartz mine which it served. This was Patten's Reef, the southernmost occurrence of the Chewton-Fryers line of reef. [62]

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**3.30****SALTER'S CREEK**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Loddon and Tributaries Water Supply Co.

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**DATE****HISTORY**

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**3.31****SHICER GULLY AND SHICER HILL**

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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Table Hill, Tarilta

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**DATE****HISTORY****March 1865**

Mining population of Tarilta and Shicer Gully: 236. [10]

**1867**

Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Table Hill Co. [10]

**1868**

Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1868: Jenkins and Co. [10]

**June 1875**

Alluvial Mining. The Homeward-bound Co, at Table and Shicer Hills, are obtaining fair returns from comparatively unworked ground, adjoining blocks of ground worked out. [10]

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**3.31**


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**SHICER GULLY AND SHICER HILL**


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**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Table Hill, Tarilta

**DATE****HISTORY****March 1865  
1867**

Mining population of Tarilta and Shicer Gully: 236 [10]  
 Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Table Hill Co. [10]

**1868**

Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1868: Jenkins and Co. [10]

**June 1875**

Alluvial Mining. The Homeward-bound Co, at Table and Shicer Hills, are obtaining fair returns from comparatively unworked ground adjoining blocks of ground worked out. [10]



**ZONE 4: MOPOKE/STRATHLODDON/GUILDFORD****CASTLEMAINE—GAZ4****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>4.1</b>	Nil Desperandum Reef	<b>4.2</b>	German Gully Tarr's Reef	<b>4.3</b>	Cornish & Spanish or
<b>4.4</b>	Mopoke Reef/Gully	<b>4.5</b>	Frenchman's Reef	<b>4.6</b>	Champion Reef
<b>4.7</b>	Pennyweight Flat/Hill	<b>4.8</b>	Capper's Reef	<b>4.9</b>	Strathloddon
<b>4.10</b>	Taylor's Paddock (Yapeen)	<b>4.11</b>	Guildford Hill	<b>4.12</b>	Guildford
<b>4.13</b>	Guildford Plateau/Loddon Valley	<b>4.14</b>	Pickpocket/Hard Hill	<b>4.15</b>	Donkey Gully
<b>4.16</b>	Bald Hill	<b>4.17</b>	Boots Gully	<b>4.18</b>	Rabbit Flat
<b>4.19</b>	Shicer Hill				

**4.1 NIL DESPERANDUM REEF**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous [include]:  
Nil Desperandum Reef, 12 miners employed [10]

**4.2 GERMAN GULLY**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Taylor's Paddocks (Yapeen), Pennyweight, Cornish & Spanish/Tarr's, Eagle

**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**10 June 1854** Pearce Martin was charged by one Joseph Savey, of German Gully, Fryer's Creek, with threatening to blow his brains out. Defendant...said he was unfortunately encircled by bad neighbours, who had intruded very unceremoniously into his tent. [47: p.3]  
**26 Aug 1854** German Gully has a very healthy appearance, and something appears to be doing on, if one may judge from the increased number of tents there. The diggers there have traced the line of gold up a blind gully, running due north in the direct route for Castlemaine, and in most cases, are earning a livelihood, as they are sticking constantly at their work there. [47: p. 4]  
**9 March 1855** A new rush has taken place on a quartz hill, German Gully. The holes not being yet bottomed, the result is unknown. [47: p.2]  
**22 June 1855** It is generally supposed that the whole neighbourhood of German Gully will be profitably worked this winter. [47: p.2]  
**22 June 1855** Mr Denis O'Callaghan, Storekeeper, German Gully, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.4]  
**13 July 1855** Several leases of quartz reefs have been taken out in German Gully. [47: p.2]  
**30 Nov 1855** There have been disturbances with [the Chinese] in Mopoke Gully, and German Gully, on account of water... [47:p. 2]  
**7 Dec 1855** Mr Buttler, storekeeper, German Gully, Fryer's Creek. [47: p.4]  
**4 Jan 1856** [For Sale]. Quartz Reef, German Gully, Fryer's Creek - yielding from 10 to 15 oz. to the ton. Together with one Berdan's One-horse Crushing and Amalgamating Machine. [47: p.1]  
**April 1859** In German Gully a new reef has been opened, styled the 'Cornish Reef.' This is not a reef in reality, but simply a series of small leaders, running at different angles of inclination from the surface. [10]  
**June 1859** 16 puddling machines, operated by 64 non-Chinese  
170 non-Chinese involved in ordinary mining  
30 non-Chinese involved in quartz mining [10]  
**June 1872** Wilson and McDonald, whose lease is situated in German Gully, about half-a-mile north of Chapel Hill, have had an excellent crushing of 11/2 oz. to the ton from a hitherto unexplored lode. The depth of sinking is about 90 feet. This, in addition to the fine and regular yields they had at shallower depths, shows their claim to be very valuable. [10]

- Sept 1872** The Eagle Company has a small lease in German Gully, upon Tarr's Reef, which was opened some seventeen years back, and excellent returns obtained. The present company...have obtained the excellent yield of 3/4 oz. per ton, which seems to be sufficient inducement for erection of a crushing plant in this locality; a want much required, as the gully is noted for its auriferous character of gold-bearing stone. McDonald and Wilson, German Gully, at a depth of 25 feet, have averaged over 2 oz. per ton; this lease is situate about 4 chains west of the Eagle or Tarr's line, and about 50 chains south; generally supposed to be a continuation of the old Chapel Hill Reef. [10]
- June 1873** The most noticeable feature in the past quarter being the yield from the Eagle Company, situated at the head of German Gully, which gave the excellent average of 14 dwts. per ton at water level...This has led to the occupation of the ground south, and a determination on the part of the proprietors to prosecute their labours vigorously. [10]
- June 1873** It is contemplated by a company who now hold the Old Chapel Hill ground to provide for the erection of a crushing plant for public purposes in connection with their mine - a more central position could not be proposed, seeing the excellent returns from Wilson and McDonald's, the Eagle, and those of the Little Nugget, near New London, all of whom cart to, and crush at, Small's, in Fryerstown; cartage costs therefrom 4s. per ton, hence it is obvious that a great impetus would be given to quartz mining by the erection of the plant purposed...[10]
- June 1875** Kaiser and Co., adjoining [Wilson and McDonald's], south, obtained 151/2 oz. from 11 tons, being 1 oz. 8 dwts. and more to the ton, at a depth of 40 feet. [10]
- Sept 1876** Some of the puddling machines have done very well of late; one in particular, situate in German Gully, Pennyweight, gives a return of 210 oz. for the past three months, thus showing the old abandoned workings are still worthy of notice... [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties puddling or sluicing: Vosti and Co., German Gully [10]
- June 1881** McDonald and party, German Gully. - This small party have been working with varied success for many years past, sometimes moderately payable, at others unremunerative; at the present time quartz is being raised and crushed...which is likely to yield 3/4 oz. to the ton. This locality has not received that attention in respect to its mineral wealth, which it undoubtedly deserves at the hands of the mining investor and speculator. [10]
- Dec 1881** McDonald and Wilson, German Gully, are working two lease blocks. [10]
- March 1882** McDonald and party, German Gully, are still making fair wages, having been engaged working the claim for nearly twenty years past... The reef, which they are working, is presumed to be on the same line as the reef at Chapel Hill, where a company has been started. [10]
- June 1884** McDonald and party, German Gully, continue to find payable stone in their claim... There is plenty of new ground in the immediate neighbourhood, both north and south, which would in all probability pay for prospecting. [10]
- March 1885** McDonald's claim has turned out exceptionally good, 2oz. to the ton being the average yield from 16 tons crushed. [10]
- June 1885** A party has recently found payable gold in a reef cropping from the surface, near the Old Eagle Company's claim, German Gully. [10]
- Sept 1885** Messrs. Sheehan and party, of German Gully...crushing returns give an average of 11 1/4 dwt. to the ton. [10]
- March 1889** McDonald and Party, German Gully. - A large extent of ground has been worked by this party with varying success, the driving and sinking having proved exceedingly hard. The strike of the main line of reef is N. 1° 21' E... There are two shafts, of 170 feet each. The yields at various depths are as follows:- to 20 feet, 284oz.; to 100 feet, 596oz.; to 150 feet, 342oz.; to 200 feet, 55oz.; to 300 feet, 4oz.; 1,647 tons averaging 16dwt. to the ton. The reef is abandoned, the party not being able to prospect for new shoots of gold. Eagle Reef Company, German Gully. This reef was opened out in 1857 by R. Dunn and party, who realised 20oz. to the ton. M. Roberts and party got 7oz. to the ton from shallow workings, the leaders are about 18 inches in thickness. The reef bears N. 5° W. There have been several shafts sunk on the line, the main shaft being about 150 feet in depth; there is also an open cutting, 140 feet long by 30 feet deep. A great deal of prospecting has been done in the locality, but nothing of a permanent character in the shape of a lode has yet been discovered. During the years 1872 and 1873, 188 tons were raised and crushed from the 120 and 150-foot levels, averaging 181/2dwt. to the ton. The reef has been abandoned for a long time, partly from its being comparatively unknown to the mining speculator. [10]
- June 1891** A party of miners from Broken Hill has taken up 30 acres of ground at German Gully, and they intend re-working the old Pennyweight Hill by sluicing. [10]
- March 1898** Chapel Hill Extended Co.: 7 ton crushed, 2dwt gold [10]
- June 1898** Chapel Hill North Co.: 45 ton crushed, 30oz gold [10]
- Dec 1904** German Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: [listed] [10]
- Sept 1910** German Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: [listed] [10]
- June 1913** German Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 30oz gold [10]
- Sept 1913** German Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 42oz gold [10]

**Dec 1913** German Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 10oz gold [10]

**4.3**

**CORNISH & SPANISH REEF OR TARR'S REEF**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** German Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>April 1859</b>	In German Gully a new reef has been opened, styled the 'Cornish Reef.' This is not a reef in reality, but simply a series of small leaders, running at different angles of inclination from the surface. [10]
<b>May 1859</b>	This reef, from its first being worked, promised well, not only in the prospecting claim, but in three or four others adjoining, and in every claim gold has been struck. Since my last Report, the average yield has been from 2oz. to 3oz. to the ton. This yield has so far satisfied the parties that it would not answer their purpose to sink deeper in search of richer veins. A party next to the prospecting claim has recently discovered a leader at a depth of 24 feet from the surface. This vein commenced at about 1 inch in thickness, gradually increasing to 3 feet... The stone from this surpasses any in richness ever discovered in the district. It is calculated to yield from 30oz. to 40oz. to the ton. The stone is coated with a layer of slate, and loose gold has been found embedded in it to the depth of 1 inch. In a dishful of this conglomerate half an ounce of gold was washed at a trial. [10]
<b>June 1859</b>	Prospecting claim (the best crushing from this reef has been 5 oz. to the ton, 17 3/4 oz. from 3 1/2 tons). Yield per ton - 1 oz. 5 dwt. Depth from surface - 10 feet. Young & Co. Yield per ton - 2 oz. Depth from surface - 20 feet. Neale & Co. Yield per ton - 2 oz. Depth from surface - 35 feet. Baxter & Co. Yield per ton - 1 oz. Depth from surface 50 feet. [10]
<b>July 1859</b>	[Table of monthly crushings] lists Prospecting Claim and Dunne and Co. [10] The Cornish and Spanish Reef, which some time since promised to turn out exceedingly well, is almost entirely abandoned, only two or three parties working on it. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Auriferous reefs include Cornish and Spanish Reef, 20 miners working [10]
<b>July 1861</b>	Quantity of quartz crushed last month lists - Tarr and Company, Dunn and Company, and Gingell and Company as working Cornish Reef. [10: Castlemaine Division]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Companies/parties crushing quartz in past month: Tarr - 4 ton crushed for 16 dwt. gold [10: Castlemaine Division]
<b>Sept 1861 1865</b>	Tarr and Company [have had a good crushing] from the German Gully Reef. [10] Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Alliance Company [10]
<b>Sept 1872</b>	The Eagle Company has a small lease in German Gully, upon Tarr's Reef, which was opened some seventeen years back, and excellent returns obtained. The present company...have obtained the excellent yield of 3/4 oz. per ton, which seems to be sufficient inducement for erection of a crushing plant in this locality; a want much required, as the gully is noted for its auriferous character of gold-bearing stone. [10]
<b>June 1873</b>	The old Cornish and Spanish reef, about 30 chains south of the Eagle Company, has been taken up by a party of Sandhurst miners, who have every faith that the excellent returns years back to water level was sufficient to justify them in seeking gold at greater depths. [10]
<b>March 1889</b>	Cornish and Spanish, German Gully Hill. - This reef was discovered in the year 1858, by Coleman and Cross, who realised 1,000 oz. from a series of crushings, the leader was about 6 inches wide, and depth from surface, 60 feet. Dunn and party crushed 7 tons for 36oz., 20 feet in depth, the leader from 1 inch to 6 inches in thickness. The claim adjoining the prospectors proved very rich to a depth of 24 feet... The bearing of the reef is N. 4° W... There are two principal shafts, 100 and 120 feet respectively. There has been no prospecting done since 1867, which requires special notice. The reef has been abandoned, owing to the hardness of the rock in sinking and driving. [10]

## 4.4

## MOPOKE REEF &amp; MOPOKE GULLY

**Mining Division**

Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Taylor's Paddocks (Yapeen), Scotson's Reef, Frenchman's Reef, Pennyweight Reef is a continuation of Mopoke Reef

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>22 June 1855</b>	There are many parties working satisfactorily at More Pork Gully, and it is supposed that the whole neighbourhood of German Gully will be profitably worked this winter. [47: p.2]
<b>28 Sept 1855</b>	A digger in Mopoke Gully, Fryer's Creek, writing to the <u>Age</u> says - "At the end of the Gully, the stranger is struck by the appearance of a fence which has been put up across the gully, together with a notice threatening with imprisonment all persons trespassing, thereby stopping all digging operations beyond this boundary. This fence encloses an area of one square mile of highly auriferous ground, which has been tried and proved to contain...gold in large quantities. Now, Sir, is it right that a large tract of rich ground like this, capable of giving employment to upwards of 3000 diggers, should thus be withheld from the public, whilst hundreds in this worked-out locality can scarcely obtain a living..." [47: p.3] [see TAYLOR'S PADDOCKS/YAPEEN]
<b>5 Oct 1855</b>	For Sale, a Quartz Claim, at the head of Mopoke Gully, Fryer's Creek, yielding from four to ten ounces to the ton. Apply to William Strain, on the reef. [47: p.3]
<b>2 Nov 1855</b>	Mopoke Gully seems to be the favourite spot just now; the quartz reefs are turning out exceedingly rich. [47: p.2]
<b>30 Nov 1855</b>	There have been disturbances with [the Chinese] in Mopoke Gully, and German Gully, on account of water. [47:p. 2]
<b>June 1859</b>	Mopoke Reef - 4 non-Chinese involved in quartz mining [10]
<b>June 1859</b>	Mopoke Reef - Finlay & Co. (The gold is very patchy and nuggetty; pieces of 1/2 oz. and 1 oz. are frequently found in small stones. This is the only claim working on the reef; several shafts have been sunk on both sides, and much driven, but no gold or even quartz was found.) 28 ton crushed past month. Yield - 0. Depth from surface - 70 feet. [10]
<b>June 1859</b>	Mopoke Gully - 8 puddling machineries, operated by 30 non-Chinese 30 non-Chinese involved in ordinary mining 4 non-Chinese involved in quartz mining [10]
<b>August 1860</b>	The Alliance Company - This little company are progressing steadily, and deriving a small weekly profit. [10]
<b>Sept 1860</b>	Alliance Company - The works of this company have been retarded through the falling in of a portion of their mine, the damage has been partially repaired, and they are going on again smoothly, so much so, that a dividend is expected in a week or two. [10]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	Alliance Company - This has been doing very little lately, merely paying their way, with, as yet, no sign of profit. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	The Alliance Company is to be wound up. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz reefs actually proved to be auriferous [include]: Mopoke Reef, 4 miners employed [10]
<b>Feb 1861</b>	The Alliance Company's plant has been purchased by Messrs. McTavish and Co., of Castlemaine, who have applied for a lease of 4 acres of quartz on Mopoke Reef. [10]
<b>April 1861</b>	The Alliance company's affairs are still in the hands of the Court of Mines. [10]
<b>July 1861</b>	Monthly quartz crushing returns lists - Scotson and Company (late Alliance Company) as obtaining quartz from Frenchman's and Mopoke Reefs; and McTavish and Company obtaining quartz from Mopoke Reef [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Gingell and Company has had a good crushing from the Frenchman's Reef, Mopoke [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Quartz crushed & gold obtained in past month: S. Scotson, near surface, 240 ton yielded 3 dwt. A.D. McTavish, 60 feet from surface, 140 ton yielded 9 dwt. [10]
<b>June 1864</b>	An engine of 18 horse-power, with 12 stamps, pumping and winding gear, is being erected upon Fairbairn's lease, Wattle Gully, which has been brought by Mr Scotson from Mopoke Gully, Fryer's Creek division. [10]
<b>June 1864</b>	Mr Scotson has been making extensive alterations in his plant. He has just completed an addition of 6 new heads to his battery at Mopoke. [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: S. Scotson [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: S. Scotson [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: S. Scotson, Tearle and Company, H.W. Lamb and Company [10]

- June 1871** The Chapel Hill Reef, the Adelaide Reef, Frenchman's, Mopoke, and the Bristol Reef are now again held by parties who evidently desire soon to prove their value. A new engine and crushing machine is now being erected at Mopoke, to work the Frenchman's Reef and the reefs near it. [10]
- Dec 1871** Champion Company, Mopoke. About 70 tons of stone have been sent to the Ajax machine as a trial crushing; this taken from a reef of immense thickness - about 40 feet in places... Gold has also been struck in several other parts of the mine. There can be little doubt now as to the permanent value of the mine, a good plant only being required to reduce the vast quantity of auriferous stone. [10]
- June 1883** The Mopoke Reef (Scotson's) is also about to be re-worked, a lease of a block of ground having been secured. It is intended to erect machinery on the ground and operate on a vast body of stone, which can be easily got at and raised, not being more than from 20 to 30 feet from the surface. In the early days, 3 to 4 dwt. to the ton, with a body of stone 10 to 15 feet wide, was not considered worthy of notice, even with a crushing plant upon the ground. At the present time, with improved mechanical appliances and more skilful management, it is supposed, this comparatively poor quartz would prove moderately remunerative. [10]
- Sept 1884** Shill, Woods, and party, Mopoke Gully. This party, having lately secured a lease of their ground, is still working vigorously. There is plenty of auriferous ground in this neighbourhood, which would undoubtedly pay for working. The Champion Reef, Scotson's, Frenchman's, Aberdeen's, &c., are all in the immediate locality, and probably connected. [10]
- Sept 1885** N. Woods and party, of Mopoke Gully... when they first took up the claim, and for a long time subsequently, they had little or no encouragement... The reef had been originally worked at shallow depths with moderately remunerative returns, but the run of auriferous quartz suddenly disappeared, when mining operations were suspended, and the ground left unworked for a considerable period. The Mopoke Gully quartz reefs are now attracting attention, two or more leases having been recently applied for by Messrs. Aberdeen and Walker, who contemplate erecting suitable machinery for crushing. [10]
- March 1887** The Bendigo and Fryer's Gold Mining Company (formerly Woods and party, Mopoke Gully) have done very little underground work during the past quarter, the principal work having been confined to the surface, viz. - making excavations for water-wheel pit, and erection of masonry. A 10-head battery is about being erected, which will do all the crushing by water power. The water-wheel is overshot, 60 feet in diameter, with 20 inches breast (or waterway). The wheel will be set in motion by a supply of water from a race 19 chains long, with a fall of 3/4 inch to the chain, and connected with the main Government race; the supply of water is estimated at 21/2 million gallons per day. The manager is of opinion, they will be able to crush about 120 tons per week. [10]
- Sept 1887** The Bendigo and Fryer's Company, Mopoke Gully, have now a fair supply of water for driving the water-wheel, which keeps the stampers in motion for crushing purposes. [10]
- March 1888** Bendigo and Fryer's Company, Mopoke Gully. - This company has suspended mining operations. The company intend to extend their operations by securing blocks of land within a short distance of their present workings, where it is well known (Champion Reef) that large blocks of auriferous quartz exist. [10]
- March 1889** Bendigo and Fryer's (late Woods), Mopoke Gully. The discoveries made on this particular line of reef are comparatively of recent date, as there are no official records to which reference can be made prior to 1884; the original proprietors of the claim, have, however, made representations as to extraordinary yields from certain crushings at an earlier period, which would be very interesting if capable of verification. The bearing of the reef is N. 6° W. The main shaft is 100 feet deep. The yields from various depths are as follows:- Surface to 50 feet, 410oz.; to 100 feet, 222oz.; 1,505 tons averaging 8.4dwt. to the ton. The reef is being worked, at the present time (March, 1889), by a party of tributers, and paying good wages. The crushing machinery is driven by water-power, the supply of water being derived from an open race, working an over-shot, and connected with the main Coliban aqueduct.
- Scotson's Reef, Mopoke Gully. - This reef was first opened out in 1854, gold having been found in a small leader near the bottom of the alluvial formation. From certain favourable indications, a shaft was then sunk and good payable quartz struck at 80 feet, which continued payable to 90 feet in depth... On the north side of the north cross-course the Champion reef joined, at which junction the yield of gold from the stone was very good for a distance of 10 or 12 feet along the reef in a northerly direction... The line of reef bears N 8° W. The names of the original discoverers of the reef cannot now be ascertained, but, after (as alleged) realising about £5,000 from a small block of ground, they sold their rights to Mr Scotson for £1,200. The Alliance Company was then formed, but after working for two years, collapsed from some unexplained cause; it may be stated, however, that their first crushing gave 4oz. to the ton. Mr Scotson retained possession of the ground for many years, but the yields were very irregular; altogether some 10,000oz. were

obtained at various depths down to 100 feet, up to the year 1867. During the years 1867 and 1868, 5,400 tons were crushed, yielding 2.2dwt. to the ton on average.

During the latter part of the time the ground was occupied by Mr Scotson, the reef was not payable, but it is, nevertheless, supposed there is a good opening for further prospecting north of the old workings, and inclusive of the Champion line of reef. [10]

- 1905** Mopoke Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant to be erected [12: pp.82-3]
- 1906** Mopoke Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.92-3]
- 1907** Mopoke Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 10 inch gravel pump, 100 horsepower noncondensing steam engine [12: p.112-3]
- 1908** Mopoke Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]
- 1909** Mopoke Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 2 condensing steam engines (100 horsepower total) [12: pp.106-7]
- June 1909** Mopoke Gully Dredging Co: 64oz gold [10]

**4.5 FRENCHMAN'S REEF**

**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Mopoke Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>23 Nov 1855</b>	To Diggers and others, in search of a Quartz Claim - For Sale, Claim No. 2, North Frenchman's Reef, Mr Orr's Station, in working order, with good show of gold. [47: p.2]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous [include]: Frenchman's Reef, 4 miners employed. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Gingell and Company has had a good crushing from the Frenchman's Reef, Mopoke [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Alliance Company [10]
<b>Dec 1866</b>	The Royal Oak Company, on Frenchman's Reef, Mopoke, has discovered a likely looking lode, impregnated largely with the precious metal. [10]
<b>June 1868</b>	Table showing depths of some shafts, which have been sunk during the past six or seven years. Frenchman's Reef: depth of Shaft 135 feet. [10]
<b>June 1871</b>	The Chapel Hill Reef, the Adelaide Reef, Frenchman's, Mopoke, and the Bristol Reef are now again held by parties who evidently desire soon to prove their value... A new engine and crushing machine is now being erected at Mopoke, to work the Frenchman's Reef and the reefs near it. [10]
<b>Dec 1871</b>	Frenchman's Reef. The continuation of the rich shoot of gold south, which was lost some years back, has, it is thought, been again struck...until proper ventilation is secured, the ground cannot be tested. The northern end is also being worked. [10]
<b>March 1872</b>	The Frenchman's Company has obtained excellent returns, and has every prospect of better paying stone at greater depth. [10]
<b>June 1883</b>	Roberts and party, Frenchman's Reef, Mopoke. This reef has recently been taken up. The reef was worked very extensively about fifteen years ago, and was exceedingly rich in places, some thousands of ounces having been obtained. It is now proposed to re-commence working near where the rich patches were found. [10]
<b>March 1889</b>	Frenchman's Reef, Mopoke Gully. This reef was exceedingly rich when first opened out by Messrs. Christopherson and party, about the year 1855 or 1856; crushings realised from 1 to 20oz. to the ton. The Royal Oak Company raised and crushed 600 tons from surface to a depth of 40 feet, which realised 600 oz., in the year 1867. The ground was then abandoned, without any definite reason being assigned; it has since been worked at long intervals by different parties but no satisfactory progress made in the way of development up to the present time... The bearing or strike of the reef is N. 10° W. There is an open cutting 61/2 chains long, 1/2-chain wide, and 25 feet deep. Several shafts have been sunk on the line of reef, the main one being 120 feet deep. The total number of ounces obtained from various crushings since 1867 is 677, including the above-mentioned 600; the general average being 15.2dwt. to the ton. It is considered that this reef would prove payable if taken in hand by a properly organised company. [10]
<b>15 July 1901</b>	A very promising show is the Frenchman's reef, on the Nuggetty line, near Mopoke Gully. It is a true saddle formation. [37]

<b>4.6</b>		<b>CHAMPION REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Mopoke Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>June 1885</b>	The Old Champion Reef has been recently taken up and applied for on lease by W. Aberdeen, of Yapeen, who proposes to form a strong company, and erect suitable machinery with the view of properly developing and working this much neglected line of reef. [10]	
<b>Sept 1885</b>	The Mopoke Gully quartz reefs are now attracting attention, two or more leases having been recently applied for by Messrs. Aberdeen and Walker, who contemplate erecting suitable machinery for crushing. [10]	
<b>4.7</b>		<b>PENNYWEIGHT FLAT/HILL</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Fryers Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Strathloddon, Taylor's Paddocks (Yapeen)
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>27 May 1854</b>	A considerable rush has been made on the pre-emptive rights belonging to Mr Taylor, at the lower part of Pennyweight Flat, leading towards the station. From 250 to 300 men were busily engaged sinking, some of which had nearly bottomed. By the nature of the ground being explained to them by the Commissioners, and an order given for them to desist, they very quietly left the spot. [47: p.2]	
<b>3 August 1855</b>	A rush has taken place at Pennyweight Flat, German Gully...about 250 men are employed sinking deep holes in this locality. The leased quartz vein in German Gully is proving very remunerative. [47: p.2]	
<b>2 Nov 1855</b>	Much dissatisfaction is expected at some crown lands facing the Loddon (Pennyweight Flat) being marked out for sale. A number of diggers have represented to Mr Heron that in summer this is their principal washing place. [47: p.2]	
<b>June 1859</b>	Old Pennyweight Hill Co. - one 18hp high-pressure engine, working a Hart's patent puddling machine. [10]	
<b>July 1859</b>	The Strathloddon Gold Mining Company - Mr Rogers, an enterprising miner, has been instrumental in the establishment of a company upon the Old Pennyweight Hill, being the second now formed on the same hill, his grant being contiguous to Mr Cameron's grant. They are working the ground from a tunnel, having a tramway running into the hill, and extending to a puddling machine, where the dirt is washed. During the past week they washed 50 loads, from which 10oz. were obtained. They have now suspended operations until steam machinery can be obtained [10]	
<b>July 1860</b>	The Old Pennyweight Hill, Strathloddon, Windlass Hill, and even the Ballaarat Company, are defunct. [10]	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	The Old Pennyweight Hill plant has been purchased by a party of miners who intend erecting it at Kangaroo, near the Table Hill, for cement crushing. [10]	
<b>June 1867</b>	The returns for cement crushing will show a falling off in those localities, which have been famed for alluvial deposits. The localities referred to comprise Pennyweight, Kangaroo, Table, Butcher's, and Guildford Hills. That these hills are becoming exhausted, and the yields inadequate to pay the current rate of wages, is becoming painfully apparent. [10]	
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Sir Henry Barkly [10]	
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Sir Henry Barkly, H. Bishop (Alpha Company) [10]	
<b>March 1871</b>	There is a slight [population] increase over last quarter; this is principally to be attributed to the discovery of the supposed continuance of the lead or run of gold hitherto worked by and near the Sir H. Barkly Company: a good number have been attracted to the locality. [10]	
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Parties puddling or sluicing: Fox and Co., Pennyweight T. Pearson, Pennyweight	

**June 1891** Ah Chong and Co., Pennyweight  
J. Scott and Co., Pennyweight [10]  
A party of miners from Broken Hill has taken up 30 acres of ground at German Gully, and they intend re-working the old Pennyweight Hill by sluicing. [10]



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**4.8** **CAPPER'S REEF**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Pennyweight

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>March 1889</b>	Capper's Reef, Pennyweight. This reef has been but slightly prospected and was first discovered by Mr Capper (M.M. Board), in the year 1868. The auriferous stone appears to have been confined to very narrow limits, and soon worked out; the yield of gold from certain crushings was highly satisfactory; nevertheless, little or nothing has been done since the period mentioned to trace the reef or prospect the ground in the immediate vicinity. The strike of the reef is N. 9° W. [10]

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**4.9** **STRATHLODDON**

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**Mining Division** Fryer's Creek/Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1859</b>	Strathloddon 10 non-Chinese puddling 10 non-Chinese engaged in ordinary mining 40 non-Chinese engaged in tunnelling 100* non-Chinese engaged in deep hill sinking * 80 of these mining on private property [10: Castlemaine]
<b>October 1859</b>	Aberdeen's Diggings. A great amount of work is being done and gold obtained. At the extreme point of this division, Guildford, most of the ground is alienated, and the fortunate proprietors are reaping a harvest. About 600 Chinese are working in Mr Aberdeen's ground: £6 is paid for each claim, £1 returnable on filling in the excavations. The adjoining flat following Campbell's Creek is being tried, but there is a strong underground drainage to contend with, which only powerful machinery will overcome. One ounce to the load, and in other claims from 2 dwt to 3 dwt to the tub has been obtained; but the water cannot be overcome. A great number of tunnels are being driven into the basaltic hill in this neighbourhood, which are likely to afford constant and profitable employment for years to come to those who have the necessary capital and enterprise for such work. [10]
<b>Nov 1859</b>	In alluvial workings, the most important of those mentioned in my last report, at Strathloddon, in the private properties of Aberdeen, Main, and others in close contiguity to the basaltic formations. [10: Castlemaine]
<b>July 1860</b>	The greatest and most successful rush is on private property at Guildford, almost exclusively of Chinese, who are evincing far more enterprise and entering into more speculations than the European miners, by purchasing permission to mine large cultivated paddocks, paying a large bonus for so doing, and agreeing to replace the surface soil as they find it. Several pieces of the land have been thus taken up. [10]
<b>April 1861</b>	The extensive rush towards Guildford, previously reported, is very much diminished, the Chinese returning to their old claims in Forest and Barker's Creeks. [10]
<b>June 1865</b>	The tunnels in the banks of the Loddon, near Strathloddon and Guildford, and at Tarilta, have generally yielded well. [10: Castlemaine]
<b>June 1865</b>	The Alpha Company, at Strathloddon, has obtained such prospects as to induce them to erect an engine of twenty-five horse-power, with a battery of twelve stampers, which will be put in operation in a few days. [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushing of quartz tailings and cement during 1865: Sir H. Barkly Company, William Tell Company [10]
<b>March 1866</b>	Nearly all the Chinese have left Strathloddon and Guildford, and are taking up old ground at Campbell's Creek, Pennyweight Flat, and Golden Point. [10]
<b>Sept 1866</b>	The rush to Fox's paddock, Strathloddon...still continues. There can be very little doubt now that this auriferous area is the connecting link between the Old Pennyweight and the Sir Henry Barkly Leads. [10]
<b>1866</b>	Landy's Paddock - Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1866: Alpha Company [10]

<b>1866</b>	Coy's Paddock. Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Sir Henry Barkly [10]
<b>1867</b>	Landy's Paddock. Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Alpha Company [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: Sir Henry Barkly, H. Bishop. [10]
<b>Sept 1870</b>	[a] party of Chinese working Aberdeen's ground were washed out of good ground. [10]
<b>1904</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.54]
<b>1905</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.84-5]
<b>1906</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.94-5]
<b>1907</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: gravity water feed, 8 inch gravel pump, 18 horsepower portable engine. [12: pp.114-5]
<b>1908</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 20 horsepower portable engine [12: pp.98-9]
<b>June 1909</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: 66oz gold [10]
<b>March 1910</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: 111oz gold [10]
<b>1911</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 16 horsepower steam engine [12: pp.106-7]
<b>Sept 1911</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: 73oz gold [10]
<b>1912</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 20 horsepower steam engine [12: pp.84-5]
<b>1913</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 6 inch gravel pump [12: pp.80-81]
<b>June 1913</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: 38oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1913</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing C.: 50oz gold [10]
<b>Dec 1913</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: 35oz gold [10]
<b>1914</b>	Strathloddon Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.74-5]

**4.10****TAYLOR'S PADDOCKS (YAPEEN)****MINING DIVISION**

Castlemaine/Fryer's Creek

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Mopoke Gully, Pennyweight Flat

**DATE****HISTORY**

<b>27 May 1854</b>	A considerable rush has been made on the pre-emptive rights belonging to Mr Taylor, at the lower part of Pennyweight Flat, leading towards the station. From 250 to 300 men were busily engaged sinking, some of which had nearly bottomed. By the nature of the ground being explained to them by the Commissioners, and an order given for them to desist, they very quietly left the spot. [47: p.2]
<b>10 June 1854</b>	To Let - Convenient-sized Farms, of from 10 to 300 acres of rich agricultural land, situated at Campbell's Creek. Apply to F. Taylor. [47: p.3]
<b>28 Sept 1855</b>	A digger in Mopoke Gully, Fryer's Creek, writing to the <u>Age</u> says - "At the end of the Gully, the stranger is struck by the appearance of a fence which has been put up across the gully, together with a notice threatening with imprisonment all persons trespassing, thereby stopping all digging operations beyond this boundary. This fence encloses an area of one square mile of highly auriferous ground, which has been tried and proved to contain...gold in large quantities. Now, Sir, is it right that a large tract of rich ground like this, capable of giving employment to upwards of 3000 diggers, should thus be withheld from the public, whilst hundreds in this worked-out locality can scarcely obtain a living. [47: p.3]
<b>12 Oct 1855</b>	Mopoke Gully - A good deal of agitation is prevailing among the diggers in this locality, Campbell's Creek, Pennyweight Flat, German Gully, &c., in reference to the section of ground enclosed by Mr Taylor at the lower end of the gully, the highly auriferous character of which is beyond a doubt... Mr Taylor, on all occasions, expressed his readiness to let the ground to diggers, at a monthly rent, payable in advance...but on being pressed to ratify an agreement he withdrew his offer, and now proposed to surrender the whole section, provided the Government would give him another of equal extent elsewhere. To this the diggers had no objection. [47: p.2]
<b>26 Oct 1855</b>	[Taylor proposed to diggers:] I am still...quite agreeable to lease a portion of my lands, at £10 each, to 300 diggers, for a stated period - they giving me a guarantee that the top soil will be left uppermost, on a level surface, and all the holes filled up. A rush took place on Monday last, at Taylor's Paddocks, on the road to the junction. The diggers were only made to leave by calling in the aid of the police. There is presently a substantial three-rail fence around it, and under present circumstances he might

reasonably anticipate £1000 per annum from it as an accommodation to the daily increasing traffic upon this road. [47: p.2]  
**23 Nov 1855** Accommodation Paddocks, Taylor's Station, Abundance of grass and water, well secured, but without responsibility. Strathloddon, 26th Oct. [47: p.1]

- 7 Dec 1855** In or about the month of May, 1854, a certain section of land consisting of 640 acres situate about one mile above the junction of Campbell's Creek and the Loddon River was purchased by William Campbell of the Strathloddon station under his pre-emptive right. The said section has since been sold to Mr Frederick Taylor, the present owner of the Strathloddon station.  
By the time the section was surveyed it was worked by a large body of miners, and great labour and expense was gone to by them, but immediately the land was surveyed they were driven off by armed police.  
Mr Taylor is now mining for gold on the said section for his own private benefit. The said section is known to be highly auriferous, and being situate at the junction of Mopoke and German Gullies, Fryer's Creek, it is generally supposed the principal leads of gold from these rich gullies run directly through the said section. [47: p.3]
- 5 Feb 1856** The ground in the neighbourhood of Taylor's station is attracting a large population. [47: p.5]
- 21 March 1856** The Rush at the Hay Paddock, Loddon...about 200 diggers, on Monday walked in and commenced marking their claims; the next day about 50 holes were sunk...Mr Taylor came to the camp on Wednesday morning, and complained of damage done to his property. [47: p.5]
- 4 April 1856** A meeting of diggers, who have paid Mr Taylor £5 per claim for permission to work in his private paddock, was convened... Mr Taylor has agreed to let out his paddock at £5 each claim of forty feet, £1 also being deposited as a guarantee that the holes are filled up. [47: p.4]
- July 1860** The greatest and most successful rush is on private property at Guildford, almost exclusively of Chinese, who are evincing far more enterprise and entering into more speculations than the European miners, by purchasing permission to mine large cultivated paddocks, paying a large bonus for so doing, and agreeing to replace the surface soil as they find it. Several pieces of the land have been thus taken up. For a paddock of Mr Taylor's, £1,000 was agreed; one-third paid before turning the first sod. [10]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Taylor's Paddocks  
Europeans: 2 tub and cradle workers  
Chinese: 234 paddocking [10]
- Dec 1860** New rush. A very considerable rush of Chinese...has set in on Campbell's Creek, on a large area formerly illegally held, fenced in and known as Taylor's Paddock...but now probably the whole ground will be worked as within a few days 208 windlasses and about 600 men have assembled and are hourly increasing, and although in sinking they have to draw 7 to 8 buckets of water to one of dirt, they anticipate success. [10]
- Jan 1861** The rush, of which I reported a commencement last month, on ground known as Taylor's Paddock, has increased to rather gigantic proportions; the whole of this lower portion of Campbell's Creek, or Strathloddon, presenting a very animated appearance. Of the immense number of Chinese there congregated, many are doing exceedingly well and as is usual with them, the stores, gambling houses, theatres, &c. are well patronised by them. [10]
- June 1867** In alluvial mining there has been a small rush to private property at Yapeen, some of the claims doing very well. [10]
- 1907** Shill and Co.: 3 head battery [12: p.43]
- 1908** Shill and Co.: 3 head battery [12: p.39]
- March 1910** Shill and Co.: 36 ton crushed, 5oz gold [10]
- Sept 1910** J.P. Greenwell and Co.: 20oz gold [10]
- Sept 1910** Shill and Co.: 10 ton crushed, 16dwt gold [10]
- 1918** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co.: Bucket dredge at work at Yapeen. [12:p. 12]
- 9 June 1920** McCann's Reef Gold Mining Co.: 8 inch double cylinder steam winch; Jackass boiler, 14 feet x 5 feet; 1200 feet, 0.75 inch wire rope; engine house, 21 feet x 17 feet x 4 feet, corrugated iron; boiler feed pump; poppet heads, Oregon framed, 40 feet high; 4 x ore trucks; 120 feet of rail; blacksmith's shop; safety cage; 2 x baling tanks; 2 x square water tanks. [14]

<b>4.11 GUILDFORD HILL</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Table Hill
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1859</b>	75 non-Chinese engaged in tunnelling on Table & Guildford Hills 114 non-Chinese engaged in deep hill sinking [10]
<b>June 1859</b>	15 tunnels, 14 of which are being worked. [Table & Guildford Hills] [10]
<b>June 1865</b>	The tunnels in the banks of the Loddon, near Strathloddon and Guildford, and at Tarilta, have generally yielded well. [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushing of quartz tailings and cement during 1865: Sir Henry Barkly Company [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1866: Sir Henry Barkly Company, William Tell Company, and Eldorado Company [10]
<b>March 1867</b>	The Free Italian Company is erecting a 14-horse power engine, with 8 stamps, on Guildford Hill. [10]
<b>June 1867</b>	The only changes or addition in machinery consist in the erection of a new engine by the Free Italian Company, Guildford. [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1867: William Tell, Eldorado, Free Italians (15 men employed, not commenced crushing) [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1868: Free Italian, William Tell, Eldorado, Alpha (H. Bishop), Bishop and Company. [10]
<b>4.12 GUILDFORD</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryers Creek
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Guildford
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>26 Aug 1854</b>	Guildford Arms Hotel - situate at the well-known Crossing-place of the Loddon, six miles south of Castlemaine. Messrs. Fealey and Sherer, Proprietors. [47: p.1]
<b>23 March 1855</b>	Guildford Arms Hotel, at the Junction of Campbell's Creek and the Loddon... [47: p.5]
<b>25 Jan 1856</b>	...a permanent stone bridge is to be erected over the Loddon at Guildford, at the present crossing place. [47: p.5]
<b>August 1861</b>	The Chinese at Guildford are as busy as ever. Quite a large township has been formed in Dr. Malcolm's paddock. They are beginning to turn their attention to the creeks and rivers again as the spring advances. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	The Chinese at Guildford have formed quite a township; they have regularly formed streets (although very dirty and very narrow), and excellent buildings of paling and weatherboard consisting, in many instances, of two stories. These buildings are tastefully decorated both inside and out; several contain as many as twelve rooms in the upper storey, besides a large gambling saloon below: these rooms are neatly papered and well furnished, and had not the Celestials an extraordinary averseness to cleaning their floors, many of these buildings would be really inhabitable. The larger erections are used as cook-shops, eating-houses, gambling and opium saloons, &c. This township contains from 1,500 to 2,000 inhabitants, and supports two circuses. If the amount of noise and confusion is any criterion, I should imagine the Chinese in this locality are doing remarkably well. [10]
<b>Oct 1861</b>	The Chinese interpreter informs me that 2,500 people are congregated at the large camp at Guildford. [10]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	An addition has been made to our steam power by Ulrich and Aplin, who have erected a 12 horse-power steam engine with eight stamps, for crushing cement from their claim under the table land, Guildford. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: 9. GUILDFORD Rabbit Flat and Taylor's Paddock - Europeans: 7 puddlers - Chinese: 88 ordinary miners Bald Hill - Europeans: 7 puddlers, 14 ordinary miners - Chinese: 17 ordinary miners Donkey Hill and Gully - Europeans: 7 puddlers, 25 ordinary miners - Chinese: 25 ordinary miners [10]

- March 1865** A 20-horse-power steam-engine has been erected on the bank of the Loddon, on the property of a Mr Mein, for the purpose of crushing cement. The company is named the William Tell; the engine was put in motion last week. [10]
- June 1865** The tunnels in the banks of the Loddon, near Strathloddon and Guildford, and at Tarilta, have generally yielded well. [10]
- June 1865** The Eldorado Company, near Guildford, has been as successful as usual. A Chinese party is about to erect a small engine to drain their claim, in the same vicinity. [10]
- Dec 1865** The proprietors of the Eldorado, Guildford, have purchased an engine of 70 horse-power, the largest yet brought to the district. [10]
- March 1866** The proprietors of the El Dorado claim (freehold) at Guildford, have re-organised their company, increased the capital, and are making arrangements for placing machinery on the mine. As there is no royalty to pay, this has every chance of success. [10]
- Sept 1866** The Eldorado mine is thoroughly opened out; the machinery starts shortly, and great hopes are entertained of the result. [10]
- Dec 1866** Considerable areas of private land have been leased by miners and others, and companies formed for the purpose of mining thereon. The Guildford and Eldorado Gold Mining Companies are amongst the number. The former is likely to be the first dividend paying mine in the subdivision, the proprietors having discovered that the area they occupy is highly auriferous. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from crushings of quartz tailings/cement in 1866: Eldorado Co. [10]
- Sept 1868** [Gross returns for the quarter in alluvial mining seriously affected]... by the suspension of mining operations by the El Dorado Company. This company was unable to work their mine to advantage; but an opinion prevails that the ground held by them is well calculated to pay co-operative companies of associated miners. [10]
- Dec 1876** Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c.  
Guildford 102 [10]
- March 1886** NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS:  
Guildford 56 - [10: Castlemaine Division]
- May 1900** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: 122oz gold [10]
- Oct 1900** Upper Loddon Blocks Gold Dredging Co: 75oz gold [10]
- Feb 1901** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: 50oz gold [10]
- Sept 1901** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: 87oz gold [10]
- June 1902** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: 307oz gold [10]
- 1903** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.52]  
Electric lighting installed [12: p.12]
- March 1903** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: 378oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: 379oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** Delmenico and Co: 147 ton crushed, 58oz gold [10]
- 1903** Guildford Gold Mining Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p. 52]
- 1904** Delmenico and Co: 6 head battery [12: p.38]
- 1904** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
- Dec 1904** Delmenico and Co: 163oz gold [10]
- 1905** Loddon Gold Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 82-3]
- 1906** Loddon Gold Dredging Co.: Plant destroyed by fire on 26 December 1905; plant re-erected and working again [12: pp.92-3, 108]
- 1907** Loddon Gold Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 14 inch water pump, 12 inch gravel pump, condensing steam engine, non-condensing steam engine (175 horsepower total) [12: pp.112-3]
- 1908** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]
- 1909** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 175 horsepower noncondensing steam engine [12: pp.106-7]
- June 1909** Loddon Gold Dredging Co: 2oz gold [10]
- March 1910** Delmenico and Co: 75oz gold [10]
- Sept 1910** Delmenico and Co: 31oz gold [10]
- 1910** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: Constructing bucket dredge [12: pp.96-7]
- 1911** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating: 4.5 cubic foot buckets, 12 buckets per minute, 23 horsepower cross compound steam engine working at 140 pounds per square inch and running at 460 revolutions per minute [12: pp. 75, 104-5]
- 1912** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp.82-3]
- 1913** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp.78-9]
- June 1913** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: 396oz gold [10]
- Sept 1913** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: 369oz gold [10]
- Dec 1913** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: 150oz gold [10]
- 1914** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp.72-3]
- Dec 1914** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: 437oz gold [10]
- 1915** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp.32-3]
- June 1915** T.T. Dunstan: 18 ton crushed, 13oz gold [10]
- June 1915** Guildford Bucket Dredging Co: 290oz gold [10]

4.13

## GUILDFORD PLATEAU

Mining Division

Castlemaine

Associated Fields/Reefs

DATE	HISTORY
June 1859	Loddon Valley - Edward Smith and Co. - one 16hp engine, mainly crushing cement. [10]
Nov 1859	In alluvial workings, the most important of those mentioned in my last report, at Strathloddon, in the private properties of Aberdeen, Main, and others in close contiguity to the basaltic formations. [10: Castlemaine]
April 1861	McKay, Leith, and Company (half of whose claim of 20 acres is in the Fryer's Creek division and the remainder in the Tarrangower) are not yet at work, although they have a very powerful engine in position; they expect to be in full operation in a few days. [10]
Oct 1861	Messrs McKay, Leith, and Company, who had a grant of 20 acres (the maximum area allowed by the Castlemaine bye-laws), have sold various portions of their grant to parties of Chinese, at prices ranging (as the Chinese inform me) from £1,100 to £650 for areas of about 21/2 acres each; the abandoned portions are being taken up and briskly worked by Chinese. [10]
Dec 1864	Working the deep leads, believed to exist from Walmer, through the Muckleford Valley and under the basaltic lands known as Loddon Plains, parishes of Guildford and Strangways to, and connecting with the deep leads being worked at Guildford, Loddon Valley, and Vaughan. From [Muckleford] to Guildford is nearly all private property, which is being leased and taken up for mining purposes. 413 1/2 acres, taken up by Messrs. Farrell, Mackay, and Co.; adjoining again 92 acres are leased by Mr. Aberdeen to a company from Ballarat, Clunes and Daylesford, and hundreds of acres of adjacent lands are being occupied by eager and expectant companies from different parts of the colony, many of whom purpose commencing work immediately. Nearly the whole of the land is private property, but I shall frequently visit and inspect their operations, and report thereon, as the work proceeds. [10]
March 1865	The Aberdeen Company is preparing for the erection of machinery. [10]
March 1865	Mining population of Loddon Valley: 342 [10]
June 1866	A considerable rush has taken place to private property in the neighbourhood of the deep leads, the ground being payably auriferous. [10]
June 1867	Deep lead mining at the southern boundary of this division, which has for so long a time been carried on unsuccessfully, is now likely to prosper. ...the St Margaret's Company has nearly completed the erection of their new plant and other preliminary operations. [10]
Sept 1867	The St. Margaret's Company have completed erection of machinery, consisting of 25 horse-power engine with pumping and stamping machinery, a 7 horse-power engine with winding gear, &c.; from their engine shaft they have opened out a chamber and thence driven a tunnel, at 50 feet in a rise to washdirt of 19 feet... [10]
Dec 1867	During the past quarter there has been a gradual decrease in mining population, and a very decide retrograde movement by public companies and tribute parties ... the Royal Oak, and the Guildford have been sold off by the creditors. [10]
March 1868	The deep lead workings at the southern boundary of the division are improving considerably. The St. Margaret's Company now employ 56 men; they crush their drift with twelve heads of revolving stamps, one engine pumping and crushing, and a seven horse-power, fed from the same boiler, winding. The return from eight washings off has been 722 1/2 oz. of gold. [10]
June 1868	The only alluvial companies, the Belmore and St. Margaret's, maintain their returns. [10]
March 1869	The deep alluvial workings are being abandoned - ...the only public company now remaining being the St Margaret, where gold is still obtained. [10]
June 1871	In deep leads upon private property at Guildford mining is again being carried on. [10]
June 1872	In alluvial mining. The only company whose returns are worthy of record is the Defiance, who obtained 516 oz, proving a continuance and improvement in this deep lead. [10]
Sept 1872	The Defiance Company, Guildford Plain, having, with efficient machinery, capital, and perseverance, defied the difficulties of deep sinking, much water, and long prospecting levels, have struck the gutter, and are very well satisfied with their prospect of 5 dwts. to the load; the gutter still dipping, and thickness of washdirt increasing. They are now busily opening out, erecting necessary puddling machines and other appliances, and anticipate a speedy return for their venture. [10]

- Dec 1872** The only redeeming feature in alluvial mining is the success of the Defiance Company, working private property near the southern boundary of the division. For many years I have advocated the working of this table land, as there appeared no other outlet for the fluvial deposits from the Castlemaine and Muckleford goldfields. The extensive levels driven by the Defiance Company prove a wide deposit of heavy gold; very payable prospects washings have been made. They are now completing the erection of steam puddling machines, tanks, &c., and expect forthwith to realise excellent returns. [10]
- March 1873** The Defiance Company, who have a powerful engine and necessary machinery on the plain (within Dr. Malcolm's private property), have driven from their engine shaft 325 feet easterly, the washdirt being 40 feet above the bottom of this drive when last pricked; also west 80 feet into a soft slate and a heavy body of water (about 1840 gallons per hour). The Niagara Company (in Mr. Aberdeen's ground) is flooded out, and removing their machinery, and effecting improvements to avoid future delays and facilitate working. The St. Margaret's ground and machinery is again to be worked, and several private parties on and around this extensive tableland have faith in, and determine to prove, its auriferous character. [10]
- June 1873** In alluvial mining I have only to report a general decadence both in the operations and results, excepting the Defiance Company, Guildford Plain, who have opened out a large extent of ground, and proved its auriferous character by washing the dirt from several levels; only one puddling machine has been in use; the gold obtained has been 600 oz. 12 dwts. 6 grs. from 109 days washing. A second machine, with other additional appliances, is nearly completed, when the large extent of ground now ready for blocking will be operated upon. [10]
- Sept 1873** At present the only public alluvial company is the Defiance, whose return for the quarter has been 414 oz. [10]
- June 1875** On the deep leads...the Defiance Company have declared their seventh dividend of 10s.; the several co-operative companies also, working in private property, are doing well. [10]
- Dec 1876** The private property at Guildford, abandoned by the late Defiance Company, has been taken up by a co-operative company, who have re-erected steam machinery, and are likely to be rewarded for their enterprise. [10]
- June 1876** Mein's Freehold Gold Mining Company. This company have been very successful in their mining operations up to the present time, having raised a large amount of gold underlying the volcanic formation; the auriferous drift being 200 feet below the surface. A vast amount of work has already been accomplished, and preparations are now being made for more extensive operations underground. The yield of gold during the past quarter has been comparatively insignificant, owing to the ground in the vicinity of the old shaft being completely worked out. A new shaft has been sunk, and 320 feet driven to intersect the main lead, and payable gold obtained. [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties puddling or sluicing: Mein's Freehold, Guildford [10]
- June 1877** Mein's Freehold G.M. Company. The company furnishes no gold returns for the past quarter, having been engaged shifting machinery to the new shaft, which has been sunk to a depth of 217 feet on the old lead. The great influx of water was a serious obstacle to the sinking... They have now commenced driving on the main levels, and about 20 men engaged. [10]
- Dec 1877** Mein's Freehold Gold Mining Company. This company has now got fairly to work in their new shaft; depth, 200 feet...36 men being constantly employed. [10]
- Sept 1878** Mein's Freehold Gold Mining Company have been very active and successful of late, working on private property at Guildford; there are now 42 men employed, the result of the last three months' washing being 436 oz. 17 dwts., from 3,600 loads of dirt, which gives an average of nearly 21/2 dwts. to the truck. The company have still a large area of ground to operate on, and considering the lead is well defined, and known to traverse the Guildford basalt plains, some important discoveries must eventually be made in the direction of Newstead and Strangways. [10]
- Dec 1879** Mein's Freehold Gold Mining Company at Guildford continue to realise good returns from the alluvial workings... 4,050 tons of washdirt has been raised, which yielded 536 oz. 13 dwts. The company employs 43 men. [10]
- June 1880** The long and successful working of the Golden Lead Company under Mr Mein's freehold, and their deep-lead of gold making toward the Guildford Plain, has led to the formation of 'The Extended Golden Lead Company,' who have taken on tribute from Dr Malcolm about 500 acres of the plain. They are now sinking an engine shaft near the base of the escarpment, where they will erect machinery and drive thence in the schist bedrock. Companies are projected to develop other portions of the long-neglected Castlemaine deep leads. [10]
- Sept 1880** The principal feature in alluvial mining is the increased desire to develop the auriferous deposits underneath the Guildford plain and adjacent private property.



In addition to the Golden Lead and Grand Trunk gold mining companies, who are down and driving for the gutters, the owners of about 1,500 acres, fronting the Muckleford Creek and River Loddon, have assented to their land being mined by the Loddon Plains G.M. Company. This ground has been proved highly auriferous, having been tested by long tunnels driven in from the present level of the creek or river; but the gutters proving deeper as the tunnels were extended the workings could not be drained. The Grand Trunk Company, instead of driving such a tunnel, has sunk a shaft 80 feet, and is driving thence in the bedrock (schist formation). [10]

<b>March 1881</b>	The "deep leads" under the Basaltic Plain continue to be worked on private property. Dallas and Co., Andrews and Co., and Dallas No. 2 have each tunnels 2,300 feet long, driven from the Loddon River escarpment northerly; Commons and Co. are in 1,400 feet - all obtaining payable washdirt. The Grand Trunk Company, having sunk their engine shaft, is now erecting a 25 horse-power engine for pumping, puddling, &c. A new company is projected to work Messrs. McNaughton, Aitkin, and Hayes' properties. [10]
<b>June 1881</b>	The Grand Trunk Company is still sinking, have completed the erection of efficient machinery, and are now driving in the bed-rock sufficiently deep to drain the auriferous deep leads known to exist under the Guildford basaltic plains. [10]
<b>Sept 1881</b>	The Grand Trunk Company, from the south escarpment of the Loddon Plains, has driven opening levels 240 feet across the wash. They have purchased and are now erecting extensive puddling apparatus. On the east, the Golden Lead is again upon the gutter, which is making towards the junction of Campbell's Creek with the River Loddon. [10]
<b>Dec 1881</b>	In alluvial mining the finds and prospects of the Deep Lead at Guildford, thence to Muckleford, are sufficiently good to induce the formation of more companies to work under the extensive areas of private property believed to overlay rich diluvial deposits of gold. [10]
<b>June 1882</b>	The Grand Trunk Company, at Guildford, obtained 611 oz. 4 dwts. as the result of thirty-one men's work for six months. [10]
<b>June 1882</b>	Mein's Freehold Gold Mining Company has made good progress in the development of their mine during the past six months. Within a portion of the period mentioned 582 oz. of gold have been obtained from 7,000 loads of washdirt, from a depth of 230 feet, the lead being 100 feet in width. Some 300 men and boys are regularly employed. [10]
<b>March 1883</b>	The Grand Trunk Company obtained 254 oz. 7 dwts. of gold, and paid a dividend of £12 10s. per share. A large amount of work is being executed on the Loddon Deep Leads, in boring, sinking, driving, and the erection of machinery. [10]
<b>June 1883</b>	The several deep lead companies, extending from the Grand Trunk Company's mine down the Loddon, continue proving the character of their claims, by boring and shafts...but their operations are much impeded by the flooding of their workings. [10]
<b>June 1884</b>	Of the deep lead companies, the Grand Trunk find their levels too shallow to work their proven large extent of auriferous drift (4 to 6 feet thick). They are, therefore, obliged to deepen their shaft. The Loddon Estate and other companies have also proved, by boring and shafts, a wide extent of auriferous drift, but the underground flow of water has hitherto baffled their exertions. [10]
<b>March 1887</b>	On the Guildford Plain two bores have been sunk by a Tiffin auger, which has been removed before proving anything. It is believed that extensive auriferous deposits exist underneath this tableland. As the ancient watercourses from the Castlemaine, Muckleford, and Maldon gold-fields likely had their confluence here, not only the tableland, but also the Muckleford Valley, should be properly proved by boring. [10]
<b>Sept 1887</b>	The Castlemaine deep leads are likely to be satisfactorily worked soon, two companies, "Plunkett's Freehold" and "Guildford Plateau," which have been assisted from the Prospecting Vote, are going energetically to work upon adjacent blocks of the Guildford table-land, beneath which the gutters of alluvial auriferous deposits are known to exist. Thence an immense area of new alluvial workings, from Guildford through Muckleford Valley to Porcupine Flat, await development. [10]
<b>Dec 1887</b>	Plunkett's Freehold Company has driven their tunnel 457 feet through the bedrock. The Guildford Plateau Company have sunk 21 feet, and timbered 8ft. x 3ft. in the clear, near a borehole said to be 200 ft. 6 in. deep, and having 7 feet of wash. [10]

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**4.14**

**PICKPOCKET DIGGINGS/HARD HILL**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Fryer's Creek/Tarrengower
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Loddon/Jim Crow Creek/Strangways

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>May 1861</b>	Alluvial mining in the vicinity of Pickpocket is in rather a languid state. [10]
<b>May 1861</b>	I have much pleasure in reporting the discovery of iron ore in the vicinity of Pickpocket. [10]
<b>June 1861</b>	A rush of about 250 miners has taken place at the Hard Hills, near Pickpocket. The prospectors (Ross and mates) have obtained 2 dwt. of gold per the tin dish of stuff [10]
<b>July 1861</b>	Mining at Pickpocket is at a perfect standstill, in consequence of the heavy floods having swamped the whole of the claims. The rush at Hard Hill, near Pickpocket...has not increased to any great extent. [10]
<b>Oct 1861</b>	About 600 Chinese are at Pickpocket. [10]

<b>Oct 1861</b>	At Pickpocket all the companies without exception are at a standstill, and I believe in every instance from the want of adequate capital. [10]
<b>Nov 1861</b>	At Pickpocket the Chinese are working steadily and briskly, they have it all to themselves... the population is steadily increasing in this quarter. [10]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	At Pickpocket most of the ground is being worked by Chinese. The ground here is from 20 to 25 feet deep, the whole of which the Chinese turn over; they, in fact, take a cover of from 18 to 22 feet of earth from the washing stuff. The interpreter informs me that his countrymen are making excellent wages from this ground. This certainly seems most strange; European companies, with the aid of pumping and washing machinery, became insolvent to a man in working the same ground. [10]
<b>March 1865</b>	Mining population of Pickpocket and Loddon: 368 [10]
<b>March 1865</b>	Mining population of Hard Hills: 111 [10]
<b>March 1865</b>	A considerable block of abandoned alluvial ground has been taken up by a company calling themselves the Monarch...reworking the area with the aid of machinery. The block alluded to is known as the Hard Hill, and is in the vicinity of Pickpocket. [10]
<b>March 1865</b>	Mining population of Pickpocket and Loddon: 368 [10]
<b>March 1866</b>	The Monarch Company, which is formed for the purpose of working the old lead at the Hard Hill, Strangways, erected an engine of 40 horse-power, with a battery of 24 head of stampers attached, and is crushing for the public at the rate of six shillings per ton. This low rate for crushing enables the miners to work ground that, prior to the reduction, was useless. [10]
<b>Sept 1870</b>	A slight decrease [in population] appears in the neighbourhood of Pickpocket and the Hard Hills; but this locality was never noted for any degree of regularity in the yields of gold obtained - there are very few indeed realising more than 10s to 15s. per week per man, the miners in this part of the district generally directing their attention to agricultural pursuits in conjunction with mining. [10]
<b>Dec 1878</b>	A slight rush took place in the locality of the Hard Hills, Strangways, but of not sufficient importance to require special notice. [10]

**4.15 DONKEY GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Campbell's Creek

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>26 Oct 1855</b>	A rush of about 200 took place on Monday, on a reef at the back of the White Hill... there has also been a considerable rush at the lower end of Donkey Gully; many are doing well, and there are upwards of 500 men at work. [47: p.2]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 6 puddlers Chinese: 12 tub and cradle workers 3 puddling machines [10]

**4.16 BALD HILL**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Campbell's Creek, Strathloddon

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>13 May 1854</b>	Castlemaine Races - [Tenders called]...from parties willing to contract for the erection of posts round the Race Course, at the Bald Hill, and for roping in the last 200 yards of the course and for the erection of weighing yard. [47: p.3]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 4 tunnelling, 35 tub and cradle workers. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	In Boots and adjacent gullies a few parties are still earning a living with tub and cradle, but their number is daily decreasing. The best instance of good luck in that locality that has come to my knowledge, was the discovery of a 39-oz. nugget in Clausen and Company's tunnel, Boots, Bald Hill. The party has been working there some time, now and again coming across a small nugget, but in consequences of an accident by which

Clausen's brother unfortunately was killed, the ground was temporarily abandoned, but after some time fruitless prospecting elsewhere, it was re-occupied. [10]

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**4.17****BOOTS GULLY**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Bald Hill

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**DATE****Nov 1860****HISTORY**

In Boots and adjacent gullies a few parties are still earning a living with tub and cradle, but their number is daily decreasing. The best instance of good luck in that locality that has come to my knowledge, was the discovery of a 39-oz. nugget in Clausen and Company's tunnel, Boots, Bald Hill. The party has been working there some time, now and again coming across a small nugget, but in consequences of an accident by which Clausen's brother unfortunately was killed, the ground was temporarily abandoned, but after some time fruitless prospecting elsewhere, it was re-occupied.

The upper part of Boots Gully is occupied in extended claims and the ground being property drained, opened and faced out, an immense deal of stuff is weekly being turned over, and the parties, as far as I can learn, are getting well paid for their labour. [10]

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**4.18****RABBIT FLAT**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Campbell's Creek, Strathloddon

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**DATE****Dec 1861****HISTORY**

Mining population: Rabbit & Cheshire Flats - 233 Chinese alluvial workers [10]

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**4.19****SHICER HILL**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****Nov 1860****HISTORY**

Numbers & Occupations of Miners:

Europeans: 10 tunnelling, 7 tub and cradle workers [10]

**Sept 1864**

No./Location of Alluvial Miners:

Shicer Hill - Europeans: 6 ordinary miners - Chinese: 5 puddler, 24 ordinary miners [10]

**ZONE 5: CAMPBELL'S CREEK****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>5.1</b>	Campbell's Ck (General)	<b>5.2</b>	Preshaw's Flat	<b>5.3</b>	Winter's Flat
<b>5.4</b>	Diamond Flat/Hill/Gully	<b>5.5</b>	Lushington Hill/Gully	<b>5.6</b>	Adelaide Hill
<b>5.7</b>	Seventy Foot Hill/Flat	<b>5.8</b>	Hard Hill	<b>5.9</b>	Forty Foot Hill
<b>5.10</b>	John O'Groat's Flat	<b>5.11</b>	Cemetery Flat	<b>5.12</b>	White Hill/Flat/Rf
<b>5.13</b>	Crow Gully	<b>5.14</b>	Little/Specimen Gully	<b>5.15</b>	Bolivia/Ajax Reef
<b>5.16</b>	New Chum Gully	<b>5.17</b>	Dead Horse Gully	<b>5.18</b>	Specimen Flat
<b>5.19</b>	Cumberland Reef	<b>5.20</b>	Nuggetty/Poverty Reef	<b>5.21</b>	Little Nuggetty Reef
<b>5.22</b>	Tarr's Gully	<b>5.23</b>	Dutch/Diechman's Reef	<b>5.24</b>	Nuggetty Gully
<b>5.25</b>	Railway Gully	<b>5.26</b>	Poverty Flat	<b>5.27</b>	Slaughteryard Hill/Gully
<b>5.28</b>	Cabbage Garden Flat	<b>5.29</b>	Red Hill/Flat	<b>5.30</b>	Italian Hill/Gully
<b>5.31</b>	Hobby's Flat	<b>5.32</b>	Cheshire Flat	<b>5.33</b>	Poverty Gully
<b>5.34</b>	Skeen's Gully/Reef	<b>5.35</b>	Victoria Reef	<b>5.36</b>	New Year's Gully
<b>5.37</b>	Heard's Reef	<b>5.38</b>	Mysterious Reef	<b>5.39</b>	Burial Hill
<b>5.40</b>	Blanket Hill/Gully	<b>5.41</b>	Doctor's Hill	<b>5.42</b>	Switzerland Reef
<b>5.43</b>	Hargrave's Hill	<b>5.44</b>	Volunteer Reef	<b>5.45</b>	Wightman's Flat

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**5.1** **CAMPBELL'S CREEK (GENERAL)**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE** **HISTORY****1851**

A further inducement to gold-hunters was afforded by the publication of a letter from a well-known person who visited the locality. He wrote from Campbell's Creek: - "Going along the bank of the creek, I noticed a crowd of people, apparently scrambling together, and when I got near them I found several hundreds tumbling about and over each other, tearing up the soil with their hands, picking up the nuggets, and placing them in their pockets for safety. I was told that a man, in pitching his tent, saw the gold shining in the earth, and began gathering it up; and others, seeing what he was about, rushed the spot." [15: p. 49]

**c. 1852**

A representative description of the life and doings of the diggers upon Campbell's Creek was supplied to the press by a young man who had left the civil service to try his fortune upon that goldfield.

"When we arrived there were five or six hundred men distributed along the creek for about three miles. Going among them, we could see that most of them were doing very well, for in some cases we saw several pounds of gold panned off for a day's work with the cradle. We pitched our tent where there was about fifty yards of the creek unoccupied and commenced to look round for a likely spot to find gold. Very soon we found a piece about the size of a pea on the edge of the creek, and then tried the spot with the dish, and got five or six pennyweights in the first two or three dishes. Trying another spot a few yards away, we got some small gold, and one piece weighing over half an ounce. Altogether, before it got dark, by just using the dish, we had over two ounces of gold, which we thought was not a bad beginning for such novices as we were. In good spirits we made an early start next morning, fixed up the cradle, and, while one of us stripped off the upper soil, another supplied the washdirt to cradle and tub, and the other rocked the cradle... At noon we cleaned out the cradle, and panned off the gold it contained, and were very joyful at finding over four ounces of gold... On cleaning up in the evening we had about six ounces more of small gold.

"For three days we worked on in this way, getting eleven to fourteen ounces per day while stripping off three feet of soil which overlay the gravel and clay in which the rich gold lies. So far we had only treated the upper part of the auriferous drift, but on the fifth day we began to wash the bottom layer, and in breaking it out with the pick, could see gold freely. It was splendid washdirt, and on the rock bottom gold was plentifully sprinkled... Twice a day we cleaned up the cradle, and each time had two to four pounds' weight of gold while washing the best dirt. We were three weeks in working out our first claim, and we had thirty-one pounds' weight of gold from it. Fortunately for us, no one during that time pegged out a claim quite close to us, and we chose another area, and, having gained a little experience, opened it up in a more workmanlike manner. In this case we manfully stripped off four feet of earth from a hole twelve feet square, and then started to put through about eighteen inches of washdirt...the first two days' washing yielded over a hundred ounces of gold, and we expected the bottom to be very rich. Nor

was our expectation disappointed, for in crevices in the rock we found little nests of small nuggets that weighed several pounds in the aggregate. We were about a month over that claim, and we took forty-two pounds of gold from it.

"While working it, large numbers of men had arrived, and all the ground about us was pegged out. Looking along the creek when it was fully occupied the scene was very interesting. Swarms of men hurried between the cradles and the holes carrying bags of washdirt. Others worked the tubs and cradles, or stooped over the water panning off their gold, while now and again some sonorous voice would start a popular chorus song, and those who were not breathless with their exertions would chime in and make much noise, if little music. Several stores were started on a very modest scale, and did plenty of business, though the prices of goods were outrageously high. Our next venture was upon ground three miles lower down the creek, where the claim secured promised well, as near by several parties were doing exceedingly well. The ground was, however, much deeper than that we had previously worked, and, consequently, we had to do more work to get at the washdirt." [15: pp. 57-60]

- c. 1852/3** From the Post-office to the river Loddon, a distance of six or seven miles, the bed and slopes of Forest Creek presents the appearance of being covered with a series of gigantic molehills, interspersed with miserable small huts of every description, the occupants of which have a very squalid unhealthy appearance from exposure, privation, and dust, sore eyes being universally prevalent. [41: p. 64]
- Jan/Feb 1853** Campbell's Creek was opened up immediately after Fryer's Creek [Golden Point], and, as there was a length of five miles of ground similarly rich in gold, there were some three thousand men at work there by February, 1853. Long lines of tents on both sides of the little stream. On the edge of the running water were hundreds of cradles and tubs, in which the rich washdirt was washed and puddled during the day, and towards evening numbers of men panned off in prospecting dishes the gold which was the reward of the day's labour. [15: p.56]
- 20 May 1854** List of Qualified Medical Gentlemen, Members of the Mount Alexander Medical Association. Wm. F. Preshaw, Campbell's Creek. [47: p.1]
- 20 May 1854** Campbell's Creek Cemetery - we have been requested to call public attention to the disgraceful state of the bridge across the creek, leading to the above spot. Some short time ago, a horse dray, and the coffin containing the corpse, were rolled over the edge together. [47: p. 3]
- 10 June 1854** To Let - Convenient-sized Farms, of from 10 to 300 acres of rich agricultural land, situated at Campbell's Creek. Apply to F. Taylor. [47: p.3] (see YAPEEN)
- 1 Dec 1854** At Campbell's Creek, the population remains without increase. Several miners have joined a rush to the western side of the creek, where about 200 persons are digging (Nov. 27). It is not stated whether any extraordinary finds have yet been made. A large portion of the old ground is now being worked by parties to whom increased claims have been allotted. The roads continue in a good state of preservation, and no encroachments have taken place during the week. The conduct of the population is very orderly, and but little sickness prevails in the neighbourhood. [47: p.2]
- 8 Dec 1854** Campbell's Creek - a flat, about a mile below the camp, where 200 are working, is expected to turn out well. [47: p.2]
- 19 Jan 1855** Wheeler Brothers, Ale and Porter Brewers, Campbell's Creek, Castlemaine. [47: p.1]
- 19 Jan 1855** The people in Campbell's Flat do not make much parade of their doings, but a few facts picked up here and there seem to indicate that a little gold is still left in these diggings. From the Brewery down to near the Anglo-French hotel, there have been six or seven rushes, all doing nicely - very quiet. [47: p.1]
- 23 Feb 1855** 40,000 Bricks on Sale, at the Brickfield, near the Old House at Home, Campbell's Creek. Apply to D. Kenny, or to James Huggett, at the Kiln. Best quality and lowest price. [47: p.5]
- 13 April 1855** During the week the detectives have discovered a manufactory for spurious gold at Campbell's Creek. The material is composed of a mixture of brass and lead run into the forms of nuggets and specimens, and plated by the electrotype process. Large quantities of this metal have been sold at Bendigo, and about 200 ounces were found on the premises at Campbell's Creek. Two persons have been apprehended. [47: p.3]
- 25 May 1855** Five Flags Hotel - Opening Ball - Friday, June 1st. [47: p.1]
- 21 Sept 1855** Many Chinese also are making an ounce per day out of the bed of the creek and the long tom refuse. [47: p.3]
- 5 Oct 1855** At Campbell's Creek the working is chiefly confined to Chinese. The Chinese population here is...distributed thus: Campbell's Creek 1200. The various encampments of these people on Campbell's and Barker's Creeks are now finished. [47: p.2]
- 19 Oct 1855** The Chinese camp at the back of the Five Flags Hotel, will be nothing the worse for a minute inspection by their protector. They are congregated there with some attempt towards preserving lines of tents as streets, but the space between tent and tent...cannot promote health. Many of those at Little Bendigo have removed to Campbell's Creek. The second camp on Campbell's Creek being on ground about to be sold, has been removed,

- and the inhabitants distributed in the first and third camps. Increased revenue is anticipated from the protection tickets. [47: p.2]
- 16 Nov 1855** Chinese [are] thus distributed: 1750 Campbell's Creek. [47: p.2]
- 1856** I next visited Campbell's Creek diggings with a new mate, putting up at the present identical Five Flags Hotel. [16: p. 6]
- August 1859** Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Penhall and Company, Campbell's Creek, 12 h.p. eight head of stamps, &c. [10]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 22 puddlers, 23 sluicing, 13 tub and cradle, 8 paddocking  
Chinese: 28 puddlers, 57 tub and cradle workers, 147 paddocking  
22 puddling machines [10]
- March 1866** Nearly all the Chinese have left Strathloddon and Guildford, and are taking up old ground at Campbell's Creek, Pennyweight Flat, and Golden Point. [10]
- Dec 1870** In Campbell's Creek quartz mining is suspended - all the companies' machinery is idle. In each case the mines are exhausted to present depth, and deeper sinking must be resorted to. [10]
- Dec 1876** Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c. Campbell's Creek 110 [10]
- Sept 1881** Some parties have started to sluice Pennyweight and Moonlight Flats, with tail-water diverted from Forest Creek, and other parties are applying for a like privilege at Campbell's Creek. [10]
- March 1885** In ground sluicing operations at Forest and Barker's creeks much of the ground is becoming worked out and abandoned, but at Campbell's Creek there remains a large area of old alluvial workings waiting for a supply of water from the Coliban races. [10]
- Sept 1885** More prosperous times are anxiously anticipated at Campbell's Creek from the speedy supply of Victorian Water Supply water for sluicing purposes. [10]
- March 1886** Number and distribution of miners: Campbell's Creek 74 [10]
- March 1899** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 27,720 tons crushed, for 414oz gold [10]
- May 1899** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 206oz gold [10]
- Aug 1899** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 195oz gold [10]
- 1900** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Bucket dredge commences work [12:1903: p. 52]
- Sept 1900** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 14 inch gravel pump [13: J462]
- Oct 1900** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 176oz gold [10]
- Feb 1901** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 155oz gold [10]
- May 1901** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 159oz gold [10]
- Sept 1901** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 62oz gold [10]
- Feb 1902** Bartlett Ford: Thompson 10 inch gravel pump [13: 9.02]
- 1903** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Electric lighting installed [12: p.12]
- March 1903** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 329oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 205oz gold [10]
- 1904** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating. [12: p. 52]
- 1904** Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: Pumped sluicing plant operating at Campbell's Creek (also at Fryer's Creek) [12: p.54]
- Dec 1904** Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 245oz gold [10]
- Dec 1904** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 333oz gold [10]
- 1905** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating [12:pp.80-81]
- 1905** Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: Pumped sluicing plant operating at Campbell's Creek [12: pp. 82-3]
- March 1905** Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 226oz gold [10]
- March 1905** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 491oz gold [10]
- 1906** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp.90-91]
- 1906** Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: Pumped sluicing plant operating at Campbell's Creek [12: pp.92-3]
- May 1906** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 360oz gold [10]
- June 1906** 265oz gold; A.F. Shower, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- June 1906** Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 200oz gold [10]
- Sept 1906** Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: B. Ford, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- 1907** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating: 4.5 cubic foot buckets, 11 buckets per minute, 16 horsepower steam engine [12: pp.110-111]
- June 1907** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 186oz gold [10]
- 1908** Bannockburn or Bannockburn Quartz Gold Mining: 6 head battery [12; p 38]
- 1908** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Bucket dredge operating [12: pp.96-7]
- March 1908** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 431oz gold [10]
- 1909** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: No. 1 bucket dredge operating: 10 buckets per minute  
No. 2 bucket dredge operating: 4.5 cubic foot buckets, 11 buckets per minute, 18 horsepower steam engine [12: pp.104-5]
- 1909** Bannockburn or Bannockburn Quartz Gold Mining: 6 head battery [12; p 44]
- June 1909** Bannockburn or Bannockburn Quartz Gold Mining: 44 ton crushed for 19 oz. of gold, legal manager F.H.Carter, Castlemaine [10]
- June 1909** Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 503oz gold [10]



<b>Sept 1909 1910</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: A.F. Showers, Legal Manager [10] Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: No. 1 bucket dredge operating; No. 2 bucket dredge operating [12: pp.96-7]
<b>March 1910</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 777oz gold [10]
<b>March 1910</b>	Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 135oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 240oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 1056oz gold [10]
<b>1911</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: No. 1 bucket dredge operating; No. 2 bucket dredge operating [12: pp.104-5] 650oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1911 1912</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: No. 1 bucket dredge operating; No. 2 bucket dredge operating [12:pp.82-3]
<b>June 1912 1913</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 485oz gold [10] Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: No. 1 bucket dredge operating; No. 2 bucket dredge operating [12:pp. 78-9]
<b>June 1913</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 883oz gold [10]
<b>June 1913</b>	Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 74oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1913</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 1080oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1913</b>	T. Armstrong: 23 oz. of gold obtained [10]
<b>1914</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: No. 1 bucket dredge operating; No. 2 bucket dredge operating [12:pp. 72-3] Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 832oz gold [10]
<b>June 1914</b>	T. Armstrong: 15 oz. of gold obtained. [10]
<b>June 1914</b>	Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 152oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1914</b>	Ford's dredge / Ford Brothers: 101oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1914</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 679oz gold [10]
<b>Dec 1914 1915</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co.: 689oz gold [10] Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: No. 1 bucket dredge operating; No. 2 bucket dredge operating [12:pp. 32-3]
<b>June 1915 1918</b>	Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: 358oz gold [10] Campbell's Creek Dredging Co: Bucket dredge at work at Yapeen. [12:p. 12]

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**5.2****PRESHAW'S FLAT**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****HISTORY**

<b>1852</b>	Prior to fixing my tent at Campbell's Creek, and at that part now designated Preshaw's Flat, I had, in obedience of the law, taken out six licenses, the number of our party. [39: p.13]
<b>5 Jan 1855</b>	To diggers and others - For Sale, two Puddling Machines, one Horse and Dray, leading Harness for the machine, set of Dray Harness, Tent and Stable, Garden with small crop, Poultry, a Dog and Cat, Tools and Cooking Utensils too numerous to particularise, which can be seen on application on the ground at the back of Dr Preshaw's, Campbell's Creek. N.B. Plenty of good water. [47: p.5]
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	The new rush on Campbell's Creek, below Preshaw's flat hill, continues to attract diggers to the neighbourhood, but there have been no extraordinary yields of large nuggets. [47: p.2]
<b>5 Oct 1855</b>	For Sale, a Long Tom, nearly new, a Sluice and a first-rate California Pump, price £10. Apply at the Union Store, Campbell's Creek (Preshaw's Flat). [47: p.3]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	Cutting No. 6 (made to straighten course of Forest Creek) has cut off the curve on which Preshaw's Flat is situated. Industrial sites are scattered along the north side of the creek's original course, on Preshaw's Flat. From the western end, these are a tannery, foundry, soap and candle works, tannery, and a brewery on the flat itself. Also bridge to Chewton. [26]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	Mining population: Preshaw & Cemetery Flats - 44 European and 198 Chinese alluvial workers [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Winter's and Preshaw's Flats - Europeans: 7 puddlers, 5 ordinary miners - Chinese: 22 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.3****WINTER'S FLAT**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Preshaw's Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	Charles Lorentzen, Tallow Chandler and Melter, Winter's Flat, Campbell's Creek. Butcher's Rough and Melted Fat bought. [47: p.5]
<b>2 March 1855</b>	The Subscribers are now ready to purchase Hides, Tallow, and Refuse Flat, in any quantities and for current prices, at their Soap and Candle factory, Winter's Flat, Campbell's Creek, near the crossing place of the road to Simson's diggings. W. Nowlan and Co. [47: p.5]
<b>22 June 1855</b>	The Olive Branch Hotel - Wm. Gaffney, Winter's Flat, Campbell's Creek. [47: .3]
<b>21 Dec 1855</b>	Butcher's Arms, Winter's Flat, Campbell's Creek. [47: p.1]
<b>11 April 1856</b>	The population [of Winter's Flat] is increasing, and bricks and mortar are beginning to supersede the more fragile habitations of canvas and wood. [47: p.5]
<b>c. 1857-8</b>	The price of crushing was at first £7 and £5 per ton, and afterwards £4-10/- per ton. We carted a ton from the top of Moonlight Flat to the Colin Campbell machine at Winter's Flat, and although it yielded 4 oz. 4 dwts. to the load we only divided, after paying expenses of carting and crushing, &c., about 13/- per man of four in the party... [19: p. 27]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Winter's and Preshaw's Flats - Europeans: 7 puddlers, 5 ordinary miners - Chinese: 22 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.4****DIAMOND FLAT, HILL & GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>n.d.</b>	[Photograph captioned: 'Memorial Stone erected by the pioneers at an early goldfields cemetery site, Diamond Gully'] [21: facing p. 84]
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	There is a party at work in Diamond Gully, have been getting their twelve ounces each week per man, very quietly. Of eight or nine holes lately sunk, all are doing well. [47: p. 2]
<b>October 1859</b>	Diamond Hill, Campbell's Creek, 6 ton of cement yielded 4 oz. 2 dwt. [10]
<b>Dec 1859</b>	Parties reporting yields from cement: Diamond Hill - Bray and Co. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 19 puddlers, 5 tunnelling, 2 tub and cradle workers 7 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Diamond Hill and Gully - Europeans: 9 puddlers, 11 ordinary miners - Chinese: 20 puddlers, 88 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Diamond: 1 claim, 2 men [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c. Diamond Hill 78 [10]
<b>March 1886</b>	Number and distribution of miners: Diamond Gully 44 [10]
<b>1904</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12:p.53]
<b>Dec 1904</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 596 oz gold [10]
<b>1905</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.82-3]
<b>March 1905</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 528oz gold [10]
<b>1906</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.92-3]
<b>May 1906</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 242oz gold [10]
<b>June 1906</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 445oz gold [10]
<b>Oct 1906</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: P.C. Baker, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
<b>1907</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 10 inch gravel pump, 130 horsepower condensing steam engine [12: pp.98-9]
<b>June 1907</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 256oz gold [10]
<b>March 1908</b>	Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 233oz gold [10]

**1908** Diamond Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating, but now closed down [12: pp.98-9]

5.5

**LUSHINGTON HILL & LUSHINGTON GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>11 April 1856</b>	A diminutive rush had occurred on a hill named Lushington Hill, at a short distance from Gaffney's Hotel, Winter's Flat. The ground is old, and has been worked over several times. [47: p.5]
<b>Dec. 1859</b>	Parties reporting yields from cement: Lushington Hill - Bray and Co. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Chinese: 12 puddlers 3 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1877</b>	A trial crushing of cement from the surface of Lushington Hill, yielding nearly 3 dwts. to the ton, has caused a lease to be applied for, and it is intended to erect crushing machinery on the ground, there being a large quantity of cement in the locality. [10]

5.6

**ADELAIDE HILL**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Diamond Flat

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 3 puddlers Chinese: 18 puddlers 4 puddling machines. [10]

5.7

**SEVENTY FOOT HILL AND FLAT**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>21 Sept 1855</b>	A rush has recently taken place on a hill called 70 Feet Hill, which runs down towards the creek, nearly facing the Bath Arms, but at some distance from it; though some holes are 70 feet deep, as the name of the hill implies, the average is not much over 35. Many Chinese also are making an ounce per day out of the bed of the creek and the long tom refuse. [47: p.3]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 17 tunnelling, 4 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 4 tub and cradle workers [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Seventy Foot Flat Europeans: 4 puddlers 1 puddling machine [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Seventy Foot Hill and Flat - Europeans: 15 ordinary miners - Chinese: 116 ordinary miners [10]

5.8

**HARD HILL**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**


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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>29 Jan 1856</b>	On the Hard Hill, Campbell's Creek, some parties are doing well in deep sinking. [47: p. 2]
<b>June 1859</b>	Much of the cement from Blanket, Hard, and White Hills, has yielded 1 to 11/4 oz. per ton, which pays very well for working. [10]
<b>October 1859</b>	Hard Hill, Campbell's Creek, 2 ton of cement yielded 7 oz. 12 dwt. [10]
<b>Dec 1859</b>	Parties reporting yields from cement: Hard Hill - Sutton. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 16 tub and cradle workers [10]

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**5.9 FORTY FOOT HILL**


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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	John O'Groat's Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 5 tunnelling Chinese: 4 tub and cradle workers [10]

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**5.10 JOHN O'GROATS FLAT**


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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Cemetery Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: John O'Groat's and Cemetery Flats - Chinese: 194 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.11 CEMETERY FLAT**


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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	John O'Groats Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>July 1859</b>	A new rush in alluvial mining has taken place on the Cemetery Flat, Campbell's Creek (on ground previously prospected, but unworked in consequence of the immense under drainage), and 470 Chinese and a few Europeans are profitably employed. The sinking average 15 feet ... The yield varies from 1/2dwt. to 8dwt. to the tub. The best deposits are found on slate bedrock. [10]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	Mining population: Preshaw & Cemetery Flats - 44 European and 198 Chinese alluvial workers [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: John O'Groat's and Cemetery Flats - Chinese: 194 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.12 WHITE HILL, WHITE FLAT AND WHITE HILL REEF**


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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>19 Oct 1855</b>	There has been a small rush to a hill in the vicinity of the old White Hill...the sinking is 60 or 70 feet through a conglomerate. [47: p.2]
<b>26 Oct 1855</b>	A rush of about 200 took place on Monday, on a reef at the back of the White Hill... there has also been a considerable rush at the lower end of Donkey Gully; many are doing well, and there are upwards of 500 men at work. It appears that one of those extensive reefs which have been before alluded to as running northwards of Jim Crow passes through [Poverty] gully, between the hill of the same name and the White Hill, Campbell's Creek, through Clinker's Hill, Slaughter-house Hill, across the township [of Castlemaine] northwards to the ranges on the west of Pennyweight Flat, towards Harcourt... Its value as a quartz reef has only recently been tried by a few persons. The sinkings up to this time do not, we understand, exceed fourteen feet through quartz and...the quantity of quartz appears to increase, as the digger goes down. [47: p.2]
<b>June 1859</b>	Much of the cement from Blanket, Hard, and White Hills, has yielded 1 to 11/4 oz. per ton, which pays very well for working. [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	3 claims, 12 miners. [10]
<b>Dec. 1859</b>	Parties reporting yields of quartz: White Hill - Hatton. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 24 puddlers, 6 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 12 tub and cradle workers 7 puddling machines [10]

<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: White Hill Reef No. of claims: 2 Extent of claim: 240 feet No. of men employed: 4 Extent of Reef prospected: 600 feet Lately averaged 1 oz. per ton [10]
<b>June 1861</b>	White Flat - workings 12 to 18 feet deep. Gold very patchy. [27]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: White Hill and Flat - Europeans: 10 puddlers, 12 ordinary miners - Chinese: 102 ordinary miners [10]
<b>June 1865</b>	The two superior plants erected by the Eureka Company, and another known as the White Hill Company's have been sold and removed from the division. [10]

### 5.13 CROW GULLY

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1861</b>	Crow Gully - flats either side of this gully. Northern flat - surface workings; southern flat - shallow and surface workings. [27]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Crow and Specimen Gullies - Europeans: 27 puddlers, 19 ordinary miners - Chinese: 16 ordinary miners [10]

### 5.14 SPECIMEN GULLY AND LITTLE SPECIMEN GULLY

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Bolivia or Ajax Reef

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1861</b>	Bolivia Reef Company's machinery at the head of Little Specimen Gully. [26]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Crow and Specimen Gullies - Europeans: 27 puddlers, 19 ordinary miners - Chinese: 16 ordinary miners [10]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Centred on the head of Little Specimen Gully, working Bolivia or Ajax Reef, is Lease 1766, the Ajax Mining Company. [30]

### 5.15 BOLIVIA REEF OR AJAX REEF

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	New Chum Gully, Dead-horse Gully, Specimen Gully, and Little Specimen Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
	<b>HISTORY OF THE UNITED AJAX MINE, CASTLEMAINE</b> The United Ajax Mine is situated on the Bolivia Quartz Reef, which traverses a prominent range immediately south of the town of Castlemaine, and there forms the main outcrop of a long channel of auriferous country, which has been proved to be rich in gold deposits at the south end, namely, in the Cumberland, the Nuggetty, Little Nuggetty and German Gully mines. Its course northerly is under the Episcopalian and other churches and private property, and the reef at that end remains unproven. When first worked, the reef was known as Specimen Hill, but on the 11th May, 1857, it was duly christened "Bolivia", in honour of the first prospectors, Francesco Romano and Co., natives of that country. The ceremony was performed by a Mrs. Morley, whose husband, with others, was then

working nearly 11 feet deep, and obtaining from 10oz. to 30 oz. of gold to the ton of quartz. The surface alluviums in the intersecting ravines and gullies, named respectively the "New Chum", "Dead-horse," "Specimen," and "Little Specimen," yielded large quantities of alluvial gold, and they have been continuously re-worked from time to time, and lately were sluiced clean away to the bed-rock.



- The great outcrop of quartz had the appearance of a continuous body, and was roughly excavated or quarried, but on sinking 20 feet to 30 feet, the auriferous strata formed into leaders and veins of quartz interstratified with soft sandstone and blue slate, dipping southerly about 15°. On the 30th October 1857, Romano and Co. struck another leader, crushed 2 tons, and obtained therefrom 44 oz. of gold. On 6th November, Fleming and Co., in driving for Romano's leader, not only came across it, but found three others, each of which was highly auriferous. On the south end of the hill. Savage and party struck good leaders, and obtained 47 oz. from 4 tons. [10: June 1888]
- c. 1855** The Ajax or Bolivia Reef, on Ajax Hill, south of Castlemaine, was one of the first quartz outcrops to attract attention. When first worked, by parties with small claims, the reef was known as Specimen Hill, but in May 1857, it was duly christened the Bolivia. [55: p.20]
- 26 Oct 1855** Poverty Gully - It appears that one of those extensive reefs which have been before alluded to as running northwards of Jim Crow passes through this gully, between the hill of the same name and the White Hill, Campbell's Creek, through Clinker's Hill, Slaughterhouse Hill, across the township [of Castlemaine] northwards to the ranges on the west of Pennyweight Flat, towards Harcourt... Its value as a quartz reef has only recently been tried by a few persons. The sinkings up to this time do not, we understand, exceed fourteen feet through quartz and the quantity of quartz appears to increase, instead of diminishing, as the digger goes down. [47: p.2]
- 1855-6** There were several reefs being worked then, such as the Bolivia, now known as the Ajax, the Wattle Gully reef, the Eureka, the Caledonia, and many others of lesser note. [19: p. 26]
- 15 May 1857** Morley's Party - 1 ton yielded 20 oz. Discovery of new reef - Bolivia Reef [37]
- 27 May 1857** Morley's claim - 7 ton yielded 40 oz. [37]
- 24 July 1857** Eastern side of Bolivia - tunnel driven from level of the gully into centre of range. [37]
- 1857** In 1857, Romano and Co. struck a leader, 2 tons of which yielded 44 oz. On the south end of the hill, Savage and party struck good leaders and obtained 47 oz from 4 tons. The first steam-engine brought into the Castlemaine district was erected to work this reef, by Ham and Co., who, however, failed to obtain sufficient gold to pay working expenses. [55: p.20]
- 15 March 1858** Reef continues prosperous. [37]
- 20 Aug 1858** Romano responsible for discovering Bolivia Reef. [37]
- 3 Nov 1858** Penna and Co. - 1 ton yielded 3 oz - from No. 7 claim (Savage's) at 115 ft [37]
- June 1859** Bolivia, No. 8, 10 tons yielded 45 oz. 3 dwt.  
Do. No. 10, 5 tons yielded 62 oz. 7 dwt. [10]
- August 1859** nine claims working, 31 miners, Bolivia Reef Company [10]
- August 1859** List of public companies in existence, and contemplated [includes]: Bolivia Quartz Reef Company, Bolivia Reef, 570 yards, commenced operations. [10]
- August 1859** Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Penna, Pearce, and Company, Campbell's Creek, 30 h.p. 16 head of stamps, &c. [10]
- August 1859** Steam machinery employed in quartz crushing: Sir Henry Barkly Company, Campbell's Creek, 30 h.p. 16 head of stamps, tables, etc. [10]
- Sept 1859** In September 1859, the Bolivia Company was formed, and bought out a number of small claims, went to work, and sunk a shaft to a depth of 150 feet, at the same time erecting winding and crushing plant. From the head of Specimen Gully, a tunnel 8 feet wide and 7 1/2 feet high was driven to intersect the reef, which, at this level, was 17 feet wide. [55: p.20]
- Sept 1859** Yield of quartz: Bolivia Reef - Pearce, Peuna and Co., 1 ton yielded 14 dwt. 16 gr.; Savage and party, 3 ton yielded 21 oz. [10]
- Sept 1859** Notwithstanding that such yields were obtainable from shafts sunk 20 feet to 20 feet on the Bolivia Reef, the attractions of new goldfields caused an exodus of miners, and on the 10th September, 1859, Messrs. Cameron, Thorburn, and others, purchased Romano's and other claims on the north end of the hill for £4,000 cash. They then formed the first "Bolivia Company," consisting of 20,000 shares of £5 each, and applied for a mining lease. They subsequently went energetically to work; sunk a shaft 150 feet, drove levels in quartz which was not payable; drove a tunnel from Specimen Gully easterly, intersecting a body of quartz 17 feet through; erected a steam-engine and eight-head battery, with all necessary appliances, and constructed a dam. [10: June 1888]
- Dec 1859** Parties reporting yields of quartz: Moscret and Co., Savage, Eureka Company. [10]
- May 1860** Parties reporting quartz yield: Savage, Gingle. [10]
- May 1860** The Bolivia Reef Company's machinery consists of 35 horse-power engine driving a battery of 16 heavy revolving stamps, which is kept pretty constantly employed, crushing from 200 to 250 tons per week; the yield from which is 4 to 5 dwts. per ton. The main adit 8 feet wide by 7 1/2 high is completed, and is 230 feet long. It is proposed to add another 8 stamps, as the quantity of stone and facility for obtaining it, will render a small yield payable, with every probability of finding rich patches. [10]
- Sept 1860** On the Bolivia Reef, at the depth of 145 feet, 10 feet below the water-level, the quartz is yielding 7 oz. per ton. [10]

- Oct 1860** The affairs of the Bolivia Company are in the hands of Judge Bindon of the Court of Mines [10]
- Oct 1860** Gross of the Bolivia Reef 6oz. per ton [10]
- 5 Nov 1860** Sir Henry Barkly Co. - 20 tons yielded 1 oz per ton - on No. 5 claim at 170 ft. Phillips and Co. - northern extension of Bolivia - 7 to 8 dwt per ton (prospecting only) [37]
- 5 Dec 1860** Five Flags Company - 2 tons yielded 9.5 oz. [37]
- Dec 1860** Quartz leases applied for and surveyed, but not yet demised: [include] Sir Henry Barkly Company  
Applicant: R.W. Fairbairn  
Area: 3 acres 33 perches  
Feet on reef: 577  
Machinery: Twenty horse-power engine, sixteen stamps  
Number of men employed: 7 [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Bolivia Reef  
No. of claims: 8  
Extent of claim: 960 feet  
No. of men employed: 17  
Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Bolivia Company  
No. of claims: Lease  
Extent of claim: 1,204 feet [10]
- Dec 1860** Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include] Bolivia Company  
Area of Lease: 16 acres 2 rods 33 perches  
Amount of capital: £20,000  
Machinery: Thirty-five horse-power engine, sixteen stamps, pumps, &c.  
Value of machinery: £4,600  
Cash expended: £24,000  
Men lately employed: 28  
Remarks: Insolvent. [10]
- Dec 1860** In December 1860, the Bolivia Company was wound up in the Court of Mines, as money to prosecute the works could not be obtained from the shareholders. [10: June 1888]
- Jan 1861** In January, 1861, Messrs. Wm. Clarke and Co. purchased the mine and  
**Feb 1864** plant for £3,000, and named it the "Ajax Quartz Mining Association." On the 1st February 1861, they let the mine on tribute to P.E. Phillips and party (20 men), for a term of three years, the proprietors to receive 25 per cent. of the gross yield, and the tributers 75 per cent. from which to pay all working expenses of the mine. During the three years' tribute, 8,0009 tons were raised and crushed, yielding 13,340oz. 11dwt. and realising £50,611 16s. which gave to each tributer about £1,500 net, and returned to each shareholder 260 per cent upon his investment. The portion of ground then held (lease No. 163) is shown on the accompanying plan. To the south, six other mining claims obtained 6,510oz. 13 dwt. from 5,743 tons of quartz. [10: June 1888]
- Feb 1861** Phillips and Company, who have rented the late Bolivia Reef Company's plant, have been busily employed in opening the mine, substituting square for revolving stamps, and effecting many other important improvements in the machinery. This company consists of twenty experienced working shareholders, and there is every probability of their being successful in this formerly mismanaged reef and machinery. [10]
- March 1861** Phillips and Company, after effecting numerous alterations and improvements in the machinery and plant of the Bolivia Reef Company, commenced crushing about the middle of the month, but up to this time their progress has been retarded in consequence of frequent breakages of the machinery... [10]
- 17 April 1861** Sir Colin Campbell - a level has been driven in the northern shaft - said to be 285 ft. Bolivia Company - 3 dwt per ton. [37]
- April 1861** The Bolivia Reef Tribute Working Company has, at length, discovered payable stone. The week before last a crushing of 20 tons yielded 46 oz. 18 dwt. Other claims on the Bolivia are also paying well. Two shares in No. 7 have been sold for £120; the depth of working in this claim is 185 feet and the yield a little over one ounce per ton. A late trial of stone from No. 6 claim obtained from depth of 200 feet gave 15 dwt. per ton. [10]
- 5 May 1861** Bolivia Co. - reef averages 2ft wide - from Gorman's claim to the north. Five Flags co. - own southern end - have two shafts, No. 5 and No. 6. The lower shaft (No. 5) is 200 ft deep. [37]
- 22 May 1861** Bolivia Co. 155 ft depth. No. 7 claim, 185 ft depth. No. 6 claim, 200 ft depth. [37]
- 17 June 1861** Ajax Co. - 70 ton yielded 80 oz. [37]
- 19 June 1861** Bolivia - Ajax Co. 55 ton yielded 108 oz. [37]
- 26 June 1861** Five Flags Co. - 200 ft deep, 100 ft below water. [37]

- June 1861** Shaft on Bolivia Reef Company's lease is 200 ft deep and located at grid ref. 524918. Yielding well. The SW corner of this claim is adjacent to the Bolivia Reef Company's machinery, at the head of Little Specimen Gully. Immediately south is a series of smaller claims, extending down to Specimen Gully, as follows: (most northerly) Penna and Co., Maltstow and Co., Moscript, Goodge, Savage, Sir Henry Barkly Co. [26]
- July 1861** Quartz crushed for last month lists Ajax Company, and Rowley and Company as working Bolivia Reef [10]
- July 1861** The returns from claims formerly held by public companies are very materially improving: the Ajax, formerly the Bolivia Company, having realised 532 oz. 4 dwts from 260 tons, and the Undaunted, formerly the Cumberland, 122 oz. 3 dwt. from 243 tons - both during the past month [10]
- August 1861** The Ajax Company continues to improve in their yield, and in their hands the Bolivia Reef is redeeming its auriferous character. The success of the Ajax Company at the north end of the hill, and the excellent prospects obtained by Grose and Company, at the south end, has induced the latter party to extend their operations by forming a company of twenty working shareholders to invest £150 each ... and are now busily employed removing their machinery to the reef, and adding pumping apparatus which will supersede two horse whims. [10]
- August 1861** Monthly quartz returns list Ajax Company, Sir Henry Barkly Company, Savage and Company as obtaining quartz from Bolivia Reef [10]
- Sept 1861** On the Bolivia Reef the Ajax Company are increasing their machinery by an additional battery of eight stampheads...  
The new company, late Sir Henry Barkly, has already moved their machinery to the southern end of Bolivia, and from present appearances will soon commence draining and crushing. [10]
- Oct 1861** The Bolivia Reef presents a more animated appearance than other reefs in the division, the two companies of lessees and private claimholders holding and disputing every inch of ground, and exerting their utmost to work or find the rich lode being wrought by the Ajax Company. [10]
- 1 Nov 1861** Bell and Co - next independent claim south of Ajax - have sunk 170 ft. [37]
- 15 Nov 1861** Bolivia Co. (formerly Sir Henry Barkly Co.) have cut very rich quartz in 200 ft level. [37]
- Nov 1861** The Ajax Company have been busily employed increasing the crushing capabilities of their machinery, since which their first cleaning up 95 tons (four days' work) produced 195 oz. and last week they reduced 130 tons, the yield being 528 oz., the best week's return yet, causing increased confidence in the reef.  
The Bolivia Company has nearly completed the erection of their machinery, and continues to break out rich stone. [10]
- Dec 1861** In quartz mining the Ajax Company continues to give the best proof of increased yield in depth. The ground held by them was among the first opened as quartz workings. In connection with this claim the first steam engine brought into this district was erected by Ham and Company, who, however, failed to exact sufficient gold to pay expenses. Subsequently several parties prospected it with variable success, the greatest failure being the late mismanaged Bolivia Company, whose plant was taken by the present company on the tribute, under the style of the Ajax Company. They struck gold in June last, and to the present time - ie. six months - they have driven a level 200 feet southwards along the lode, and raised and crushed 1460 tons of quartz, which has yielded 4530 oz., which realised, at market price, £17,119 12s 6d.  
On the same reef the Lady Barkly Company (late Sir Henry Barkly) have completed the removal and erection of their machinery, and their first cleaning up gave them 40 oz. of gold. Their machinery has been considerably improved. Among other things, they have introduced the paper pipes for pump, which, should they prove as serviceable as they are cheaply and expeditiously adapted for draining a mine, will be an immense improvement to cast iron. [10]
- 3 Jan 1862** Several independent miners are nearly deep enough to drive east to the Ajax lode. [37]
- 23 May 1862** Moscrip and Co. - after sinking over 200 ft and driving various levels, have failed.  
Bolivia Co. - 30 tons averaged 5 dwts/ton. [37]
- 17 June 1862** Bannister and Co. have sunk to the level of the lode (220 ft). [37]
- 29 April 1863** Ajax Co. - 150 tons yielded 150 oz.  
Bannister and Co. - lost on crushing  
Bolivia Co. [37]
- 11 May 1863** Bolivia Co. have sunk to nearly 300 feet - constantly prospecting for two years with little success. [37]

- June 1864** The Bolivia Reef has not supplied its quota, in consequences of the stoppage and erection of new machinery at the Ajax Company, and the Lady Barkly, Great Centre, and other claim holders having registered their claims. The...Bolivia mine...and machinery have been unworked.  
The Ajax new plant is now in full operation, the stonebreaker answers admirably, crushing large blocks into small stones, and thereby facilitating the pulverisation. The process for extracting the gold is the same as was employed at the Clunes Company's works. The Ajax mine is reported to improve as the ground becomes open; the works are in excellent order.  
Mr Haye's new plant, consisting of twelve horse-power locomotive engine and 10 stamps, is nearly completed, when the cement hills adjacent will be operated upon.  
Two engines with Chilean rollers and appliances are nearly completed specially for operating upon quartz tailings from the Ajax and Sir Henry Barkly machines.  
Considerable interest is evinced as to the result of these operations, which if successful will materially affect quartz crushing operations. [It appears that Henry Barkly and Lady Barkly Companies are one and the same] [10]
- 10 Aug 1864** Moscrip and Co. - 22 tons yielded 30 oz.  
Ajax Tailings Co. - will treat Ajax tailings. [37]
- Sept 1864** The appliances so long erecting for the purpose of extracting the gold supposed to remain in the quartz tailings, are not found efficient, Roberts and Co., at the Ajax, having already given up and disposed of their "rollers"; and Flude and Co. do not report success, although it is said they obtained a prospect of 8 dwts. of gold per ton before erecting their machine.  
The Bolivia, or Lady Barkly Company, has not yet recommenced operations; they are re-forming the company, for the purpose of increasing their capital. The adjoining claims on Bolivia Reef are much improved on yield  
Mr. Hayes' new crushing plant has been working, but the returns are not very satisfactory, the operations hitherto having been upon mullock and tailings. [10]
- Sept 1864** The Perseverance and Victoria machines and plant have changed hands, and will be used for crushing from the Bolivia and Wattle Gully Reefs. [10]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men:  
Bolivia: 6 claims, 48 men  
East Bolivia (newly discovered): 1 claim, 2 men [10]
- 29 Dec 1864** Ajax Co. - 364 tons yielded 82 oz.  
Keegan and Bannister - 20 ton crushed. [37]
- March 1865** The Bolivia Company is again working, with every prospect of success, and the ground immediately south has been applied for on lease. [10]
- June 1865** The Bolivia Company continues driving cross-cuts to the west at a depth of 270 feet, and excellent leaders are now met with. The Ajax mine has been closed for the past three weeks; it is again let on tribute to the party who so successfully worked it before. [10]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865:  
Ajax Company, Bannister, Moscup or Moscrip and Company, Sir Colin Campbell Company, Sir Henry Barkly Company. [10]
- Dec 1866** The Bolivia machinery is also sold to adjoining claimholders, known as Moscrip and Company, and will not be removed. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
Ajax Company, Moscrip and Company. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
Ajax Company, Boss Ajax. [10]
- March 1868** In quartz mining more extended workings have commenced. The Ajax's Company's mine has been let to five parties of tributers; each party have already obtained good prospects. Ten men are employed at the machinery, tailings, &c., preparing for extensive operations.[10]
- March 1868** On the South Ajax a party of eight men are prospecting.  
The South Ajax, also the Boss Ajax mines, have again been let on tribute [10]
- June 1868** The Ajax Company is again successful. The mine is now divided into eight "pitches" or separate working parties - seven parties of 6 men each, one of 14 men, and 4 men prospecting, making 60 men employed. 977 tons raised, yielded 601 oz. 18 dwts. 18 grs. [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
Ajax and others, Boss Ajax, South Ajax and others [10]
- March 1871** The Ajax have been re-forming, to increase their capital, for the purpose of sinking their engine-shaft 200 feet deeper, and prospecting their mine at a depth of 500 feet. [10]
- 25 Sept 1871** Ajax Co. - on 240 ft level - 50 ft more driving done towards old shaft. [37]

- Sept 1871** The Ajax Company has been resuscitated. They have succeeded in buying out the several claimholders whose small claims intersected the company's leases, so that now the whole of Bolivia Reef can be drained and worked by the Ajax Company's powerful and efficient machinery. Their engine shaft, which, with the machinery, is on a lease at the base of the hill, is now 230 feet deep, will be sunk 200 feet deeper...and connected with the old 240-foot level. The machinery has been overhauled, twenty-six men employed. On lease 461 a whim has been erected and a shaft sunk (now 92 feet) without striking quartz, nine men employed; and on lease No. 462, a shaft (now 80 feet) is being sunk, and one party of four tributers are at work. [10]
- 14 Oct 1871** North Ajax Gold Mining Co. - company formed to work ground on Clinker's Hill, formerly worked by Savage and Co. Also Williamson and Co. worked another part of the claim. [37]
- Dec 1871** The Bolivia Company employs 72 men; eight shafts are being sunk; the Ajax Company sinking their main shaft to 400 feet; and each of the other companies on the line are sinking; their several depths varying from 50 to 110 feet. [10]
- March 1872** The Ajax Company's engine-shaft has been sunk 105 feet below the 300-foot level, and as soon as the pumps can be lowered a cross-cut will be driven at 400-feet - ie. from crown of hill [Clinker's?]. On other portions of this extensive mine four other shafts are being sunk. North of the Ajax shafts are being sunk: the Clinker's Hill Company, down 195 feet; the Piccaninny Company, 100 feet; Summer Hill Company, 60 feet; and on the south of the Ajax the sinking of shafts is progressing thence along the Cumberland, Poverty, and Nuggetty Reefs, to the Frenchman's, in the Fryer's division. [10]
- June 1872** The Ajax Company, Bolivia Reef, have opened a gold-bearing lode at the 300-foot level; they are about erecting an engine and gear for winding, and likely again to become one of the largest gold-yielding mines in the district. [10]
- 22 July 1872** Ajax Reef - Ajax Tunnel Co. - tunnel in 14 ft. [37]
- Sept 1872** The North Ajax Company have erected a 16 horse-power engine, with friction winding gear, 7-inch lift-pumps, housing, &c., complete, upon the north continuation of the Bolivia Reef; their engine-shaft is down to water-level - 135 feet - above which 1 oz. of gold to the ton was obtained. [10]
- Dec 1873** The deepest mines in this division are - [1st] the Ajax, 400 feet, and about to sink to 500 feet.  
On the...Ajax...more powerful machinery is being erected. [10]
- Sept 1875** The Bolivia, Nuggetty, Manchester, and Burns Reefs are again being profitably worked. [10]
- Dec 1875** The old Ajax mine has been purchased by a party of 20 working miners, who have already discovered gold-bearing quartz in four distinct faces. [10]
- Dec 1876** Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c. Bolivia Reef 24
- Dec 1876** Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing: Ajax Tribute, Bolivia Reef [10]
- Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
- March 1878** It is reported that the Ajax mine is again to be worked. [10]
- June 1879** The Ajax mine has been let on tribute to ten men, who are endeavouring to find some of the lost runs of gold. [10]
- Dec 1879** The Ajax mine and machinery has been purchased by three gentlemen who purpose forming a company to sink the main shaft. In the bottom level of this mine there is the cap of a large reef believed to be the main reef. [10]
- 1877-9** The Ajax Quartz Mining Association, up to 1879, worked by wages men and tributers with varying success... Subsequent to the first tribute, this company raised 50,638 tons of quartz, yielding 27,589oz. 2dwt. making a grand total of 58,647 tons crushed, yield 32,190oz. 16dwt. producing £128,760. From profits a new plant was erected, comprising 20-inch cylinder engine, with 20-head battery of revolving stamps; a Chambers' stonebreaker, and 12-inch plunger pump; also a 15 1/2-inch cylinder engine, with winding gear complete; commodious galvanised-iron housing, with all necessary appliances. A permanent engine-shaft was commenced at about 400 feet west of cap of reef... During the three years 1877-79 inclusive very little work was attempted. Only 198oz. 18dwt. 10gr. of gold was obtained, and the "Ajax Quartz Mining Association" became defunct, a bank again taking possession. [10: June 1888]
- May 1880** From the bank the mine and plant were purchased by Messrs. Winks and Co., and on the 19th May 1880, "The United Ajax Gold Mining Company No Liability" was gazetted, consisting of 30,000 shares of 10s. each, and held by 76 shareholders. [10: June 1888]
- Sept 1880** The United Ajax company has now 36 men driving permanent levels, tributing, &c. They hope soon to keep their extensive machinery full employed. [10]
- 4 Dec 1880** United Ajax Co. It was thought advisable to raise and re-set the boilers, and overhaul the machinery, and make what repairs were necessary, laying new ripple tables, &c. Steam was raised and the pumps set to work on 2nd June, and the mine was drained to the 300 feet level on 24th July. [37]

- June 1881** The United Ajax Company...has purchased a "Normanby air-compressor", receiver, "National rock-drill", pipes, connections, &c. The drilling machine is the first introduced into this district. The company has been sinking by hand-labour. [10]
- Sept 1881** The Ajax United Company has sunk their shaft to 388 feet, in soft ground, in which the National rock-drill does not answer expectations. [10]
- March 1882** The Ajax United Company employs 40 men on wages and tribute. The Ajax is the only company who possesses a rock-drill with Normanby air-compressor, &c., but, from mismanagement or other cause, it is not made a success. [10]
- Sept 1882** The Ajax United Company is having their machinery overhauled, cylinder re-bored, boiler repaired, &c. From the engine shaft, at the 400-foot level, they have come upon a large body of quartz, carrying quantities of sulphurets of zinc, lead, and iron. The North Ajax Company have cleaned up and timbered an old shaft to 310 feet, and have erected a whim, &c. The South Ajax Company has also cleaned up an old shaft, and is driving for the reef. [10]
- 2 Dec 1882** United Ajax Co. - The winding engine and boilers have been put in good working order, and arrangements are being made for bringing in fresh water to feed the boilers, as it is found that the mine water acts injuriously on them. Three calls of sixpence each per share have been made during the half-year. [37]
- Dec 1882** Unfortunately, only four steam engines are employed in draining quartz reefs, these [include]: the Ajax United Company, Bolivia Reef, shaft 512 feet deep. [10]
- Sept 1883** On the Bolivia, operations are directed to finding the lost runs of gold between 240 and 300 feet deep. [10]
- March 1884** The United Ajax Company, having repaired boilers, rebored cylinders, and given their machinery a thorough overhaul, are sinking their engine shaft. [10]
- Sept 1884** The United Ajax Company has sunk their engine shaft to 612 feet. [10]
- May 1885** On the 7th May 1885, the capital [of United Ajax] was increased to 30s. per share. [10: June 1888]
- June 1885** The United Ajax plant...[is] the only one left on Campbell's Creek. [10]
- March 1886** Parties reporting gold yields from quartz crushing: United Ajax, Bolivia Reef  
Number and distribution of miners: Bolivia Reef 17 [10]
- Dec 1887** Mr G. Lansell, the well-known mining investor of Sandhurst...has shown his faith in the future of the district by purchasing 24,000 shares (equal to four-fifths) of the United Ajax Mine, where he intends forthwith to sink to 1,000 feet... He has also taken up the abandoned leases north and south of the Ajax Company with the intention of working them. [10]
- March 1888** The Ajax Company...are energetically repairing shaft and machinery, cutting 600-foot plat, fixing new boiler, plunger, rockborer, steel rope, and other works preparatory to sinking to 1,000 feet. [10]
- June 1888** The United Ajax company has completed fixing new steel boiler 27ft. x 6ft. 6in. new mountings to steam-engines, new steam and feed pipes, exhaust tank, 900 feet rope, &c.; re-timbering engine shaft to surface with red-gum planking; new ladders, stages, &c., complete and safe. They have sunk the shaft to 660 feet. The amount paid in calls by [United Ajax] company has been £18,240, which, with the value of gold obtained (£6,770), has been expended in sinking the shaft to 612 feet, driving 426 feet 6 inches of cross-cuts, and 2,420 feet of main levels, all upon the hanging wall, from which surface has not proved auriferous. The other mining operations by this company during eight years have been confined to burrowing about the old workings, between the surface and the 300-foot level - a useless and wasteful expenditure of time and money, resulting in the abandonment by the shareholders of nearly all the shares, 24,300 of which were lately purchased by Mr. Geo. Lansell of Sandhurst, who wisely discards surface scratchings. This gentleman has had the machinery overhauled, the water bailed, the shafts thoroughly repaired, and he is now sinking below the 600-foot level with every prospect of success. [10]
- Dec 1890** Only three mines are constantly at work, namely, the Francis Ormond, United Ajax, and South Wattle Gully. [10]
- 1897** For ten years [1887-97] this company continued sinking, and at each 100 feet in depth, to 1,100 feet from surface, cross-cuts were put in to reef and short drives from these north and south, without meeting with any payable results. In December 1897, the company stopped work and the mine and plant has remained idle ever since. [55: p. 20]

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**5.16** **NEW CHUM GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1860</b>	In New Chum Gully a new reef has been opened, from which many fine specimens have been obtained. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 27 puddlers, 8 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 4 tub and cradle 8 puddling machines [10]
<b>Dec 1868</b>	Several new lines of reef are being prospected: [including] ... Near New-chum Gully, Castlemaine, a line west of the Bolivia Reef. [10]

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**5.17** **DEAD HORSE GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**MAIN GOLDFIELD** Campbell's Creek

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: New Chum, Jones, and Dead Horse Gullies - Europeans: 14 puddlers, 17 ordinary miners - Chinese: 8 puddlers [10]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	The middle reaches of this gully are occupied by Lease 2627, working Grand B...reef (grid ref. 525928). Lease 25N [?] adjoins the SW corner of the above lease, and heads to New Chum Gully. [30]

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**5.18** **SPECIMEN FLAT**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Cumberland Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>July 1860</b>	A rush at the top of Specimen Flat and immediately adjoining the northern boundary of the Cumberland Reef Mining Company's reef, running up to the said reef, is yielding 1 oz. to the tub, but the ground here is limited in extent. [10]

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**5.19** **CUMBERLAND REEF**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1859</b>	The best yields from quartz during the month (for the accuracy of which I can vouch) are as follows: Cumberland Reef, 6 tons yielded 60 oz. 10 dwt. Do. No. 2, 13 tons yielded 45 oz. 16 dwt. [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	6 claims working, 23 miners [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	List of public companies in existence, and contemplated [includes]: Cumberland Reef Company, Cumberland Reef, 500 yards, partially working. [10]

- August 1859** Steam Machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Hatton and Company, Campbell's Creek, 6 h.p. four head of stamps, &c. [10]
- October 1859** Above 3/4 of a mile intervening between the Cumberland and Nuggetty Reefs has been taken up, some claims yielding exceedingly well. One ton of quartz from the northern extension have 49 oz. 1 dwt. being the largest yield of matrix gold yet obtained on the creek (Campbell's). The lucky party who found this rich quartz, commenced a prospecting shaft only six weeks ago at the end of the old workings on Nuggetty... Neat and Company, in the next claim north, have also struck a payable lead. [10]
- Dec 1859** Parties reporting yields of quartz: Western, Hatton. [10]



- May 1860** The Cumberland Reef Company are erecting an engine of 30 horse-power with a battery of 12 heavy stamps. Mining operations are nearly suspended, awaiting the completion of machinery, the sinking of the pump shaft which is now down 126 feet, and excavation of reservoir. It is intended to sink the pump shaft 200 feet [10]
- May 1860** Parties reporting quartz yields: [include] Hutton. [10]  
**25 July 1860** 250 ton yielded 7 dwt per ton - from 100 ft level. [37]  
**July 1860** A rush at the top of Specimen Flat and immediately adjoining the northern boundary of the Cumberland Reef Mining Company's reef, running up to the said reef, is yielding 1 oz. to the tub, but the ground here is limited in extent. [10]
- July 1860** The Cumberland Reef Company has so far completed the erection of their machinery as to be able to commence crushing operations with eight stamps. They have three reefs within their claim... Their supply of water is from their main shaft. [10]
- 8 Aug 1860** Engine shaft at 160ft. [37]  
**August 1860** The Cumberland Company (as is usually the case in a new start), are meeting with little stoppages, and remedying imperfections in their machinery. They are first adopted the ripple tables, but are not satisfied with the result, and are about to try Meyerhoff's cradles [see Appendix A]; they also overrated their subterranean water supply, not having at present one-third sufficient for working, and having made no provision for supply from the surface drainage, their works are much impeded. The drainage shaft must apparently be sunk much deeper before it will furnish sufficient fluid for the engine and batteries. [10]
- 15 Sept 1860** Cumberland Reef Co. The engine shaft is down 190 feet - hope to cut the reef in this shaft (expect to drive for reef at 200 ft). [37]
- 19 Sept 1860** Hutton and Co. - 18 ton yielded 1 oz/ton. Hutton's claim adjoins Cumberland Reef Co. [37]
- Sept 1860** The Cumberland Reef, 1 oz. per ton. [10]  
**Oct 1860** The Cumberland Reef Company is commencing to realise the expectations of its shareholders... and last week a quantity of quartz obtained from leaders yielded above 1 oz. per ton. [10]
- Nov 1860** Of the Cumberland Reef Company I reported their last crushing of 70 tons, the work of 4 days, yielding 60 oz. of gold, making £400 worth of gold in a fortnight, from 174 tons...but their operations are again retarded by the badly manufactured machinery - their engine and stamps would work, but they are short of water, their amalgamating apparatus and their pumping and winding gear is defective. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Cumberland Reef  
 No. of claims: 3  
 Extent of claim: 370 feet  
 No. of men employed: 11  
 Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Cumberland Company  
 No. of claims: Lease  
 Extent of claim: 700 feet  
 No. of men employed: 16  
 Extent of Reef prospected: 750 feet (claims and lease combined) [10]
- Dec 1860** Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include]  
 Cumberland Company  
 Area of lease: 12 acres 37 perches  
 Amount of Capital: £8,000  
 Machinery: Thirty horse-power engine, twelve stamps, pumping and winding gear  
 Value of machinery: £4,130  
 Cash expended: £6,125 5s  
 Miners now employed: 31  
 Gold or Value realised by Company: £1,412 4s 4d  
 Dated: 3 Jan 1861 [10]
- 7 Jan 1861** Crushings: Sept 270 tons - 877 oz  
 Oct 76 tons - 74 oz  
 Nov 416 tons - 164 oz  
 Dec 230 tons - 57 oz
- March 1861** Engine shaft now down 210 ft. [37]  
 The operations and prospects of the Cumberland Reef Company have been considerably impeded by a tough sandstone horse, which required much labour to get through, and even now the reef is neither so compact nor auriferous as before the slide took place. They have topped the lode at a depth of 160 feet in their engine-shaft. [10]

- May 1861** The Cumberland Reef Company have decided to wind up their affairs. Like many other companies, they commenced with too small a capital, basing their calculations upon the erection of faultless machinery, certain, uninterrupted, successful mining operations, and immediate returns; but their ruin has been their machinery; the works have been suspended during the month, and will remain so until disposed of. The reef is throughout proved payable auriferous; the adjoining claimholders, Hutton and Company, having worked their claim profitably for years, and are still realising a constant supply of payable stone. [10]
- June 1861** The entire machinery and plant of the Cumberland Reef Company has been brought to the hammer of the sheriff, and purchased by eight shareholders for about £1100, who under the style of the Undaunted Company, have gone energetically to work, and have already struck very promising quartz on the northern end of their claim [10]
- June 1861** Cumberland Reef crosses Cumberland Gully. The Cumberland Reef Co. has two leases. The smaller or southerly one contains steam machinery. South of these claims, also on the reef, is Hutton and Co. [27]
- July 1861** Quantity of quartz crushed last month includes - Undaunted Co on Cumberland Reef [10]
- July 1861** The returns from claims formerly held by public companies are very materially improving: the Undaunted, formerly the Cumberland, 122 oz. 3 dwt. from 243 tons - both during the past month. [10]
- Sept 1861** The Undaunted Company, on the Cumberland Reef, has improved prospects.... [10]
- Nov 1861** On the Cumberland Reef quartz has again been found by Hutton and Company, yielding above 3 oz. per ton. The purchasers of the late company's machinery, who, however, are idle, being afraid to speculate by opening the mine, hold the adjoining considerable portion of this reef. [10]
- 1863** The South Ajax Company, in 1863, commenced work in the old company's shaft, working on tribute, and crushed a large quantity of stone, the yields for some time averaging about 1/2 ounce to the ton. [55: p.23]
- June 1864** The Specimen Gully, the Old Quartz Hill and the Cumberland and Bolivia mines and machinery have been unworked, and several other plants only partially employed. [10]
- Sept 1864** The Old Specimen Gully and Cumberland mines remain unworked. [10]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Cumberland: 1 claim, 4 men [10]
- June 1865** The Cumberland machinery is about to be reworked by a new Company, the South Ajax. [10]
- March 1866** The Cumberland reef and machinery are again in work, being held by twelve tributers who, in consequence of the old mine having fallen in, having been engaged draining the reef and putting in levels below the old workings. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: South Ajax [10]
- March 1867** On the Cumberland Reef, the South Ajax tributers are working two lodes running parallel with the old workings, each about sixty feet distant east and west respectively [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: South Ajax, Tributers [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: South Ajax [10]
- end 1868** Meeting water level at 200 ft, [South Ajax Co.] abandoned the reef at end of 1868. [55: p.23]
- Sept 1869** A new company started work. [55: p.23]
- Sept 1870** The Cumberland and parallel reefs at Campbell's Creek have been taken up by a number of merchants and tradespeople (resident), who propose to erect efficient machinery, and follow the reefs below water-level. The returns hitherto obtained from four reefs within their boundaries give every prospect of success to the undertaking. [10]
- March 1871** The Cumberland plant is being repaired, and preparations are making for working the Cumberland and adjacent reefs in depth by twelve tributers. [10]
- June 1871** The whole of this line of reef [Nuggetty] is taken up under lease northerly to the Cumberland Reef - continuation of which also is taken up, both north and south. The Cumberland Tribute Company have their machinery so far completed that they have drained their mine, and now keep down the water by one-third time. There are twelve men employed driving at cross level at 150 feet deep. On adjoining Phoenix lease, nine men are employed sinking a fine engine shaft, 8 x 4 in the clear, and erecting necessary buildings, &c. Pumping machinery will be forthwith erected upon the Poverty line of reef. [10]
- Sept 1871** On the Cumberland Reef the Cumberland Tribute Company has driven levels at 150, 190 and 200 feet, and is now driving towards the eastern leader, where they expect to find payable stone. Hutton and Co. is about to extend their operations. The Phoenix Company has nearly completed the erection of a 151/4-inch engine, with pumping and winding gear, as the sinking of the engine-shaft has been temporarily stopped by the influx of water. They are now prospecting the eastern lode adjoining Huttons. South of the Phoenix the Castlemaine Company are sinking their engine shaft. [10]

- Dec 1871** The Cumberland Reef Tribute Company is driving at levels of 150 and 200 feet, trial crushings from old workings only averaging 3 dwts per ton. The company have increased their capital from £1800 to £6125, and purpose at once sinking their shaft 100 feet deeper, and extending their operations into other unworked portions of the mine. The Phoenix Company have completed the erection of a superior 20 horse-power engine, with pumping and winding gear, and are proceeding with sinking of shaft and prospecting their mine. Hutton and Co. have sunk a new shaft 50 feet, and are driving for the lode. The Castlemaine Company has sunk their shaft 85 feet; and the North Cumberland 70 feet each in slate country intersected with quartz leaders. [10]
- Sept 1872** The Phoenix Company, after several disappointments, has struck a leader, in which heavy coarse gold is freely distributed; it is the northerly continuation of the Nuggetty Reef. [10]
- Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
- 1878** In 1878 the first bore for lodes with a diamond drill in the State was commenced to test this reef at a depth. After boring to a depth of over 400 feet the rods broke, and subsequent efforts failing to remove them, they, together with the diamond bit, still remain [in 1903]. [55: p.23]
- Sept 1883** On the Cumberland Reef two companies have commenced operations, and purpose erecting efficient machinery. [10]
- 1883** In 1883 two new companies took up leases, on which they did little but 'shepherding' for a number of years. [55: p.23]
- March 1885** In quartz mining there is a diminution of men in consequence of the cessation of work on the Nuggetty line of reefs. [10]
- June 1885** In quartz mining all machinery has been removed from the Nuggetty and Cumberland lines of reef, which are now wholly unworked. [10]
- 25 Jan 1902** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Company - First Half-Yearly Meeting - Mine Manager's Report: On 13 September 1901, I started to clean out the old Phoenix shaft, which was a difficult task, seeing that it was making 6000 gallons of water per hour, and that the old pump lifts had to be removed therefrom... [37]
- 27 Feb 1902** The lease is about 30 acres - has two lines of reef, viz.: Cumberland on the east and Phoenix or Nuggetty on the west, the distance between them being 400 feet. The early mines were of great richness. The Ajax mine, some distance to the north, crushed in round numbers 58,000 tons for 32,000 oz. and the Nuggetty mine on the south obtained 15,000 oz. from 21,000 tons. On the lease itself some of the richest yields were obtained, but as in nearly every line of the district, water caused abandonment of works. The present shaft is on the Phoenix line... [see Nuggetty Reef]
- 21 April 1902** The Cumberland reef, 440 feet to the east, has a westerly underlie. [37]
- An attempt will be made to float the Cumberland Reef adjoining the Cumberland and Phoenix mine on the north [Nuggetty Reef], into a No Liability Company. Twenty-five years ago the site was diamond drilled to 424 feet, payable prospects obtained at 105, 265 and 424 feet. At 424 feet, the drill was stuck and so a shaft was sunk to extract it. This shaft was sunk to 85 feet and the rods to that depth removed. A few months ago a syndicate was found to sink the diamond drill shaft and the shaft was sunk 15 feet - loosened old drill rods and pulled out 150 feet of them - leaves 175 feet yet to recover. [37]
- Nov. 1902** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: Thompson 10 head stamp battery, Raub pattern [13: 109.02]
- Dec 1902** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: Thompson 14 inch by 24 inch steam engine [13:110.02]
- 1903** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: Complete winding and crushing plant installed [12:p.72]
- March 1903** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: 477 ton crushed, 116oz gold [10]
- Dec 1904** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: 133 ton crushed, 14oz gold [10]
- 1905** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: 10 head battery [12: p.43]
- 1905** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: Constructing pumped sluicing plant [12: pp.82-3]
- March 1905** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: 296 ton, 34oz gold [10]
- 1906** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 92-3]
- May 1906** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 163oz gold [10]
- June 1906** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 249oz gold [10]
- Sept 1906** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Co: A. Lawrence, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- Oct 1906** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: D. Fraser, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- 1907** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pumps, 10 inch gravel pump, 130 horsepower noncondensing steam engine [12: pp.112-3]
- June 1907** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 231oz gold [10]
- March 1908** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: 141oz gold [10]

**1908** Cumberland Hydraulic Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating; but now closed down. [12: pp.98-9]

<b>5.20 NUGGETTY REEF/POVERTY REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Nuggetty Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1850s</b>	This reef, so called on account of the heavy character of the gold obtained from surface workings, was first worked to water-level (75 feet) by a number of small claim-holders for yields up to 12 oz. per ton. [55: p.26]
<b>21 March 1856</b>	At one reef, called Nuggetty Reef, 5 tons of quartz were crushed last week, and yielded 341 ounces. [47: p.5]
<b>June 1859</b>	Three new scenes of active mining operations have been opened during the past month - one at the back of the Camp, Castlemaine, and two in Campbell's Creek. The sinking, as usual in this division, is from 6 to 15 feet in depth. [Chinese] near Nuggetty Reef is working among the sandstones which crop out on the surface, obtaining gold found in the interstices. In each place a large area remains unprospected. [10]
<b>June 1859</b>	The best yields from quartz during the month ... [include]: Nuggetty Reef, 4 tons 66 oz. 17 dwt. [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	6 claims working, 16 miners. [10]
<b>Sept 1859</b>	Yield of quartz: Nuggetty Reef - Horson and Co., 1 ton yielded 3 oz. [10]
<b>October 1859</b>	Above 3/4 of a mile intervening between the Cumberland and Nuggetty Reefs has been taken up, some claims yielding exceedingly well. One ton of quartz from the northern extension have 49 oz. 1 dwt. being the largest yield of matrix gold yet obtained on the creek (Campbell's). The lucky party, who found this rich quartz, commenced a prospecting shaft only six weeks ago at the end of the old workings on Nuggetty. Neat and Company, in the next claim north, have also struck a payable lead. [10]
<b>Dec 1859</b>	Parties reporting yields of quartz: North & Co. [10]
<b>May 1860</b>	Parties reporting yields of quartz: Neate, North & Company [10]
<b>June 1860</b>	The Nuggetty Reef Company - have purchased a fine engine of 30-horse power, with stamping, winding, and pumping machinery, and are busily employed in erecting it on the reef; the plant will be very complete and it will enable the claim holders to compete with the immense current of water which has hitherto so retarded their operations. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	During the month, the Nuggetty Associated Quartz Mining Company have commenced crushing with their 30 horse-power engine and 12 stamps, which has been removed from Campbell's Creek and very substantially erected on the reef by some of the shareholders... Hobby's machine, erected on a continuation of the same reef, has also been started, causing this formerly dull locality to become, with its long line of working shafts, as lively and promising a scene of mining operations as we have in the division. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Nuggetty Reef No. of claims: 8 Extent of claim: 920 feet No. of men employed: 24 Extent of Reef prospected: 2,650 feet Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Nuggetty Company No. of claims: Lease Extent of claim: 1,134 feet [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz leases applied for and surveyed, but not yet demised: [include] Nuggetty Reef Company Applicant: W.F. Osborne and Company Area: 16 acres 2 rod 11 perches Feet on reef: 1,134 Machinery: Thirty horse-power engine, twelve stamps, pumping and winding gear Number of men employed: 26 [10]
<b>Feb 1861</b>	Nuggetty Reef, at Campbell's Creek, which for about four years has produced an immense amount of gold, continues in richness as the claimholders descend in depth. A long length of reef gold is now being obtained by the pumping machinery of the Nuggetty Reef Amalgamating Co enabling the party to go below what was considered water level. [10]
<b>March 1861</b>	The Nuggetty Reef Company are vigorously and successfully working their reef and machinery, having during the past two months paid off liabilities of nearly £400, and purposing this week to pay a dividend of from £5 to £6 per share (shares £100 each) which for the two months' work give high expectations of success as the mine becomes opened. [10]
<b>April 1861</b>	A prospect ton obtained from a continuation of the Nuggetty gave 1 oz. 4 dwt. [10]

- May 1861** The Nuggetty Company is still improving. [10]
- June 1861** The Nuggetty Reef is not only continuing successful, but also again yielding up its treasures as of yore. North and Co's claim, from which between £3000 and £4000 was obtained in about two months, has returned 139 oz. of gold from four tons; a second lot of three tons gave 78 oz.  
The Nuggetty Company crushed 300 tons, realising 135 1/2 oz. of gold. Roberts and Company on the same reef received nearly 12 oz. from four tons, and Neate and Company 30 oz. from four tons. [10]
- August 1861** Another party of working miners, under the style of the Cornish United Mining Company, have applied for a lease on the Poverty Flat Reef. The ground applied for has been prospected, and rich quartz found, but abandoned in consequence of water: the present holders intend to overcome that difficulty by erecting suitable machinery. [10]
- Sept 1861** The Nuggetty Reef maintains its character, 6 tons from Moore and Company's claim having yielded 118 oz. 1 dwt.; Neate and Company, 14 tons gave 20 oz. 21/4 dwt.; and the Nuggetty Company from 647 tons, broken and crushed indiscriminately, realised 323 oz. of gold. [10]
- Sept 1861** Companies/parties crushing quartz in past month:  
Nuggetty Company, Gingle, Moore, Neate, North.  
750 ton crushed for 29 oz gold. [10]
- Oct 1861** The Nuggetty Reef continues...to pay handsomely. Claims in continuation have been taken up, but as yet without striking gold. [10]
- Nov 1861** Parties crushing quartz: Nuggetty Company, North, Moore, Neate, Sidley [10]
- Nov 1861** The Nuggetty Reef returns continue well.  
The Cornish United Company, working on the Poverty Flat Reef, has struck gold-bearing quartz at a depth of 85 feet, but they have considerable work to keep down the water with the inefficient appliance of horse-whim, and contemplate erecting a steam engine. [10]
- Dec 1861** Parties crushing quartz: Rover, Cornish United. [10]
- Sept 1864** The Nuggetty Company's mine and plant have been let on tribute: the terms are, 75 per cent. of the produce of the mine, less half cost of wear and tear of machinery. [10]
- June 1865** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Nuggetty: 6 claims, 38 men. [10]
- June 1865** In consequence of the stoppage of the Nuggetty Company's machinery, the adjoining claimholders are flooded out; no other provision being made for draining the reef, work is suspended. [10]
- June 1865** In June, 1865, after working to a depth of 170 feet, and meeting with a large amount of water, stopped mining, but continued draining the reef for adjoining claims and crushing quartz for the small parties. [55: p.26]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865:  
Moore, North, Nuggetty Company [10]
- March 1866** The Nuggetty Reef is again to be worked, the company having arranged with adjoining claimholders to drain the reef and to receive a percentage of the gold obtained, and to crush all quartz raised at the company's machine. [10]
- Dec 1866** At Campbell's Creek, the Nuggetty is wholly idle, being flooded in consequence of the stoppage of the company's machinery, which has lately been sold. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
North, Moore, Bennett's, Hodge [10]
- March 1867** The Nuggetty Mine has been drained, the machinery being worked in connection with the Frenchman's reef. North and Co. have re-commenced work. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
(Nuggetty Mine Reef) Royal Oak [10]
- June 1867** The Royal Oak Company, who purchased the Nuggetty mine and plant, is very successful.... [10]
- Dec 1867** During the past quarter there has been a gradual decrease in mining population, and a very decide retrograde movement by public companies and tribute parties. The Argus Company, the Royal Oak, and the Guildford have been sold off by the creditors. [10]
- March 1868** Another party of twelve men have taken the Nuggetty mine on a four-years' tribute.  
Tratham and Co, north of the Nuggetty mine, are following their new leader, obtaining over 12 oz. per ton [10]
- June 1868** The Nuggetty tributers have been crushing for 2 dwts per ton until last week when they received 16 oz. from 13 tons; much of the old workings have fallen in, the attle having been raised to the surface, instead of supporting the mine. They have a good engine shaft 270 feet deep [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
Tratham and others, Tributers. [10]
- March 1871** The United Nuggetty Tributing Company have drained their mine (Nuggetty Reef), but are unable to work for foul air; their engine-shaft is 260 feet deep, and a level is driven thence to another perpendicular shaft; but communication is stopped, and all known methods to remove the foul air have been tried in vain; below the 150-foot level it

- remains a dense vapour, in appearance to that immediately after an underground blast, and so impure that lights are instantly extinguished and man dare not venture. [10]
- June 1871** On the Nuggetty Reef the amalgamated leases of Hayes and North's, and Moor's claim, are in full work, nineteen men employed. The water is kept clear by working quarter time; prospecting levels are being driven from the engine shaft at 280 feet. The whole of this line of reef is taken up under lease northerly to the Cumberland Reef - continuation of which also is taken up, both north and south.  
On...Phoenix lease [Cumberland], nine men are employed sinking a fine engine shaft, 8 x 4 in the clear, and erecting necessary buildings, &c. Pumping machinery will be forthwith erected upon the Poverty line of reef. [10]
- Sept 1871** On the Nuggetty Reef all available ground is taken up under lease. The United Nuggetty Tributing Company continues to obtain good returns from portions of their ground known as North's and Moore's. The several new companies who have taken up the adjoining ground have not commenced working. [10]
- Dec 1871** The Nuggetty Reef Company are progressing in opening out in deeper ground; in driving a level at 170 feet gold is seen, as also in a level 100 feet south of engine shaft, in which direction but little work has yet been done. In North's lease, at 190 feet, in driving a cross course 40 feet through slate and sandstone, several leaders were cut. [10]
- June 1872** On the Nuggetty line of reef some alluvial fossickers found a rich quartz leader; a rush and disputed ownership results.  
On the South Nuggetty, Dyason and Co. have obtained 242 1/4 oz. from 75 tons. [10]
- Sept 1872** The Phoenix Company [on Cumberland Reef], after several disappointments, have struck a leader, in which heavy coarse gold is freely distributed; it is believed to be the northerly continuation of the Nuggetty Reef. [10]
- June 1873** At the South Nuggetty Reef, Dyason and Co. obtained 182 oz. from 29 tons, and is now raising even richer stone. [10]
- Sept 1873** The...Nuggetty Lease is entirely occupied by tributing parties, who have repaired the machinery, and had crushings amounting to 85 tons, which yielded 78 1/2 oz. of gold. [10]
- Sept 1875** The Bolivia, Nuggetty, Manchester, and Burns Reefs are again being profitably worked. [10]
- Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs continue unworked. [10]
- March 1878** The old Nuggetty machinery has been removed. [10]
- Sept 1878** The Nuggetty Company has purchased the Energetic plant, including two engines, 12-head battery, pumping and winding gear, &c., which is being erected. [10]
- March 1880** Four engines only are employed in drainage, viz., on Wattle Gully, Argus Flat, Eureka, and Nuggetty Reefs. [10]
- Dec 1880** The Nuggetty Company is sinking, in order to drain that line of reef. [10]
- June 1881** The Nuggetty Company have sunk their shaft 360 feet, including a 10-foot well, and have cut a plat, and are now cross-cutting for the reef. [10]
- March 1882** The Nuggetty Company has drained all that line of reef, and are sinking and prospecting on three lease blocks. [10]
- Dec 1882** Unfortunately, only four steam engines are employed in draining quartz reefs, these [include] the Nuggetty Company, shaft 392 feet, draining the Nuggetty and Little Nuggetty reefs. [10]
- March 1885** In quartz mining there is a diminution of men in consequence of the cessation of work on the Nuggetty line of reefs... [10]
- June 1885** In quartz mining all machinery has been removed from the Nuggetty and Cumberland lines of reef, which are now wholly unworked... [10]
- 5 Aug 1901** Cumberland and Phoenix Co. have accepted tenders for removal of North Spring Gully's winding plant and poppet legs - work starts today. [37]
- 25 Jan 1902** Cumberland and Phoenix Gold Mining Company - First Half-Yearly Meeting - Mine Manager's Report: On 13 September 1901, I started to clean out the old Phoenix shaft, which was a difficult task, seeing that it was making 6000 gallons of water per hour, and that the old pump lifts had to be removed therefrom. [37]
- 27 Feb 1902** The lease is about 30 acres - has two lines of reef, viz.: Cumberland on the east and Phoenix or Nuggetty on the west, the distance between them being 400 feet. The early mines were of great richness. The Ajax mine, some distance to the north, crushed in round numbers 58,000 tons for 32,000 oz. and the Nuggetty mine on the south obtained 15,000 oz. from 21,000 tons. On the lease itself some of the richest yields were obtained, but as in nearly every line of the district, water caused abandonment of works.  
The present shaft is on the Phoenix line - the shaft had been sunk to 185 feet. The shaft is on the flat and water is close to surface.  
At 129 feet a little work has been done by the pioneers on a large reef met near the shaft - not payable. The main workings are at 181 feet north, where the reef was cut in the shaft. Here it is 10 feet wide and as solid as a bell, carrying much better gold than in the upper level.  
No work done south of shaft.

<b>21 April 1902</b>	The Cumberland reef, 440 feet to the east, has a westerly underlie. [37]
<b>14 May 1902</b>	An attempt will be made to float the Cumberland Reef adjoining the Cumberland and Phoenix mine on the north, into a No Liability Company. [37]
<b>14 July 1902</b>	Action taken against the Company by Mr M. Sheehan who claims equal interest in the syndicate from whom the Company purchased the lease. [37]
<b>31 July 1902</b>	Settlement made with M. Sheehan. Will now start driving in south level at 130 feet. [37]
<b>22 Jan 1903</b>	The bottom level, 180 feet level, was extended to 240 feet. [37]
	The shaft is situated about 200 feet from the southern boundary. [37]

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**5.21 LITTLE NUGGETTY REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Nuggetty Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1859</b>	The best yields from quartz during the month...[include]: - Little Nuggetty, 5 tons 15 oz. [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	2 claims working, 7 miners. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Little Nuggetty Company No. of claims: 7 Extent of claim: 840 No. of men employed: 22 Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Little Nuggetty Company No. of claims: -- Extent of claim: 1,125 feet No. of men employed: -- Extent of Reef prospected: 1,965 feet [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz leases applied for and surveyed, but not yet demised: [include] Little Nuggetty Company Applicant: Hobby Area: 10 acres 2 rods 30 perches Feet on Reef: 1,125 Machinery: Twelve horse-power engine, eight stamps Number of men employed: 10 [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Companies/parties crushing quartz in past month: Moscrip, Martin 2 ton crushed for 7 oz gold. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Little Nuggetty: 1 claim, 2 men [10]
<b>1869</b>	This reef...was first worked in 1859, but very little appears to have been done until 1869, when a prospector named Pattle, from a depth of 35 feet, obtained a yield of nearly 21/2 ounces to the ton. [55: p.26]
<b>Dec 1873</b>	Some of our mines have become dividend-paying, as the Caledonia, Devonshire, Little Nuggetty, Volunteer, and some private companies. [10]
<b>1873</b>	In 1873, Dyason and party obtained some very rich stone, and the Little Nuggetty Company was formed. [55: p.26]
<b>Sept 1876</b>	The Little Nuggetty (Dyason and Co.) continues well, 59 tons yielding 219 oz of gold. [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing: Nuggetty Tribute, Little Nuggetty Reef. [10]
<b>March 1885</b>	In quartz mining there is a diminution of men in consequence of the cessation of work on the Nuggetty line of reefs. [10]
<b>June 1885</b>	In quartz mining all machinery has been removed from the Nuggetty and Cumberland lines of reef, which are now wholly unworked. [10]
<b>June 1886</b>	The Little Nuggetty is again being worked, and yielding over 16dwt. per ton. [10]
<b>1886</b>	As the water in the mine was rising in consequence of the Nuggetty Company having stopped pumping, work ceased, and the reef has remained idle since [to 1903]. [55: p. 26]
<b>1913</b>	Little Nuggetty Gold Mining Co.: Shaft cut down and timbered to water level; erecting winding plant [12: p.104]
<b>1914</b>	Little Nuggetty Gold Mining Co.: Operations suspended after erecting a good winding plant and a 10-head battery [12: p.93]
<b>24 May 1915</b>	Little Nuggetty Gold Mining Co.: Cornish flue boiler, 16 feet x 5 feet, 8 inch double cylinder steam winch, Blake feed pump, poppet heads, 2 x baling tanks, cage, rope. [14]



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**5.22****TARR'S GULLY**

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**Mining Division**                      Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**              Nuggetty Reef

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**DATE                      HISTORY**

**March 1866**                      A new reef near the Nuggetty, viz., in Tarr's Gully, has been taken up by a company from Daylesford. [10]

**Dec 1866**                      Tarr's and Dutchman's Reefs are again occupied. [10]

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**5.23****DUTCHMAN'S REEF OR DIECHMAN'S REEF**

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**Mining Division**                      Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE                      HISTORY**

**August 1859**                      2 claims working, 8 miners. [10]

**Dec 1860**                      Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Diechman's Reef

No. of claims: 1

Extent of claim: 120

No. of men employed: 2

Extent of Reef prospected: 300 [10]

**Dec 1866**                      Tarr's and Dutchman's Reefs are again occupied. [10]

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**5.24****NUGGETTY GULLY**

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**Mining Division**                      Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**              Poverty Flat, Nuggetty Reef

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**DATE                      HISTORY**

**Nov 1860**                      Numbers & Occupations of Miners:

Europeans: 3 puddlers

Chinese: 10 tub and cradle workers

1 puddling machine [10]

**Nov 1860**                      Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Nuggetty Gully

Europeans: 2 puddlers

1 puddling machine [10]

**Sept 1864**                      No./Location of Alluvial Miners:

Nuggetty and Railway Gullies - Europeans: 6 puddlers, 10 ordinary miners -

Chinese: 3 ordinary miners [10]

**1904**                      Nuggetty Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]

**Dec 1904**                      Nuggetty Gully Dredging Co: 20oz gold [10]

**1905**                      Nuggetty Gully Dredging Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.82-3]

**March 1905**                      Nuggetty Gully Dredging Co: 116oz gold [10]

**May 1806**                      Nuggetty Gully Dredging Co: 79oz gold - D. Fraser, Castlemaine [10]

**1906**                      Nuggetty Gully Dredging Co: Company defunct [12: pp.94-5]

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**5.25****RAILWAY GULLY**

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**Mining Division**                      Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**              Nuggetty Gully

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**DATE**  
**Sept 1864**

**HISTORY**

No./Location of Alluvial Miners:

Nuggetty and Railway Gullies - Europeans: 6 puddlers, 10 ordinary miners -  
Chinese: 3 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.26** **POVERTY FLAT**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Poverty Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim, 2 miners, 320 feet claim. [10]
<b>October 1859</b>	Above 3/4 of a mile intervening between the Cumberland and Nuggetty Reefs has been taken up, some claims yielding exceedingly well. One ton of quartz from the northern extension have 49 oz. 1 dwt. being the largest yield of matrix gold yet obtained on the creek (Campbell's). The lucky party who found this rich quartz, commenced a prospecting shaft only six weeks ago at the end of the old workings on Nuggetty. Neat and Company, in the next claim north, have also struck a payable lead. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Poverty Flat No. of claims: Extent of claim: No. of men employed: Extent of Reef prospected: 1,300 feet Several claims were payable. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Poverty Gully and Flat - Europeans: 16 puddlers, 14 ordinary miners - Chinese: 18 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Poverty Flat: 2 claims, 20 men

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**5.27** **SLAUGHTERYARD HILL & SLAUGHTERYARD GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Poverty Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 11 puddlers, 8 tub and cradle workers 3 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Slaughteryard Hill and Adelaide Gully - Europeans: 21 puddlers, 10 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.28** **CABBAGE GARDEN FLAT**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Poverty Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 8 puddlers, 8 tub and cradle workers 3 puddling machines [10]

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**5.29****RED HILL & RED HILL FLAT**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Poverty Flat, Hobby's Flat

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**DATE****HISTORY****19 Jan 1855**

J. Craven, Gunsmith, Locksmith, Bellhanger, and Smith in general, near the Red Hill, Campbell's Creek. [47: p.1]

**Nov 1860**Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 4 puddlers, 13 tub and cradle workers  
Chinese: 25 tub and cradle workers  
2 puddling machines [10]**Sept 1864**No./Location of Alluvial Miners:  
Hobby's and Red Flats - Europeans: 3 ordinary miners - Chinese: 56 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.30****ITALIAN HILL & ITALIAN GULLY**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Poverty Flat, Nuggetty Gully

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**DATE****HISTORY****26 Jan 1855**

Preliminary Notice. Important To Diggers and Small Capitalists. The most complete set of Machinery for obtaining Gold yet erected on any of the Gold-fields. Messrs. Cohen and Richards have received instructions from the Proprietors, who are about returning from the Gold-fields, to sell by Public Auction, at their Commercial Sales Room, Castlemaine. On Saturday, 23rd February Next. At 12 o'clock, the whole of their complete set of Machinery, now working, consisting of:

- 1 - A Quartz-crushing Machine, by Walker, with pump, &c.
- 2 - A Surface Washing Machine, by do. capable of washing 2 tons of earth per hour
- 3 - Horse Gear for working the two preceding machines, with their pumps, etc.
- 4 - Puddling Machine
- 5 - Windmill, for raising water for supplying puddling machine, and reserve tanks.

The whole of the above machinery is now in good working order, and situate in Campbell's Creek, near Italian Gully, the neighbourhood of which is well known to be highly prolific if quartz veins, surface gold, and rich auriferous clay, giving profitable work to such machinery for many years. [47: p. 1]

**Nov 1860**Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Italian Gully  
Europeans: 7 puddlers  
Chinese: 8 tub and cradle workers  
2 puddling machines [10]**Nov 1860**Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Italian Hill  
Europeans: 10 tunnelling, 17 tub and cradle workers [10]

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**5.31****HOBBY'S FLAT**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Red Hill Flat

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**DATE****HISTORY****Sept 1864**No./Location of Alluvial Miners:  
Hobby's and Red Flats - Europeans: 3 ordinary miners - Chinese: 56 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.32****CHESHIRE FLAT**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE****HISTORY****Dec 1861**

Mining population: Rabbit &amp; Cheshire Flats - 233 Chinese alluvial workers [10]

**Sept 1864**

No./Location of Alluvial Miners:

Cheshire Flat - Chinese: 49 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.33****POVERTY GULLY**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Skeen's Gully, North Eureka Reef, Mysterious

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**DATE****HISTORY****16 March 1855**

For Sale, a Puddling Machine, with Californian Pump and everything complete, situate at the foot of Poverty Gully, Campbell's Creek. Apply to William George, Poverty Gully. [47: p.1]

**24 Aug 1855**

Poverty Gully, Campbell's Creek...yielded, a day or two ago, a mass of gold weighing upwards of 30 ounces. It was found in the old sinkings, and the 'find' has stimulated a search, which, it is hoped, will prove the name of the gully to be a misnomer. [47: p.3]

**26 Oct 1855**

Poverty Gully. It appears that one of those extensive reefs which have been before alluded to as running northwards of Jim Crow passes through this gully, between the hill of the same name and the White Hill, Campbell's Creek, through Clinker's Hill, Slaughterhouse Hill, across the township [of Castlemaine] northwards to the ranges on the west of Pennyweight Flat, towards Harcourt... Its value as a quartz reef has only recently been tried by a few persons. The sinkings up to this time do not, we understand, exceed fourteen feet through quartz and the quantity of wuartz apperas to increase, instead of diminishing, as the digger goes down. [47: p.2]

**4 April 1856**

[For Sale] All that Valuable Quartz Claims, situate at the head of Poverty Gully, Forest Creek. [47: p.1]

**June 1859**

Three new scenes of active mining operations have been opened during the past month - one at the back of the Camp, Castlemaine, and two in Campbell's Creek. The sinking, as usual in this division, is from 6 to 15 feet in depth. One of these, in Poverty Gully, is a Chinaman's Rush, about 400 of whom are collected, and they are procuring a good quantity of gold from the alluvium near the underlying reef which crosses the gully. In each place a large area remains unprospected. [10]

**Nov 1860**

Numbers &amp; Occupations of Miners:

Europeans: 11 puddlers, 10 tub and cradle workers

Chinese: 8 puddlers

13 puddling machines [10]

**May 1861**

Poverty Gull[y]...which is above two miles in length...[10]

**Nov 1861**

Lease No 21, 20 acres, S. Rodda and Co. In the north-east corner of the lease, in Poverty Gully, is a dam.

Adjoining the north boundary of the S. Rodda and Co.'s lease - Lease No 75, J. Whitehead, 9 acres 0 rods 32 perches. (mid grid ref 55HBU545905)

Two engines on the flat at the head of the most northerly arm of Poverty Gully - Blyth's engine (grid ref 55HBU546906); and, slightly north, Harris and Co., Lease No 177, with engine (grid ref 55HBU546907) [64]

**Sept 1864**

No./Location of Alluvial Miners:

Poverty Gully and Flat - Europeans: 16 puddlers, 14 ordinary miners - Chinese:

18 ordinary miners [10]

**Sept 1871**

Several new reefs have been opened. The Mysterious, west of Eureka in Poverty Gully, is said to show very good prospects. [10]

**June 1861**

Near the mouth of Poverty Gully, where it feeds into Campbell's Creek, is a large dam and sludge channel. Clustered around this dam are three puddling claims: Smith and Co., Ah Poe, and a third, illegible. On the south side of the gully may be some machinery, labelled Dickinson's. [27]

- 1902** Map shows V.W.S race crossing Poverty Gully by a wooden flume. Just to the E of this flume, in the gully is the Eureka shaft. [75]
- 1914** Poverty Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co./Syndicate: 5 head battery [12: p.34]
- June 1914** Poverty Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co./Syndicate: 58oz gold [10]
- 1990** Lower reaches of Poverty Gully - extensive system of dry stone walling, for retaining tailings during sluicing operations. Also some pressure dams. [66]
- 1990** Cyaniding Plant situated at the head of the southern arm of Poverty Gully. They brought sand from all around the district to here, in drays. The plant was first operated from a site down the gully, and then brought up here.
- 3 galvanised iron tanks...They usually had 3 vats. One being filled, one soaking and one being emptied. These vats would be about 3 to 4ft deep. They would shovel the treated sand out by hand. On the bottom of each vat there would be 3" x 1" slabs, with small gaps between them. The vat would be filled with sand and the cyanide solution...then the sand would be agitated...and the gold, no matter how fine, would go down to the bottom and drain out where it would be collected and treated to get the gold out. All the sand would be cleaned out to the slabs, the vats washed out and then refilled. The solution, containing the gold, on the bottom would be like black mud. The gold they got out was very fine, you would not see any individual specks. Cost them about one dwt of gold per ton to treat the stuff.
- Set of shear legs - This was done later than the tunnel. It was put up by Mick Laiby, Allen Scott, a syndicate of blokes...they cleaned out the shaft about 35 years ago (1950's). Had a little winch and a wheel at the top of the shear legs. Perhaps a little engine driving a tigger, or probably had an air compressor and an air hoist. Not a whip wheel, but did the same thing.
- Tunnel driven in Eureka Reef - Bert Miller had the battery put up before I started working there. Called the Eureka Central, when it was reopened in the depression years. The old, original Eureka Central shaft is below the tunnel, in the gully. Has been capped, but still visible. Battery was driven by a big diesel engine. It had to be heated up with a blow lamp before it would fire. 5 head of battery.
- Re battery footings below the concrete engine blocks - You can see the big holding down bolts. They held beams to the battery footings...to sit the battery boxes on them.
- Bulldozing has pushed stuff over the area and has altered the whole look of things. [67]

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**5.34** **SKEEN'S GULLY & SKEEN'S REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Poverty Gully, Eureka

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 2 miners. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 6 tub and cradle workers [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Skeen's Reef No. of claims: -- Extent of claim: -- No. of men employed: -- Extent of Reef prospected: 480 feet [10]

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**5.35** **VICTORIA REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Poverty Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	2 claims working, 8 miners, 7 claims registered. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Victoria Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 2 Extent of Reef prospected: 1,000 feet All unproductive labour. [10]

- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
Baker and Company [10]
- March 1872** New Reefs. - Of the best yields a reef situate at Campbell's Creek (believed to be a continuation of Victoria Reef), held by Frost and Co., from 76 tons, 195 oz. 6 dwts. was obtained; the reef 4 feet thick, and improving in depth, now 62 feet. [10]
- Sept 1881** On the Dead Cat, Williams and Co. have found a strong body of payable auriferous stone crossing from thence to the Victoria Reef. [10]

<b>5.36</b>		<b>NEW YEAR'S GULLY</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Poverty Flat	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>		
Nov 1860	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - New Year's Gully Europeans: 8 tub and cradle workers. [10]		
Nov 1860	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Snake's Gully Europeans: 4 tub and cradle workers. [10]		
Dec 1884	Some new ventures have been started on reefs to the east of the old Forest Creek workings, at Myrtle Creek, and at New Year's Gully [see Heard's Reef], with favourable prospects. [10]		
22 July 1886	At the head of New Year Gully is Lease 2650, working Heard's Reef. [30]		
<b>5.37</b>		<b>HEARD'S REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		New Year's Gully, Poverty Gully	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>		
Dec 1884	Some new ventures have been started on reefs to the east of the old Forest Creek workings, at Myrtle Creek, and at New Year's Gully, with favourable prospects. [10]		
Sept 1885	The new find, "Heard's Reef," west of the Eureka Reef, is in a rough sandstone country, a defined lode striking north...into a range dividing New Year from Poverty Gully. From 21 tons of quartz, 150oz. 4dwt. of gold was obtained. [10]		
22 July 1886	At the head of New Year Gully is Lease 2650, working Heard's Reef. [30]		
<b>5.38</b>		<b>MYSTERIOUS REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Poverty Gully	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>		
Sept 1871	Several new reefs have been opened. The Mysterious, west of Eureka in Poverty Gully, is said to show very good prospects. [10]		
<b>5.39</b>		<b>BURIAL HILL</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>		
October 1859	Burial Hill, Campbell's Creek, 6 ton of cement yielded 8 oz. 10 dwt. [10]		
<b>5.40</b>		<b>BLANKET HILL AND BLANKET GULLY</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	



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**Associated Fields/Reefs**


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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1859</b>	Much of the cement from Blanket, Hard, and White Hills, has yielded 1 to 1 1/4 oz. per ton, which pays very well for working. [10]
<b>October 1859</b>	Blanket Hill, Campbell's Creek - cement being obtained. [10]
<b>Dec. 1859</b>	Parties reporting yields from cement: Blanket Hill - Thomson. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Blanket Hill Europeans: 10 tunnelling, 22 tub and cradle workers [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Blanket Gully Europeans: 16 puddlers 5 puddling machines. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Cement is deservedly exciting more attention; it is found in most of our auriferous hills, the most remunerative being obtained from Blanket Hill, viz: - companies involved Stanley and Company, Armere and Company, Thompson and Company, Loyn and Company, Moss and Company, Millet and Company, Jones and Company, and Dunbar and Company. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Blanket Hill and Gully - Europeans: 20 puddlers, 9 ordinary miners [10]

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**5.41 DOCTOR'S HILL**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 3 tunnelling, 13 tub and cradle workers [10]

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**5.42 HARGRAVE'S HILL**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 8 tunnelling, 15 tub and cradle workers [10]

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**5.43 SWITZERLAND REEF**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>May 1861</b>	A new reef has been opened to the east of the Nuggetty and is named the Switzerland Reef, a prospect yielding 4 1/2 dwt. per ton, with every indication of improvement. [10]

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**5.44 VOLUNTEER REEF**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>June 1872</b>	From the Volunteer Reef, Smith and Co., 236 oz. from 177 tons. [10]
<b>Dec 1873</b>	Some of our mines have become dividend-paying, as the Caledonia, Devonshire, Little Nuggetty, Volunteer, and some private companies. [10]
<b>1873</b>	...became one of the best dividend-paying mines in the district. [55: p.30]
<b>Dec 1875</b>	Many of our old lines of reef are at present unworked, as the Sebastopol, Caledonia, Volunteer, Specimen Gully, Dead Cat, Fortuna, and others. [10]

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<b>5.45</b>	<b>WIGHTMAN'S FLAT</b>
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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Campbell's Creek

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	About two or three weeks since, it has transpired, a party of four took from a hole in Wightman's Flat £1600 between them. [47: p.1]

**ZONE 6: CASTLEMAINE & FOREST CREEK****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>6.1</b>	Town of Castlemaine	<b>6.2</b>	Forest Creek (General)	<b>6.3</b>	Town or Commercial Reef
<b>6.4</b>	Forty Foot Hill	<b>6.5</b>	Clinker's Hill	<b>6.6</b>	Victoria Gully/Caledonia Reef
<b>6.7</b>	Ten Foot Hill	<b>6.8</b>	Aberdeen Hill/Gully	<b>6.9</b>	Scott's Hill
<b>6.10</b>	Scott's Gully	<b>6.11</b>	Meredith Reef	<b>6.12</b>	Champion Reef
<b>6.13</b>	Little Bendigo Gully	<b>6.14</b>	Humbug Gully	<b>6.15</b>	Little Bendigo Reef
<b>6.16</b>	Coombs' Gully	<b>6.17</b>	Wesley Flat/Hill	<b>6.18</b>	Red Hill
<b>6.19</b>	White Hill	<b>6.20</b>	Little White Hill	<b>6.21</b>	Kampf's Gully/Reef
<b>6.22</b>	White's Gully	<b>6.23</b>	Montgomery Hill/Gully	<b>6.24</b>	Rubio Reef
<b>6.25</b>	Iron Hill	<b>6.26</b>	Steel's Flat	<b>6.27</b>	Steel's Gully
<b>6.28</b>	London Reef				

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**6.1 TOWN OF CASTLEMAINE**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Forest Creek, Barker's Creek, Town Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>early 1852</b>	Where the town of Castlemaine now stands was a lovely spot in those days, with some grand old gum trees growing. I fancied the place, and left the body of diggers at Golden Point to come here prospecting. The ground near the Tenfoot Hill bridge was opened up by runaway sailors, who preferred to be away from the crowd of diggers at Forest Creek for fear of being caught and taken to their ships. [18: p. 18]
<b>c. 1852</b>	Happy was the man who had two score feet of frontage to a principal street. The goldfields made his fortune. It is recorded that an innkeeper at Castlemaine made £11,000 in four months' trading, and sold out. [15: p.71]
<b>c. 1852/3</b>	Two miles further down the creek [from Chewton] the tent of the commissioner is situated, forming of course, the official, though not the real, centre of the diggings; and around this as if his very presence gave security, innumerable stores are built, whilst the whole space is thickly covered with tents. [41: p. 64]
<b>1853</b>	The township of Castlemaine was at this time moving 'en masse' from the base of Constitution Hill and Circular Road to the east end of Forest and Mostyn streets. [20: p.38]
<b>Dec 1853</b>	Spent Christmas week in Castlemaine, and saw the first sports and the opening of the Criterion Hotel, the previous houses of that kind being the Victoria and the Albert. [20: p.39]
<b>5 August 1854</b>	New Rush at Castlemaine - The piece of land behind the store lately occupied by Mr Pohl has been taken possession of this week for the purpose of testing its auriferous capabilities. A large number of claims are already granted by the Commissioner, and a few days will decide as to whether gold will be found in any great quantity or not. An attempt was made to work this lead some months ago, but the parties were not allowed to proceed... [47: p.5]
<b>27 Oct 1854</b>	We may congratulate the township on the establishment of a brewery in Castlemaine... We heartily wish success to Mr W. Smith in his enterprise. [47: p.5]
<b>5 Jan 1855</b>	Castlemaine - There has been a slight increase of the population during the week. Several puddling machines have been erected: the generality of those now in operation are paying well. The roads continue in a good state of preservation, and none have been fined for undermining recently. [47: p.2]
<b>1854-7</b>	I came to Castlemaine in 1854 pitched my tent on Little Bendigo, which I made my headquarters till 1857, and did very well. During these years the town emerged from its chrysalis state of canvas, slab and weatherboard, to one of brick and stone. The Banks of Australasia and Victoria were built, also the fine pile of buildings known as "Butterworth's." Bridges were built by Government, the principal ones being those called the "Telegraph" and "Governor's." The last-named was near the site of the old post office, and was named in honour of Sir Charles Hotham, but was not completed when he paid his first visit to Castlemaine and other goldfields. The claims of the gold-diggers of the colony were now recognised in an alteration of the Electoral Act, giving them representatives in Parliament, and the first election took place with bands playing and flags flying, long ere the advent of the ballot, which must be fresh in the minds of many. The local court was founded in the interests of the miners, and the first Local Government Bill was passed. Castlemaine was proclaimed a

municipality in the month of April 1855, although the first election of local representatives did not take place till January 1856.

- The Mechanics Institute was established, and the Mount Alexander Tea Gardens were opened. The first gold-mining company, "The Caledonia," with Hart's patent gold-washing machine, was started at the base of Clinkers Hill, now Rowe street; also the Castlemaine Flour-milling Company. Attention was being directed to quartz mining, and during the years 1855-56-57 Castlemaine bid fair to become the premier goldfield city of the colony, which, I deeply regret has not been fulfilled. [20: p.41]
- 9 Feb 1855** We believe we may safely say that the township is at present totally independent of the creeks for water for household purposes. The flat opposite Market-square contains an ample supply for a population twenty times as numerous as the existing one; and two or three wells sunk upon it have yielded nearly all that has been required throughout a summer of more than average duration and drought. It is calculated that the average consumption of the township amounts to 25 loads of 120 gallons each, or 3000 gallons daily, of which a very small proportion if obtained direct from creeks. [47: p.2]
- 23 Feb 1855** Our Township. About eighteen months ago a cluster of tents, slab store, and other buildings might be seen on the bend of the road at the foot of Agitation Hill. The place had a slovenly canvas-town appearance, but many a Collins-street shopkeeper of the present day would gladly exchange his bluestone store...for one of the little calico tents on Commissioner's Flat... In those days shicers were few and gold plentiful. The storekeepers had been 'doing the trick' too rapidly on their temporary settlement to wish to change their location; but, one day, there came an edict from the Chief Commissioner, ordering the removal of all shops, stores, curtilages, warehouses, booths, tents, huts, sheds, stalls, or other buildings used as human habitations, or for the purpose of carrying on any business, to the site of the present township of Castlemaine. This was thought a great hardship, inasmuch as Castlemaine had not then been reclaimed from bushdom, and the storekeepers considered a tent for the sale of Greek Testaments to the blackfellows on the top of Mount Macedon would stand as much chance of doing a good business as a store in Market-square. However, on the appointed day, the storekeepers on the flat cleared out, and the view from the windows of the camp buildings remained unpolluted with calico and the digging contingent...until a day this week, when a small to that locality set in.
- We should have mentioned that the township had been previously surveyed, marked out, and sold, the allotments being purchased principally by speculators, at an average price of £80. These gentry, not seeing any chance of realising a profit at the time the balance of the purchase money had to be paid, forfeited their deposits, and thus lost as good a chance of making their fortune as they ever had in their lives. At that time...[the only buildings in Castlemaine were] firstly, a sly grog tent somewhere behind the present butcher's shop of Mr Millbank; [second] a digger's slab hut, in the rear of the new store lately opened by Mr Kerr, opposite the Mail office; [third] a slab store, belonging to Mr Butterworth, on the site of his present building... Sargood, King and Co.'s iron store was wheeled away bodily on rollers, and finally deposited in its present situation in Market-square; the Bank of New South Wales took up its position on the opposite side; Hitchcock commenced building the Hall of Castlemaine, on the ground now occupied by the Criterion hotel, and then transplanted it to its present situation... The forfeited allotments now became worth having, and were repurchased of Government at a large advance on the price offered at the first sale...the land on which the Survey Office now stands, having been forfeited because the balance of £60 remained unpaid, is now valued at £2000.
- Church of England - On the top of Agitation Hill, our readers may have noticed the foundation of a future church.
- During the week several persons commenced sinking on the spot formerly occupied by the old township, opposite the camp. Reports of sixty ounces in one hole soon drew some seventy or eighty diggers to the spot. We regret that...we have heard of no instance of average success. There is a small quantity of gold to be obtained, but it is so fine and thinly scattered, that it will only pay puddlers and Chinese to work it. Most of those on the ground are dissatisfied, and many have left. The piece on the side of the road, at the foot of the hill, is said to be doing well. [47: p.5]
- 22 June 1855** Unfortunately for this township there is no resident horse knacker and cats meat purveyor, there is also no cheap saveloy medium for carrying off the superfluous stock of dead horses...
- For Sale - One of 'Berdan's' largest size Quartz-Crushing Machines, with a ten-horse power Steam Engine. All complete. Apply to Palmer and Beauchamp. [47: p.3]
- 5 Feb 1856** Tenders are invited for the construction of a powder magazine in Castlemaine. The site of the building - or, to speak more correctly, the excavation - is in the hill near Captain Bull's private residence. [47: p.2]
- Feb 1860** Government camp situated NW of junction of Campbell's, Barker's and Forest Creeks. Camp consists of offices for magistrates, Resident Warden, Chief Clerk, police, warden,

	lock-up, Mining Board, Road Board, Gold Receiver, Police Inspector, old Treasury, and old post office. Also police stables, and garden. (grid ref. c. 520940) [5]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	NW of Aberdeen Hill, on the north side of Forest Creek, and below the point where Burke's monument was erected, are two quarries, one marked sandstone and clay slate quarry. [24]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: 6. CASTLEMAINE Victoria Gully - Europeans: 11 puddlers, 9 ordinary miners - Chinese: 2 ordinary miners Forty Foot Hill and Flat - Europeans: 14 puddlers, 13 ordinary miners - Chinese: 28 ordinary miners Clinker's Hill and Castlemaine streets - Europeans: 51 ordinary miners New Chum, Jones, and Dead Horse Gullies - Europeans: 14 puddlers, 17 ordinary miners - Chinese: 8 puddlers [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Town: 2 claims, 4 men [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	In the Castlemaine township, west of the Town reef, a new leader has been opened... [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c. Castlemaine 82 [10] Parties obtaining gold from pyrites and blanketing: Yates and Co., Castlemaine [10]
<b>March 1886</b>	NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS: Castlemaine 82 [10]
<b>19 Aug 1901</b>	Tenders accepted for cross-cut 50 ft east in Ray's Luck, in Barker Street. The work has started. (Situated behind Rechabite Hall) [37]
<b>1904</b>	North Castlemaine Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.54]
<b>1904</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: Jet Elevator pump plant operating [12: p. 55]
<b>1905</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: Jet Elevator pump plant operating [12: pp. 80-81]
<b>1906</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: Jet Elevator pump plant operating [12: pp. 90-91]
<b>May 1906</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: 57 oz gold [10]
<b>June 1906</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: 67oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1906</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: A.J. Cox, Moonlight Flat, Legal Manager [10]
<b>June 1907</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: 89oz gold [10]
<b>March 1908</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: 105oz gold [10]
<b>May 1909</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: 222oz gold [10]
<b>June 1909</b>	J. Jones and Co: 141oz gold [10]
<b>1909</b>	G. Clough Sluicing Co: Hydraulic sluicing plant operating [12: pp.108-9]
<b>1910</b>	G. Clough Sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 10 inch gravel pump, 20 horsepower steam engine [12: pp.98-9]
<b>March 1910</b>	G. Clough Sluicing Co: 120oz gold [10]
<b>March 1910</b>	J. Jones and Co: 74oz gold [10]
<b>March 1910</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: 95oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Cox's Elevator Co: 102oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	G. Clough Sluicing Co: 148 oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	J. Jones and Co: 92oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1911</b>	Cox's Elevator Co.: (now called Cox's Dredge) 91oz gold [10]
<b>May 1912</b>	Cox's Dredge: 150oz gold [10]
<b>June 1912</b>	A.S. Endall: 51oz gold [10]
<b>May 1913</b>	Cox's Dredge: 75oz gold [10]
<b>June 1913</b>	A.S. Endall: 38oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1913</b>	A.S. Endall: 9oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1913</b>	Cox's Dredge: 39oz gold [10]
<b>June 1914</b>	Cox's Dredge: 41oz gold [10]
<b>June 1914</b>	A.S. Endall: 9oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1914</b>	A.S. Endall: 13oz gold [10]
<b>Dec 1914</b>	Cox's Dredge: 11oz gold [10]

6.2

## FOREST CREEK (GENERAL)

Mining Division

Castlemaine

Associated Fields/Reefs

DATE	HISTORY
1852	[Forest Creek] Here the auriferous deposits were at such shallow depths that they just suited the new chums and amateur diggers. [A] visitor described...the scene as he saw it in the early part of 1852. In a narrow valley, up which I could see for a mile or two, there were visible about three thousand men busily at work on the banks of a small stream...an acquaintance of mine...showed me their claim, where, after sinking through about four feet of earth and gravel, they had come upon a soft bottom of slate and pipe clay in which gold was fairly abundant" A Melbourne tradesman, who reached Forest Creek late and found the shallow deposits fully occupied, was one of the first to test deeper ground, with satisfactory results. "We sunk in the gully opposite our tent on Forest Creek, and at twenty feet found the bottom dipping, but carrying payable gold, and we worked the claim out. Our returns for the three of us were from six to ten ounces a day." [15: pp.66-7]
Nov 1860	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Forest Creek & Road Europeans: 33 puddlers, 53 tub and cradle workers, 29 paddocking. Chinese: 17 tub and cradle workers, 272 paddocking, 152 tunnelling. 19 puddling machines. [10]
Oct 1900	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 194oz gold [10]
Feb 1901	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 90oz gold [10]
Sept 1901	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 267oz gold [10]
Feb 1903	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 12 inch gravel pump [13: 17.03]
March 1903	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 280oz gold [10]
Oct 1903	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 473oz gold [10]
1903	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.52] Electric lighting installed [12: p.12]
1904	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 pumped sluicing plant operating; No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
1904	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
Dec 1904	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: 83oz gold [10]
Dec 1904	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 638oz gold [10]
1905	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 pumped sluicing plant operating; No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 82-3]
1905	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 82-3]
March 1905	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: 225oz gold [10]
March 1905	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 697 oz. gold [10]
1906	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 pumped sluicing plant operating; No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 92-3]
1906	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 92-3]
May 1906	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: 188oz gold [10]
May 1906	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 - 370oz gold; No. 2 - 312oz gold [10]
June 1906	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 - 340oz gold; No. 2. - 156oz gold [10]
June 1906	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: 284oz gold [10]
Oct 1906	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: W.G. Blackham, Bendigo, Legal Manager [10]
Oct 1906	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: P.C. Baker, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
1907	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 12 inch gravel pump, 200 horsepower condensing steam engine No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 10 inch gravel pump, 130 horsepower noncondensing steam engine [12: pp. 112-3]
1907	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 10 inch gravel pump, 125 horsepower condensing steam engine [12: pp.112-3]
June 1907	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: 160oz gold [10]
1908	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 98-9]
1908	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 pumped sluicing plant operating; No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 98-9]
March 1908	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 - 354oz gold; No. 2 - 429oz gold [10]
March 1908	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: 254oz gold [10]
1909	Central Forest Creek Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 105-6]
1909	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 pumped sluicing plant operating; No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 106-7]

<b>June 1909</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 - 228oz gold; No. 2 - 335oz gold [10]
<b>1910</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 pumped sluicing plant operating; No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 98-9]
<b>March 1910</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 - 299oz gold; No. 2 - 343oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 1 - 110oz gold; No. 2 - 198oz gold [10]
<b>1911</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 106-7]
<b>Sept 1911</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 125 oz. gold [10]
<b>Nov 1911</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: P.C. Baker, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
<b>1912</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.84-5]
<b>June 1912</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 178 oz gold [10]
<b>1913</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: No. 2 pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.80-81]
<b>June 1913</b>	Forest Creek Hydraulic Dredging Co.: 142oz gold [10]

**6.3 TOWN REEF OR COMMERCIAL REEF**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Commercial Reef is a southern continuation of Town Reef

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>19 July 1857</b>	Reefs being worked: Bolivia, Town, Eureka, Lower Wattle Gully, Specimen Hill, Mt Alexander, Golden Point, Dirty Dick's, Old Specimen Hill, Sebastopol, Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. [37]
<b>August 1859</b>	two claims working, six miners [10]
<b>Sept 1860</b>	On a northern portion of Commercial Reef, within the township, a new claim yielded from 3 tons 15 oz., and 8 tons 16 oz. 9 dwt. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Town, or Commercial Reef No. of claims: 3 Extent of claim: 760 feet No. of men employed: 8 Extent of Reef prospected: 4,500 feet [10]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	Companies crushing quartz: Commercial Company, Town Reef. [10]
<b>5 Sept 1862</b>	Bolivia Co. - 12 ton yielded average 7 dwt/ton. [37]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: James. [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: James, Leighton, Church. [10]
<b>June 1867</b>	The Town Reef, lately held under lease, has been taken up by private parties, who are obtaining good prospects. [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: James R., Four Prospects. [10]
<b>June 1869</b>	On the Town Reef a large engine with pumping and crushing machinery is being erected. [10]
<b>Dec 1869</b>	On the Town Reef, a 40-horse-power engine, with pumping, winding and crushing machinery, is being erected; an engine-shaft is sunk to water level, 135 feet, and a drive opened to the reef, which is about 30 feet in thickness. [10]
<b>March 1870</b>	The new machinery on the Town Reef is completed, awaiting a supply of water. [10]
<b>Sept 1870</b>	On the Town Reef, in addition to a 40 horse-power engine erected, a 10 horse-power is in course of erection for winding and pumping; all the works constructed in a very substantial manner and of the best description. [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	In the Castlemaine township, west of the Town reef, a new leader has been opened... [10]
<b>Dec 1871</b>	The Town Reef is held by a party of tributers, who have been working in levels at 130 and 170 feet, but their trial crushings being very poor, but they determine to sink 100 feet deeper. [10]
<b>Dec 1875</b>	The Town or Commercial Reef is again occupied, eight claims and two leases being worked on a newly discovered lode, 5 to 6 feet thick, laying to the west of all previous workings; the prospects so far are encouraging. [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing: Cardwell and Archer, Town Reef. [10]
<b>Sept 1883</b>	On the Town Reef, the new engine shaft, at 83 feet, cut a body of quartz, also much water, obliging the use of a horse-power whip. [10]
<b>March 1884</b>	The Town Reef Company have purchased, and are removing from Sandhurst, a large crushing plant, which they will commence erecting forthwith. [10]

**5 May 1884** Town Reef Co. - The site for the new machinery is north of Hunter Street, where a new shaft will shortly be commenced near to Cordwell's old one. [37]



<b>31 May 1884</b>	Town Reef Co. - half-yearly meeting - During the past six months we have sunk the shaft in Bull-street to a depth of 117ft, crosscut 61ft, and drove 43ft north and south on the reef. Your directors have purchased a very fine and complete winding, pumping and crushing plant, and tenders are now being called for erecting the...the manager was enabled to take up the ground in Hunter-street, formerly held by Cardwell and Excell, from which such excellent yields of gold were obtained; and this affording a better site for dam and tailings, your directors have decided to erect the machinery there instead, and have commenced sinking a new shaft close to the old one, in which Cardwell and Excell's party last wrought. This shaft is now down 17ft from the surface. [37]
<b>June 1884</b>	The Town Reef Company is sinking a new engine shaft (10 by 4 feet), and contractors are proceeding with the erection of a powerful plant. [10]
<b>29 Nov 1884</b>	Town Reef Co. Since our last meeting the new winding and crushing plant has been erected, and contractors have just started the machinery - everything seeming to work well. During the half-year the shaft has been sunk to a depth of 102ft. The cylinder is 18 inches, the stroke is 3 feet, and there is a condenser. With the same pressure the condenser increased the power greatly. [37]
<b>Dec 1884</b>	The Town Reef Company's plant, including an 18-inch cylinder engine with pumping, winding, and crushing machinery, is completed, and large payable crushings are expected from this long neglected reef. [10]
<b>Sept 1885</b>	The Town Reef Company has extended their level into Cardwell's shaft... [10]
<b>25 Jan 1886</b>	Town Reef Co. - Continue to see a little gold in the leader in the upper workings. The weather has been unfavourable, causing the air to become unfit to work in at the lower crosscut. [37]
<b>1 June 1886</b>	Town Reef Co. - Besides driving several levels and crosscuts, the main engine shaft has been sunk a further depth of 80ft, so that the total from surface is now 260ft. As you are aware, the company was allotted a sum of two hundred pounds from the Prospecting Vote, and that induced your directors to further sink the shaft. [37]
<b>30 Nov 1886</b>	Town Reef Co. - Since last half-yearly meeting all the work done in the mine has been on the tribute-subsist system. This is by far the most economical mode of working, as a great amount of work is done at but half the cost of the ordinary manner, and the miner has as good a chance of benefiting by his work as the mine-owners. Four parties of tributers have been at work, and although very little gold has been obtained as yet, your directors are hopeful. [37]
<b>Sept 1887</b>	A new reef has been opened out east of the Town Reef, nine claims being worked. [10]
<b>Dec 1887</b>	From the new reef reported last quarter, east of the Town Reef, No. 2 claim yielded 70oz. 12dwt. from 20 tons...but results from adjoining claims are nil. [10]
<b>1903</b>	This reef consists of a number of flat and highly-inclined veins. Although very rich in small patches from shallow workings, nothing in the way of auriferous shoots was met with at a depth. This line of reef passes through portion of the town, principally private property, and work on it has therefore never been extensively taken up. [55: p.30]

**6.4 FORTY FOOT HILL**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Castlemaine, Clinker's Hill

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>15 Sept 1854</b>	Forty Foot Hill Again - As a youthful digger of our acquaintance was watching the pigtailed of some celestials who were making a great stir at digging in the neighbourhood of this renowned spot, it struck him that Chow-chow and Co. had, in their usual way, left a portion of the ground unworked. So to work he goes a surfacing on the neglected spot and eighteen inches beneath the surface, finds, without washing, about two ounces of clear brilliant gold so peculiar to this district. [47: p.5]
<b>12 Jan 1855</b>	We may mention, as proof that the diggings in the vicinity of this township are far from exhausted, that two men washed 2 lbs. of gold from a hole at the foot of Forty Foot Hill, within the last three days. [47: p.5]
<b>1855-60</b>	There were several reefs being worked then, such as the Bolivia, now known as the Ajax, the Wattle Gully reef, the Eureka, the Caledonia, and many others of lesser note. [19: p. 26]
<b>August 1859</b>	Steam machinery employed in alluvial mining: Caledonia Company, Castlemaine, 16-horse power, Hart's patent, pumps, etc. [Working Forty Foot and Clinker's Hills] [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	List of public companies in existence and contemplated: [includes] Caledonian Company, Castlemaine, 5 acres alluvial, not working. [10]

<b>Sept 1859</b>	The Caledonian Company, which holds the machinery and plant of the defunct Castlemaine Company, with 5 acres of alluvial ground on Forty Foot and Clinkers Hills, Castlemaine, has again resumed work. [10]
<b>Nov 1859</b>	The Caledonia is idle, having broken the main shaft of their machine. [10]
<b>Feb 1860</b>	The Caledonian Company still remains idle. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 34 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 5 tub and cradle workers [10]

**6.5****CLINKER'S HILL**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Caledonia Reef, Forty Foot Hill, North Bolivia Reef

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>26 Oct 1855</b>	It appears that one of those extensive reefs which have been before alluded to as running northwards of Jim Crow passes through [Poverty] gully, between the hill of the same name and the White Hill, Campbell's Creek, through Clinker's Hill, Slaughter-house Hill, across the township [of Castlemaine] northwards to the ranges on the west of Pennyweight Flat, towards Harcourt... A few persons have only recently tried its value as a quartz reef. The sinkings up to this time do not, we understand, exceed fourteen feet through quartz and...the quantity of quartz appears to increase as the digger goes down. [47: p.2]
<b>14 Dec 1855</b>	The Chinese Chapel on Clinker's Hill...was completed on Friday, the 9th of November... On the evening of the day that the building was completed, the wind rose remarkably high, and before midnight it blew a hurricane... I was prepared to see a good deal of damage done to the newly erected chapel. When I arrived at the spot, I saw nearly the whole a mass of wreck. Almost the whole of the wooden frame (which the Chinese carpenter, I am sorry to say, put up rather slightly) was shattered, and the calico a good deal rent by the falling of the rafters and ridge-pole. The Chapel is reared again, and far more substantially built than before. [47: p. 6]
<b>c. 1855-6</b>	The first gold-mining company, "The Caledonia," with Hart's patent gold-washing machine, was started at the base of Clinkers Hill, now Rowe street; also the Castlemaine Flour-milling Company. [20: p.41]
<b>August 1859</b>	Steam machinery employed in alluvial mining: Caledonia Company, Castlemaine, 16-horse power, Hart's patent, pumps, etc. [Working Forty Foot and Clinker's Hills] [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	List of public companies in existence and contemplated: [includes] Caledonian Company, Castlemaine, 5 acres alluvial, not working. [10]
<b>Sept 1859</b>	The Caledonian Company, which holds the machinery and plant of the defunct Castlemaine Company, with 5 acres of alluvial ground on Forty Foot and Clinkers Hills, Castlemaine, has again resumed work. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 5 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 2 tub and cradle workers 1 puddling machine [10]
<b>June 1868</b>	On Clinker's Hill, supposed in line with the Bolivia Reef, a new reef has been opened, a crushing of 17 tons yielded 13 oz. 8 dwts. [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Williamson and Company [10]
<b>14 Oct 1871</b>	North Ajax Gold Mining Co. - company formed to work ground on Clinker's Hill, formerly worked by Savage and Co. Also Williamson and Co. worked another part of the claim. [37] [see Bolivia Reef]
<b>23 Oct 1871</b>	Clinker's Hill Co., Ajax Reef - Adjoins Ajax Co. to the south of Piccaninny Co. to the North - has 1600 ft on the Ajax line of reef. [37]
<b>March 1872</b>	[On Bolivia Reef] The Ajax Company's engine-shaft has been sunk 105 feet below the 300-foot level, and as soon as the pumps can be lowered a cross-cut will be driven at 400-feet - ie. from crown of hill [Clinker's?]. North of the Ajax shafts are being sunk: the Clinker's Hill Company, down 195 feet; the Piccaninny Co, 100 feet; Summer Hill Co, 60 feet. [10]

6.6

## VICTORIA GULLY/CALEDONIA REEF

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Clinker's Hill, Forty Foot Hill

DATE	HISTORY
Nov 1860	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 16 puddlers, 8 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 11 tub and cradle workers 6 puddling machines [10]
17 Dec 1863	Victoria Gully Reef - Schenfoldt and Co. - they held the claim 3 years ago and have come back. [37]
June 1872	The Caledonia Company has been impeded for want of water; they are cross-cutting from the engine-shaft at 200 feet toward the reef, from which they expect to obtain an auxiliary supply. They have a large quantity of stone raised. Seventy-five men are employed on this lease and fully 120 upon this line of reef; but none of the other companies have as yet discovered the golden reef. [10]
17 June 1872	Caledonia Reef North Hill Tribute - 27 feet deep [37]
11 July 1872	Sir Walter Scott Gold Mining Co...adjoining claims to the north are New Caledonia and New Discovery. [37]
Sept 1872	The New Caledonia Company's returns for the quarter have been 1949 oz. from 1205 tons. In addition to their own workings they have let three portions of their mine on tribute... The company, having proved their mine, have determined to erect two engines for pumping, winding, and crushing, with 20-head battery, and all latest improvements in machinery; a dam is nearly constructed; a main shaft is commenced 120 feet west of present workings, the present contract being for 200 feet, 9 x 3 feet clear. Upon this line of reef, both north and south of the Caledonia Company, shafts are being sunk, and mining operations carried on with energy. [10]
Dec 1872	The New Caledonia Company has been engaged erecting extensive machinery, two engines, 20-head battery, pumping and winding gear, &c. They have sunk main shaft 129 feet; water shaft and lobby; constructed reservoir, and erected whim, whips, poppet heads, and other necessary appliances; employing 44 men. [10]
1872	In the New Discovery claim a party of tributers, working leaders on the east of the main reef, obtained a yield of 8 oz 8 dwt per ton. The New Caledonia Company had, at 45 feet, a leader 1 foot thick, compact, well-defined, and showing coarse gold... On the south of the New Caledonia Company's lease the Sir Walter Scott Company worked, with unrecorded results, for the same lode. [55: p.22]
June 1873	Upon the Caledonia Reef the New Caledonia Company have completed erection of extensive plant, consisting of two horizontal engines, pumping, winding, and crushing gear, and battery of twenty stamps. The company holds about one-half their lease (No. 1137) and has let the other half under three tributes. [10]
1873	The Caledonia No. 1 tribute, prior to September, 1873, crushed nearly 3,000 tons for an average yield of about 6 dwts... [55: p.22]
Sept 1873	The Caledonia Company and No. 1 Tribute have crushed from their large body of stone nearly 3000 tons, averaging about 6 dwts. per ton - very remunerative, as the stone is so easily obtained. The company has broken through in cross-cut from new engine-shaft to old workings, which will facilitate operations materially. On the same line of reef, Hill's Tribute, on lease, north, have struck what appears to be the same lode, from which they are now raising gold-bearing stone. The Sir Walter Scott on the south, and the several companies on the north, deserve and will doubtless find continuations of the same valuable lode. [10]
Dec 1873	The deepest mines in this division are [5th] the Caledonia, at 212 feet. Some of our mines have become dividend-paying, as the Caledonia. [10]
5 Jan 1874	New Caledonia Co.- Commenced to sink main shaft from 200ft. [37]
12 Jan 1874	Hills Tribute Co. - New shaft at 66 feet - in good slate country- are making good progress. North Caledonia - Shaft at 75ft - opened out west. [37]
24 Feb 1874	New Caledonia Co. - Company at present liable to stoppages from drought. This being continued may also be the means of opening up new country and discovering something not yet seen in the upper workings. Your directors regret that the Nos. 2 and 3 tributes have not yet succeeded in getting payable stone, as it will be seen that were they even as successful as No. 1 Tribute, their percentage of gold obtained would considerably augment your revenue.

- There has been a rise put up near the northern boundary, about 130 feet for a new ladder way, so as to comply with the new Mines Regulation Act, and am now fixing ladders. The mine is well opened up and ventilated. [37]
- 24 Feb 1874** No. 1 Tribute Co. - Your directors deem it advisable to follow down after those rich leaders only for the present, as the gold from them pays all working expenses, and leaves a small margin to the credit of the company, and encouraged that at an early date they will lead to a larger body of the same class of stone; until this is accomplished your directors think that a crushing plant of our own would be premature. [37]
- 24 Feb 1874** Tribute No. 2 Co. - By referring to the last report of the mining manager, it will be seen the main shaft was then sunk to 208 feet, and was in course of being sunk deeper, which was carried on to 223 feet, but the water being too strong to sink deeper, it was considered advisable to open out the higher level. [37]
- 24 Feb 1874** New Caledonia No. 3 Tribute Co. - When the last half-yearly meeting was held, the contractors for sinking your shaft were down 192 feet; they finish their contract being for 200 feet. On completion of their contract, it was considered advisable to erect a whim before opening out, which was accordingly done, and on completion of same, Mr H. Ashworth was appointed mining manager, and immediately started operations. There is...from 16 to 20 tons at grass, which is considered payable, and will be put through a battery as soon as we can get one; in the meantime it was thought best to suspend operations for a time. [37]
- 28 April 1874** North Caledonia Co. - Work was started on the 5th January 1874. Finding the ground over the head of a dangerous nature to work under, and the shaft too small for the purpose of working with a whim, we started to log up four feet and cut the shaft down, making it 8 feet x 3 feet 6 inches in the clear, and timbering from the surface down; the total depth of the shaft is now 80 feet. [37]
- 25 Aug 1874** New Caledonia Co - 5th half-yearly meeting - the batteries have been constantly employed, a full and lasting supply of water having been obtained by the increase of the capacity of the dam; and we are happy to say that there is little probability of its falling short during the summer months, the water obtained in sinking the main shaft now assisting to keep the dam supplied...we have crushed 5618 tons of stone...In addition to this, 160 tons have been crushed for the public. [37]
- 30 Oct 1874** North Caledonia Co. - Directors have not thought it advisable to start work again, calls being hard to get in. The tribute Co. has had one or two good crushings. [37]
- Dec 1874  
end 1874** The Caledonia shaft is down 358 feet, still sinking in a promising looking country. [10]  
The main engine shaft of the New Caledonia Company was sunk to a depth of 358 feet, but not meeting with payable results below the 190-ft level the mine was closed down at the end of 1874. [55: p.22]
- 23 Feb 1875** New Caledonia Co. The main shaft has been sunk...to 358 feet from the surface. New winding gear has also been fixed for winding cages. The Nos. 2 and 3 tribute companies have ceased working since January last, your directors deemed it advisable to take steps to terminate the agreements, which was done and possession taken in October. The No. 1 Tribute Company still continues working. [37]
- 31 May 1875  
Dec 1875** New Caledonia Co. - Have suspended operations for the present. [37]  
Many of our old lines of reef are at present unworked, as the Sebastopol, Caledonia, Volunteer, Specimen Gully, Dead Cat, Fortuna, and others. [10]
- March 1876** The Caledonia Company has recommenced work on the tribute system. This mine, from which, to a depth of 190 feet, and less than one-fourth of its length, over £30,000 worth of gold was obtained, out of which £8,400 was paid in dividends, an engine shaft sunk 358 feet, and an extensive winding, pumping and crushing plant erected without one farthing expenditure by the shareholders, has been deserted by them upon a first call of 6d. per share being made; 21,585 out of 24,000 shares have been forfeited. [10]
- 3 April 1876  
20 Nov 1876** New Caledonia Co. - This claim has been taken up again and the engine shaft sunk. [37]  
A Company has formed to take up the Caledonia Co.'s ground - work will resume today. [37]
- Dec 1876** The rich claim once held by the New Caledonia Company is being worked by a private company of twenty shareholders. [10]
- 8 Jan 1877  
early 1877** New Caledonia Tribute Co. - have resumed work. [37]  
Tributers failed to find payable stone in shallow workings, and the mine again became idle. [55: p.22]
- June 1877** In June 1877, another start was made on the reef by a party of Sandhurst tributers. [55: p.22]
- Sept 1877** The Caledonia mine is let on tribute to a Sandhurst party, who are prospecting by drives from the main shaft. [10]
- 22 Oct 1877** Another party of tributers from Sandhurst is driving at the 200 ft level in search of the gold that broke off. [37]
- Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
- March 1878** The New Caledonia, Dan O'Connell, Burns, Nimrod, Sebastopol, Fortuna, and other quartz reefs are being worked with better prospects [10]

<b>March 1878</b>	In March, 1878, another party worked in a desultory fashion without any payable results being obtained. [55: p.22]
<b>March 1886</b>	The Caledonia and Post Office reefs are taken up by gentlemen, who intend commencing operations forthwith. [10]
<b>1903</b>	There is no record of any work since [1878], although the ground has been almost constantly held under lease. [55: p.22]

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### 6.7 TEN FOOT HILL

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>early 1852</b>	The ground near the Tenfoot Hill bridge was opened up by runaway sailors, who preferred to be away from the crowd of diggers at Forest Creek for fear of being caught and taken to their ships. [18: p. 18]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 2 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 7 tub and cradle workers [10]

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### 6.8 ABERDEEN HILL & ABERDEEN GULLY

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Little Bendigo

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	H.C. Thorburn's General Stores, Aberdeen Hill, Forest Creek, near Castlemaine. Gold bought. [47: p.1]
<b>3 August 1855</b>	On Tuesday...an unfortunate Chinaman was killed by his hole falling in on him, on Aberdeen's Hill, Forest Creek. When we saw him, the accident had just taken place, and poor John was lying on the top of his hole, awaiting the coroner and his jury. The group round the hole was a picture. One of his mates, trembling, and sitting back from the body; another was crying over it; and two sitting in front, the embodiment of impassive misery. On looking at the conduct and the faces of these men, we have faith in Chinese morality. [47: p.3]
<b>5 Feb 1856</b>	The road near Aberdeen's Hill was several feet under water, and the torrent carried away a butcher's shop. [47: p.5]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	Aberdeen Gully lies SW of Aberdeen Hill. It is a single gully, draining into Forest Creek. Its head branches to form three other gullies: Telegraph Gully (most westerly), Tucker Gully (middle), and Scott's Gully (most easterly). Forest Creek bridge (grid ref. 533935) is at the mouth of Aberdeen Gully. Slightly west of Aberdeen Gully is cutting No. 5, straightening out the bends in Forest Creek.
<b>Nov 1860</b>	3 puddling machines in Aberdeen Gully. [24] Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 11 puddlers, 9 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 11 tub and cradle workers 3 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Aberdeen Hill and Gully - Europeans: 9 puddlers, 10 ordinary miners Chinese: 13 ordinary miners [10]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Spring Flat, Aberdeen Hill/Gully, Red Hill, White Hill, Montgomery Hill - all marked 'Line of Pleistocene Deposits, principally sluiced away.' [30]

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### 6.9 SCOTT'S HILL

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs****Little Bendigo**


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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 14 puddlers, 12 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 5 puddlers, 7 tub and cradle workers [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Scott's Hill and Gully - Europeans: 18 puddlers, 12 ordinary miners [10]

**6.10****SCOTT'S GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Wesley Flat, Little Bendigo

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>13 April 1855</b>	Whitlem's Store, Scott's Gully, Forest Creek. [47: p.4]
<b>May 1859</b>	A tunnelling claim heads E from Scott's Gully into Montgomery Hill. [4]
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	Scott's Gully - sludge channel leading into Forest Creek, 5 puddling machines, culvert across sludge channel. [28]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	8 puddling machines in Scott's Gully. The head of Aberdeen Gully branches to form three other gullies: Telegraph Gully (most westerly), Tucker Gully (middle), and Scott's Gully (most easterly). [24]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 12 puddlers 5 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Scott's Hill and Gully - Europeans: 18 puddlers, 12 ordinary miners [10]
<b>March 1908</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 237oz gold - W.M. Bull, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
<b>June 1909</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 106oz gold [10]
<b>March 1910</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 95oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 47oz gold [10]

**6.11****MEREDITH REEF**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Champion Reef (southerly continuation)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Meredith Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 2 Extent of Reef prospected: 900 feet [10]
<b>May 1861</b>	On the Meredith Reef their last crushing returning them 1 oz. 13 dwt. per ton encouraged the persevering prospectors, Bowden and Company. [10]
<b>Nov 1861</b>	Parties crushing quartz: Jones and Company, Meredith. [10]
<b>June 1881</b>	The Meredith and Champion Reefs, Castlemaine...have been taken up on lease; none of these reefs have been worked below water-level. [10]

**6.12****CHAMPION REEF**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Little Bendigo Gully, Meredith Reef (northerly continuation)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 2 miners. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Champion Reef No. of claims: -- Extent of claim: -- No. of men employed: -- Extent of Reef prospected: 800 feet [10]
<b>1856-66</b>	Although known to be auriferous for ten years previously, the first systematic work on this line of reef was started by Messrs. Gray and Co. towards the end of 1866. [55: p.23]

<b>1867</b>	To the end of June 1867, the results obtained [by Gray] were barely payable, although the workings were shallow, being only 25 feet deep. In September 1867, 5 tons yielded 25 oz 8 dwt, and 4 tons 42 oz 10 dwt. During the following quarter an average of 24 dwts to the ton was obtained and, although the average yield fell away, profitable results were obtained during the following two years, work being stopped at water-level, 80 feet, until 1884. [55: p.23]
<b>June 1881</b>	The Meredith and Champion Reefs, Castlemaine...have been taken up on lease; none of these reefs have been worked below water-level. [10]
<b>March 1884</b>	On the Champion Reef a locomotive engine, working a Tangye pump, lowered the water 50 feet in four days... [10]
<b>1903</b>	Since [1884] no work is recorded. [55: p.23]

**6.13** **LITTLE BENDIGO GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Little Bendigo Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>19 Oct 1855</b>	Many of those [Chinese] at Little Bendigo have removed to Campbell's Creek. [47: p.2]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	A sludge channel leads from this gully past Scott's Hill and Aberdeen Hill, draining into Forest Creek. 18 puddling machines in Little Bendigo Gully. [24]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 8 puddlers, 23 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 84 puddlers, 10 tub and cradle workers 14 puddling machines [10]
<b>30 Nov 1860</b>	Lode is 5 ft wide - as much as 3 oz per ton has been recorded. [37]
<b>17 May 1861</b>	6 dwt per ton. [37]
<b>16 Aug 1861</b>	20 tons yielded 1/2 oz. per ton. [37]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Companies/Parties crushing quartz & obtaining gold: Prospectors, Jones 61 ton crushed for 21 oz gold [10]
<b>25 Oct 1861</b>	Jones and Co. - 16 ton yielded 12 oz. [37]
<b>18 Oct 1861</b>	Morgan and Co. - 18 ton yielded 18 oz. [37]
<b>1 Nov 1861</b>	Meredith and Co. - 13 ton yielded 13.5 oz. [37]
<b>8 Nov 1861</b>	Morgan and Jones - 18 ton yielded 19.5 oz. [37]
<b>3 Jan 1862</b>	Pritchard and Co. - 14 ton yielded 17.5 oz. [37]
<b>17 Jan 1862</b>	Coffee and Hall - 14 ton yielded 17.5 oz. Smith and Co. - 7 dwt per ton [37]
<b>7 June 1862</b>	Little Bendigo Reef - has been abandoned, because of water. [37]
<b>5 Sept 1862</b>	Jones and Co. - failed to pay expenses this week. [37]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Little Bendigo, Coomb's Gully, &c. - Europeans: 27 puddlers, 13 ordinary miners - Chinese: 7 puddlers, 24 ordinary miners [10] Bennett's Cross Reef, Little Bendigo - Rich yield obtained from a cross reef. [37]
<b>21 June 1880</b>	Little Bendigo Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 127oz gold [10]
<b>July 1902</b>	Little Bendigo Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 62oz gold [10]
<b>March 1903</b>	Little Bendigo Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 252oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1903</b>	Little Bendigo Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 252oz gold [10]
<b>March 1908</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 237oz gold - W.M. Bull, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
<b>June 1909</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 106 oz gold [10]
<b>March 1910</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 95 oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Scott's Gully & Little Bendigo United Sluicing: 47oz gold [10]

**6.14** **HUMBUG GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Little Bendigo Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	1 puddling machine [10]





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**6.15** **LITTLE BENDIGO REEF**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Little Bendigo Gully, Humbug Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	2 claims working, 6 miners. [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Ah Sam [10] [Note: this appears to be the first party of Chinese engaged in quartz mining in the division, and would account for the 10 Chinese quartz miners reported for the month of December 1865]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Ah Tam [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Carter and others. [10]

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**6.16** **COOMBS' GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Little Bendigo, Vineyard Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 6 puddlers 2 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Little Bendigo, Coomb's Gully, &c. - Europeans: 27 puddlers, 13 ordinary miners - Chinese: 7 puddlers, 24 ordinary miners [10]

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**6.17** **WESLEY FLAT AND WESLEY HILL**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1 July 1854</b>	'The Adelaide' - opposite Pennyweight Flat and near Wesley Hill, Forest Creek. The above-named INN is now opened. [47: p.3]
<b>17 Nov 1854</b>	Dubourg's Funeral Establishment, Wesley Hill, Forest Creek. A Hearse for hire. [47: p.1]
<b>12 Jan 1855</b>	We understand that a very rich piece of ground has just been opened at the foot of Wesley Hill, Forest Creek, and is now being worked by a large number of miners, who have 'rushed' the spot. The yielding is...in many cases as much as seven or eight dwts. to the tub, and generally not less than three or four. [47: p.5]
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	Australian Hotel, Wesley Hill, Forest Creek. Good accommodation. Good stabling. An enclosed yard. Brown and Wheeler, proprietors. A Public House for Sale. Australian Hotel, Forest Creek. The Hotel is built of weather-board, with stables, kitchen, cellars, &c., complete, and is situated on the main road from Melbourne to Castlemaine. Also a bowling saloon adjoining. Du Bourg (late Du Bourg and Langdown), Carpenter, Builder, and Contractor, Wesley Hill, Forest Creek. [47: p.1]
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	The rush that took place last week to the foot of Wesley hill, has not yet subsided. The people congregated there are estimated from 400 to 600 in numbers. In some cases averaging ten dwts. to the tub, while in others wages are barely obtained. [47: p.2]
<b>26 Jan 1855</b>	For Sale... the Stock-in-Trade of Messrs Robertson and Lloyd, Bakers and Confectioners, adjoining the Australian Hotel, Wesley Hill, Forest Creek. The premises consist of a

- Bakehouse, Brick Oven, Shop, and Stable, to be disposed of; and two Horses and a Spring Cart. [47: p.1]
- 2 March 1855** To be sold, by private bargain, that substantial and neatly fitted-up Store, situated on the top of Wesleyan Hill. For terms apply to P. Dick and Son. [47: p.5]
- 13 April 1855** The old ground at Pennyweight and Wesley Hill is turning out well, and the puddlers, who find it exceedingly remunerative, eagerly seek the rejected tailings of the ordinary miners after. [47: p.2]
- 9 Nov 1855** The want of crushing machines...is about to be partially remedied by the erection of one...on the creek, opposite the main road from Castlemaine to Sawpit Gully, about a mile and a half from Castlemaine. [47: p.2]
- 30 Nov 1855** At the eastern end of Pennyweight Flat, one of Otway's improved crushing and amalgamating machines is in course of erection. The proprietors, Messrs. Stewart, Robins and Co., confidently expect to light a fire under the boiler within a fortnight. This machine is of 12-horse-power, and is intended to drive six pair of rollers, when finished according to the drawings. The steam is to work stampers, which having reduced the quartz to a convenient size, it will be scooped up by a succession of small buckets on an endless chain which, as they reach the upper end, tilt over, and discharge into the crushing trough, from which when reduced to an impalpable powder, it passes on to the amalgamator. The intention of the proprietors is to invite quartz miners to bring auriferous to their mill, and then grind it at a rate per ton, or per cent. as may be agreed. The steam-engine was made in Melbourne. The piston has horizontal motion whereby much expense of erection, much wear and tear, and much vibration are spared to the engine. This concern is estimated to cost £3000 by the time it is finished. [47: p.2]
- 21 Dec 1855** Powell and Williams, Glamorganshire Store, Wesley Hill. [47: p.1]
- 18 Jan 1856** We have had much pleasure in inspecting the quartz-crushing machinery, belonging to Messrs Stewart and Co., situate on Forest Creek, immediately opposite the Australian Hotel. The machine is one of Dr Otway's Chilian mills, combining all the latest improvements: the engine is of 12-horse power, and is capable of crushing five or six tons per day... From Sailor's Reef, several tons, crushed and amalgamated at this machine, yielded 44 ounces to the ton; 4 lbs weight was obtained from a small quantity of quartz - not more than 8 tubs - from Douglas Reef... Some very novel chemical effects have been observed here in the process of amalgamation, the gold being found in affinity with a metal...supposed to be copper or iron. [47: p.3]
- 19 Feb 1856** Victoria Quartz Crushing and Amalgamating Works, opposite the Australian Inn, Forest Creek. The proprietors are prepared to crush and amalgamate at the following prices, viz.-
- |                                  |           |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| For one ton of well-burnt quartz | £7        |           |
| Three do                         | 6 per ton |           |
| Five do                          | 5 10s do  |           |
| Ten tons and upwards             | 5 do.     | [47: p.1] |
- 26 Feb 1856** We had an opportunity of inspecting a fine sample of amalgamated gold, at the establishment of Messrs Stewart, Robins, and Co., quartz crushers, Wesley Flat. It weighs 98 1/2 ounces and was crushed from 7 tons of quartz from Dog-leg Gully, Forest Creek. [47: p.3]
- Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners:  
Wesley Flat - Europeans: 7 puddlers, 2 ordinary miners - Chinese: 8 puddlers, 72 ordinary miner [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties Puddling or Sluicing:  
Ah Wan and Co., Wesley Flat [10]
- Sept 1883** The Wesley Hill Company is fixing a portable steam engine to assist in finding a quartz reef, discovered and left some 30 years ago. [10]
- 1990** Flat on north side of Forest Creek, to the W and slightly S, of the Pennyweight Cemetery - There were Chinese gardens here when I was a young man. The Chinese settled there, they used to have a house at the back and a dam. That's where they used to cart the water for their vegetables. They had one of those delivery carts with a covered top and steps at the back. They would sell their vegetables around Wesley Hill. [67]
- 1990** Chinese gardens in flat near Pennyweight Cemetery - the Chinese were a great source of amusement. Still there in the 1940's...from memory left around 1947-48...I think they were too old, went back to China while they were able. [72]

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**6.18** **OLD RED HILL (40 FT)**


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**MINING DIVISION** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** White Hill

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>2 March 1855</b>	A quartz range has been discovered on the Red Hill and it is believed from the appearance of specimens that the vein will turn out rich. [47: p.2]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 26 tub and cradle workers [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Red Hill and Spiny Flat - Europeans: 21 puddlers, 3 ordinary miners [10]
<b>1990</b>	Located on S side of Castlemaine - Chewton main road is George Cox's hydraulic sluicing plant - suction gas plant. When he was sluicing he had a dam in Forest Creek and pumped it up to his claim. When Wattle Gully mine closed down he couldn't get enough water to operate his plant. So he closed it down, and its still there. [67]

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**6.19** **WHITE HILL**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Wesley Flat, Red Hill, Montgomery Hill

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>8/3/1852</b>	The New Gully, Red and White Hills, and the Adelaide Gully Flat have had each its "rush", and many of the holes paid well for sinking, but none turned out a great prodigy. [83: 8/3/1852: p.2]
<b>5 Jan 1855</b>	For Sale - A splendid Puddling Machine with a good supply of water, two good horses, harness, dray, tent and stable, the proprietors being about to leave the colony. For further particulars apply to Mr James Phillips, Butcher, White Hill. [47: p.1]
<b>May 1859</b>	Bateman & Co. claim on White Hill. [4]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 12 puddlers, 22 tub and cradle workers 3 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Kampf's Gully and White Hill - Europeans: 39 puddlers, 8 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Kampf's: 2 claims, 4 men [10]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Spring Flat, Aberdeen Hill/Gully, Red Hill, White Hill, Montgomery Hill - all marked 'Line of Pleistocene Deposits, principally sluiced away.' [30]

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**6.20** **LITTLE WHITE HILL**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Wesley Flat, White Hill

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 2 miners. [10]

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**6.21****KAMPF'S GULLY & KAMPF'S REEF**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Wesley Flat, White Hill

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Oct 1860</b>	White's Gully joins into Kampf's Gully. Kampf's Gully, north of White Hill, has 4 puddling machines. [24]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 12 puddlers Chinese: 8 tub and cradle workers 7 puddling machines [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Kampf's Gully and White Hill - Europeans: 39 puddlers, 8 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Kampfs: 2 claims, 4 men [10]
<b>June 1866</b>	A Bendigo company have taken up 920 feet of Kampf's Reef, from which rich specimens were obtained some five years ago; the quantity of water having baffled several attempts to work it, the present company purpose erecting suitable machinery. [10]
<b>Sept 1881</b>	The South Eureka, Kampf's, Old Quartz, and others of our old quartz reefs, are being again taken up. [10]

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**6.22****WHITE'S GULLY**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Kampf's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Oct 1860</b>	White's Gully joins into Kampf's Gully. 3 puddling machines [24]

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**6.23****MONTGOMERY HILL AND MONTGOMERY GULLY**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Wesley Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1851</b>	[Referring to plan of Forest Creek produced by mining surveyor, T. L. Brown.] The second point of the gold discovery was at the bend of the creek, Montgomery-hill, Plan 1; and by January, 1852, the whole of the ground included in the four sections had been prospected and in working. [10: Nov 1859]
<b>20 May 1854</b>	Montgomery Hill Again...the other day, a party resolved to try one of the old holes on the hill in question, or rather to drive from an old hole to another. The efforts were rewarded by the discovery of a rich vein, one hole yielding seven and the other ten pounds weight of gold. It is painful to add that the parties...commenced a career of extravagance and dissipation. [47: p.3]
<b>1 July 1854</b>	Murray Stores, Montgomery Hill, Forest Creek. [47: p.1]
<b>15 Sept 1854</b>	The Royal Hotel, Forest Creek, adjoining the Government Escort. Thomas Johnston, Proprietor. Montgomery Hill, Forest Creek. [47: p.5]
<b>26 Jan 1855</b>	Dyason and Warren. Auctioneers, Appraisers, and General Agents, Montgomery's Hill, Forest Creek, sell every day...Groceries, Wines and Spirits, Bottled Ales and Stout, Flour, Bran, Maize, &c., and General Produce. [47: p.1]
<b>23 March 1855</b>	Mr A. Fuller has opened a shop...at Montgomery's Hill, Forest Creek, opposite Mr Warren's Auction Room. Harness, Saddles, &c., &c. for sale at low prices. [47: p.6]
<b>6 April 1855</b>	The Forest Creek Road. It seems as if this road is to be kept in its present abominable condition throughout the winter. One place, in particular, is the Castle Dangerous of the track. It is Montgomery's Hill. The road there is about twenty feet wide, and in ascending

- the hill towards Castlemaine, it slopes on the right hand side towards a large excavation, about eight feet deep, and covered on the bottom with an infinity of broken bottles, and other rejected miscellanea of a thickly populated neighbourhood. On the left hand side of the hill, and a few yards lower down than the excavation, is a great [water-] hole, eight or nine feet deep, and close to the road, along which it runs for several yards... Very lately...two accidents happened there. [47: p.2]
- 13 April 1855** Pyke and Co.'s Sydney Stores, Montgomery's Hill, Forest Creek. [47: p.1]
- 13 July 1855** Some tolerably remunerative soil is being worked on Montgomery's Hill, at a depth of about six feet, and puddling machines are washing the surface soil from the same hill to great advantage. [47: p.2]
- May 1859** A tunnelling claim heads E from Scott's Gully into Montgomery Hill. [4]
- May 1859** Adjoining (on the E) the Scott's Gully tunnelling claim, is a lease held by the Forest Creek Gold Mining Co. [4]
- May 1859** Forest Creek Gold Mining & Washing Co., with engine and smithy, grid ref. 549930. [4]
- July 1859** Forest Creek Gold Mining and Washing Company - The machinery of this company is the most compact and complete in this district, and probably in the colony. The principal of the washing-machine is similar to Hart's patent, but it combines several improvements, suggested by experience, to facilitate its action and efficiency. As this is the first machine manufactured by the patentees, Messrs Thompson and Fletcher, I forward a drawing and description ...[see Appendix A for description of machinery]. The whole of the machinery and gear are supported on a massive wooden framework, bedded on the rock. It is place in a direct line with the tunnel, through which the wash-stuff is conveyed in tip-wagons along a double line of tramway, from the workings in Montgomery's Hill, terminating in a turntable at the machine where it is tipped into a shoot 10 feet long, and a stream of water falling, from a height of 8 feet, gradually washes it into the machine. The water is supplied to the machine by two powerful force-pumps, 6 inches in diameter, placed at the dam, which contains 150,000 cubic feet of water. The water is forced up a height of 30 feet through two lines of 5 inch pipes and discharged into a large cistern, from whence the machine is supplied. An engine drives the whole of the machinery 12 horse-power (portable), made by Roby, of Lincoln. The tunnel through which the wash-dirt is conveyed is 320 feet long, with 72 feet of open cutting. The width of the tunnel is 8 feet and the height is 6 feet. It is strongly supported by caps and props, placed 2 feet and 4 feet apart. Three men are necessary to work the machine - one to "feed" and regulate the supply of the stuff and water; one at the sluice boxes, which convey the tailings, and one at the back of the machine, to run away the stones. The average work is 230 loads per diem, and the average yield 3/4dwt. per load [10]
- August 1859** Steam machinery employed in alluvial mining: Forest Gold Mining Company, Forest Creek, 12 h.p., Thompson and Company's patent washing machine, etc. [10]
- August 1859** List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes]: Forest Creek Gold Mining Company, Forest Creek, 4 acres alluvial, working, 16 men. [10]
- Sept 1859** The Forest Creek Gold Mining Company has enlarged its claim. Already the ground is being properly and more satisfactorily worked. The company's washings have been during the last two weeks 50 oz. 8 dwt. The company has also washed 45 loads for the North Wales Company and the yield was 9 oz. or nearly 4 dwt. to the load. A promising-looking reef has been cut in the eastern tunnel. [10]
- October 1859** Forest Creek Gold Mining Company - It has been resolved by the shareholders of this company that its affairs be wound up... The principal cause of failure is the exhausted state of the claim and the expense of working. Since the 2nd August last, 5,859 loads have been washed, which have yielded gold worth £715 12s 7d. To obtain this, its cost for labour alone £1,655 8s 5d... The claim is now so much worked and unsafe that it would be folly to proceed. [10]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 29 tub and cradle workers [10]
- Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Montgomery Hill and Flat - Europeans: 24 ordinary miners - Chinese: 13 puddlers, 20 ordinary miners [10]
- Dec 1883** Parties of sluicers who have washed old headings and surface into the flats and water-courses have abandoned their claims, leaving the deeper deposits untouched. That these would pay if properly worked is proved by Morris and Co. (3 men), Montgomery Hill, whose return for 50 weeks' work has been 186 oz. 15 dwt. 12 gr. of gold; using one million gallons of water per week at a cost of two guineas. [10]
- Sept 1884** Morris and Company sluicing obtained 44 oz 14 dwt. for ten weeks' work - three men. [10]
- 22 July 1886** Spring Flat, Aberdeen Hill/Gully, Red Hill, White Hill, Montgomery Hill - all marked 'Line of Pleistocene Deposits, principally sluiced away.' [30]

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Montgomery Flat

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**June 1866** A new reef, named the "Rubio", has been opened on Montgomery Flat... [10]

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**6.25** **IRON HILL**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Steel's Flat

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**May 1859** Royal Quartz Crushing Machinery (grid ref. 552929). [4]

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**6.26** **STEEL'S FLAT**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Manchester Flat, Steel's Gully

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**8/5/1852** Many parts of the road between the *Argus* Office and the Commissioner's tent have fallen in where the holes have been filled; near Steele's Store a large one has fallen in badly. [83: p.2]  
**13 July 1855** A piece of very rich ground has been discovered amongst the old workings at Steel's Flat, Forest Creek, but the spot is of very small extent. [47: p.2]  
**May 1859** Three leases on S side of Forest Creek: Nankervis & Co. Tionnan (?) & Co., and Allen & Co. (mid. ref. 553929) - [4]  
**13 Oct 1860** Opie's crushing machines situated near Steel's Flat. [28]  
**Dec 1876** Parties Puddling or Sluicing: Ah Hung, Steel's Flat. [10]

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**6.27** **STEEL'S GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Steel's Flat

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners:  
Europeans: 13 puddlers, 6 tub and cradle workers  
Chinese: 9 tub and cradle workers  
9 puddling machines [10]

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**6.28** **LONDON REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Town Reef

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**16 May 1862** Evans and Co. - discoverers.

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**Sept 1864**

Morris and Pick - new reef at rear of the Powder Magazine - up to 1 oz per ton. [37]  
Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: London: 3 claims, 10 men [10]



**ZONE 7: BARKER'S CREEK****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>7.1</b>	Barker's Creek (General)	<b>7.2</b>	Specimen Gully/Reef	<b>7.3</b>	Launceston Flat/Gully
<b>7.4</b>	Capper's Reef	<b>7.5</b>	Aplin's Reef	<b>7.6</b>	Long Gully
<b>7.7</b>	Belltopper Reef	<b>7.8</b>	Cranky Ned's Reef	<b>7.9</b>	Shellback Reef
<b>7.10</b>	Turnbull/Warren's Reef	<b>7.11</b>	Hermits Reef	<b>7.12</b>	Lauriston Reef
<b>7.13</b>	Gordon's Reef	<b>7.14</b>	Lady Barkly Reef	<b>7.15</b>	Granite Reef
<b>7.16</b>	Specimen Flat	<b>7.17</b>	Rigby's Hill	<b>7.18</b>	Union Gully
<b>7.19</b>	Hard Hill	<b>7.20</b>	Wattle Gully	<b>7.21</b>	Launceston Reef
<b>7.22</b>	Heinriech/Henrick's Reef	<b>7.23</b>	Devonshire Reef	<b>7.24</b>	Tongue's/Fortuna Reef
<b>7.25</b>	Nathan's Gully	<b>7.26</b>	Milkman's Flat/Gully	<b>7.27</b>	Mosquito Gully/Reef
<b>7.28</b>	Black Jack/Hickman's Gy	<b>7.29</b>	Uncle Billy's Gully	<b>7.30</b>	Harcourt
<b>7.31</b>	Mt Alexander Reef	<b>7.32</b>	Chinaman's Flat		

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**7.1 BARKER'S CREEK (GENERAL)**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>20 July 1851</b>	The discovery of alluvial gold in quantity at Ballarat was subsequent by two months to the finding of nuggetty gold at Barker's Creek by C.T. Peters, a hutkeeper, on the 20th July, 1851, but the finds were kept secret until early in September, when a disclosure was made by one of the party of four then getting much gold in the spot subsequently known as Specimen Gully. [15: p. 49]
<b>9/11/1851</b>	The new Golden Point, four miles below the Commissioner's, contains about 1000 persons, Barker's Creek about 200. [83: 12/11/1851: p.2]
<b>13 May 1854</b>	Land - To all those wishing to obtain small allotments of land near the township, at a cheap rate, and on liberal terms, we can conscientiously recommend a visit to the land about to be sold under the denomination of Castlemaine North and Launceston Village. [47: p.3]
<b>27 May 1854</b>	Sale of land on Barker's Creek, to be called 'Launceston Village.' The land is very rich bounded by the Creek and the Bendigo Road. [47: p.3]
<b>17 Nov 1854</b>	Barker's Creek - Puddling machines are very much on the increase on the flooded ground. [47: p.2]
<b>12 Jan 1855</b>	The 'Children's Pic-Nic' - The public gathering of all the children, teachers, masters and mistresses, of the Schools in Castlemaine and its vicinity... is intended to take place this day on the grassy and picturesque slope of Barker's Creek. A band...will escort the children to Barker's Creek, near the County and Castlemaine Hospital. [47: p.5]
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	Matthews and Baker, Bricklayers, Builders, &c., Forest-street East, Castlemaine. N.B. - Best Stock Bricks for Sale, in any quantity, at the Kiln, Barker's Creek. [47: p.1]
<b>26 Jan 1855</b>	For Sale, on Barker's Creek, a piece of Land, containing one and a half acres, enclosed and stocked with Vegetables. For particulars apply to Mr John Worley, on the premises. [47: p.1] [N.B. John Worley was one of the original discoverers of gold on Barker's Creek - 1851]
<b>23 Feb 1855</b>	The Hospital is situated on the western side of Barker's Creek, opposite the Clarendon hotel, upon an acre of ground. [47: p.5]
<b>15 June 1855</b>	About 2300 Chinese are now in this district. The greater number of these is living on Barker's Creek. [47: p.2]
<b>22 June 1855</b>	The Chinese have settled themselves down in almost every gully adjacent to the road, and the Celestial host has been estimated at 4000. Some of the Chinese have commenced sinking, after the European method, which is a step in advance of their usual mode of surface washing. [47: p.2]
<b>6 July 1855</b>	The Chinese continue to arrive in large parties, and still locate themselves on Barker's Creek, where about 2500 have now assembled. The Chinese, for the most part, occupy themselves in surfacing, and manage to do very well. Several quartz claims on Specimen and Launceston Hills are now being worked. A rush has been made to some ground at the back of the hospital, and there has been a rumour of a twelve-ounce nugget having been found there. The ground was first opened about a year ago, but did not prove remunerative, and was therefore deserted.

Others besides the diggers seem to believe in Barker's Creek, for there are already two stores and two butcher's shops in active operation. [47: p.2]

- 3 August 1855** Barker's Creek - A heavy rush has now set in to these new diggings, and the population is little short of a thousand. Large numbers arrive every hour. The great feature of the place is the extraordinary richness of the surfacing, in certain patchy spots. The diggings are close to a lofty range somewhat resembling Bryant's ranges at Tarrengower, and the quartz vein, Specimen Gully, can be traced from Golden Point to these new diggings. That portion of the vein, which is being worked at Launceston Flat, about half a mile from the rush, is turning out particularly rich. The discovery of the surfacing fully accounts for the large number of Chinese here; for some months, upwards of four thousand celestials have been located in the various gullies... About three thousand celestials were working a few days ago on Chinaman's Flat, which adjoins the European rush. Until recently the diggers on Barker's Creek appeared to consider the locality merely as a favourable prospecting spot; they mostly walked thither every day from Castlemaine, Campbell's Creek, Harcourt, &c., and returned home in the evening; but now the place has assumed the aspect of an established gold field. About half a dozen stores have been erected, and are doing a 'roaring' trade, whilst butcher's shops and blacksmith's forges are not scarce...few of the tents are without that appendage which betokens permanence - a stone or mud chimney. Women and children may now be seen at Barker's Creek... We may mention as a coincidence, that a respectable fellow townsman sunk a hole, three years ago, in Uncle Billy's Gully, which proved an absolute shicer; this hole is within fifty feet from the spot from whence the seventy-five ounces were taken a few days since. [47: p.2]
- 24 Aug 1855** Tenders will be received...for renting the Lime Kiln, situated on Barker's Creek, at the northern end of the Government Camp. [47: p.3]
- 7 Sept 1855** The greater part of the new diggings on this creek, as contrasted with the old deserted holes along the bank, show that prospectors no longer run away with the idea that the bed of an existing creek must necessarily be the richest deposit of gold from the neighbouring heights. The depth at which gold is to be found seems to be more limited here than in some other spots...the greatest depth does not often exceed 12 or 14 feet, more commonly 5 or 6. [47: p.2]
- 5 Oct 1855** The diggers at Barker's Creek are leaving. The Chinese population here is...distributed thus:..Barker's Creek 1700. The various encampments of these people on Campbell's and Barker's Creeks are now finished. [47: p.2]
- 16 Nov 1855** Chinese [are] thus distributed: 50 Barker's Creek. The Chinese have almost entirely deserted Barker's Creek, for Golden Point and the side of New Chum Gully. [47: p. 2]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Barker's Creek & small gullies adjoining:  
Europeans: 27 puddlers, 32 tub and cradle workers.  
Chinese: 17 puddlers, 23 tub and cradle workers. [10]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Barker's Creek  
Europeans: 15 puddlers, 23 tub and cradle workers  
Chinese: 11 puddlers, 35 tub and cradle workers  
11 puddling machines [10]
- Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners  
10. BARKER'S CREEK  
Castlemaine to Specimen Flat - Europeans: 26 puddlers, 40 ordinary miners -  
Chinese: 39 ordinary miners  
Specimen Flat and Gully, &c. - Europeans: 29 puddlers, 34 ordinary miners -  
Chinese: 15 ordinary miners  
Black Jack's and Uncle Billy's Gullies - Europeans: 4 puddlers, 35 ordinary miners  
Boatswain's to Harcourt - Europeans: 3 puddlers, 6 ordinary miners [10]
- Sept 1864** The reefs in Barker's Creek are almost entirely deserted. [10]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men:  
10. BARKER'S CREEK  
Cranky Ned's: 1 claim, 2 men  
Gordon's: 1 claim, 2 men [10]
- Dec 1876** Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c.  
Barker's Creek: 92  
Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing:  
Michell and others, Barker's Creek [10]
- June 1881** At Barker's Creek, the cutting of contour races from the Victorian Water Supply Works, to permit the large extent of auriferous hills and gullies to be worked, is creating very much satisfaction; the miners anticipating profitable sluicing operations from a district which has always suffered for want of water. [10]
- Sept 1881** At Barker's Creek, the race from the Coliban water supply has been nearly completed. large areas are being taken up by sluicing parties, who are now busy preparing sluice-

	boxes, dams, tail-races, &c., in anticipation of long, steady, and profitable employment. [10]
<b>Dec 1881</b>	The completion of contour races, conveying a supply of water to Barker's Creek, has given great impetus to sluicing operations; those sluicers who have washed up being well satisfied with their returns. [10]
<b>Sept 1884</b>	SITUATION AND CAPACITY OF RESERVOIRS: Barker's Creek 611,500,000 [10]
<b>March 1885</b>	In ground sluicing operations at Forest and Barker's creeks much of the ground is becoming worked out and abandoned. [10]
<b>March 1886</b>	NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS: Barker's Creek 50 [10]
<b>1904</b>	Barker's Creek Dredging/Sluicing Co: pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
<b>Dec 1904</b>	Barker's Creek Dredging/Sluicing Co: 138 oz. of gold. [10]
<b>March 1905</b>	Barker's Creek Dredging/Sluicing Co: 124 oz of gold. [10]
<b>1905</b>	Barker's Creek Dredging/Sluicing Co: pumped sluicing plant operating, but now closed down and plant sold. [12: pp. 80-81]

## 7.2

## SPECIMEN GULLY AND SPECIMEN GULLY REEF

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Barker's Creek, Capper's/Aplin's/Fortuna Reefs

DATE	HISTORY
<b>July/Aug 1851</b>	The first gold discovery of Mt Alexander was made by John Worley and Christopher Thomas Peters at Specimen Gully on the 20th July, 1851, at which time the first-named was a bullock driver, and the latter a hut-keeper in the service of William Barker, esquire. The late Mr Pearce, of Castlemaine, was at that time superintendent of the station, from whom I obtained the following information: - He was present when the first dish of stuff was washed, which, to use his own words, "was black soil; as black as your hat". It was obtained from a little gully, and panned off in a small soup tin, the result being half-a-dozen pieces of gold about the size of "wheat corns" ... The next attempt was in the hill side - about 100 yards from the first gold - into which they drove a tunnel and discovered a quartz leader, thickly impregnated with gold. This necessitated the breaking up of the quartz, which they considered too much trouble, and soon left it. [39: p. 15]
<b>20 July 1851</b>	The discovery of alluvial gold in quantity at Ballarat was subsequent by two months to the finding of nuggetty gold at Barker's Creek by C.T. Peters, a hutkeeper, on the 20th July, 1851, but the finds were kept secret until early in September, when a disclosure was made by one of the party of four then getting much gold in the spot subsequently known as Specimen Gully. [15: p. 49]
<b>Aug/Sept 1851</b>	[in] the <u>Melbourne Argus</u> of the 8th September, 1851, [is] a letter headed "Mount Alexander Ranges, September 1st, 1851," written by me to the editor of that paper, where my name is spelt Worly, in place of Worley, describing, as near as possible, the position where we were then at work, and had been from the 17th August of the same year. The place is where Messrs. Stacey, Grant and Co.'s steam engine is now at work, at Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. John Worley, Barker's Creek. [47: 1/2/1856/p.3]
<b>17 Dec 1853</b>	The diggers are leaving Forest Creek and Bendigo in great numbers - some to Ballarat, others to the Ovens, and many to Melbourne. The small companies which have been working on the quartz veins north of Forest Creek, Specimen Gully, &c., have laboured in vain, spent all their money, and are offering their machinery for sale. Grinders and amalgamators may be seen scattered and lying about in the gullies of Forest Creek and Bendigo, with as little regard to their value as to blocks of quartz. [11: 1/4/1854: p.213]
<b>3 August 1855</b>	Barker's Creek - A heavy rush has now set in to these new diggings, and the population is little short of a thousand. Large numbers arrive every hour. The great feature of the place is the extraordinary richness of the surfacing, in certain patchy spots. The diggings are close to a lofty range somewhat resembling Bryant's ranges at Tarrengower, and the quartz vein, Specimen Gully, can be traced from Golden Point to these new diggings. That portion of the vein which is being worked at Launceston Flat, about half a mile from the rush, is turning out particularly rich. [47: p.2]
<b>21 Sept 1855</b>	On the eastern side of Specimen gully several parties have done well. [47: p.2]
<b>5 Oct 1855</b>	Several patches of new ground have been opened, including several small gullies leading out of Specimen Gully. [47: p.2]
<b>19/7/1857</b>	Reefs being worked: Bolivia, Town, Eureka, Lower Wattle Gully, Specimen Hill, Mt Alexander, Golden Point, Dirty Dick's, Old Specimen Hill, Sebastopol, Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. [37]

- June 1859** My statistics show two steam engines less than formerly employed in quartz crushing. These were small and inefficient. They will be replaced by a 12-horse power, now being erected by Opie and Co., Forest Creek; and a beautiful engine of 40-horse power, and corresponding plant, being erected by the Specimen Gully Quartz Mining Association, Barker's Creek. [10]
- August 1859** One claim working, 30 miners, Specimen Gully Company [10]
- August 1859** List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes] Specimen Gully Quartz-Mining Company, Specimen Reef, 268 yards, commenced working and Gully Company, Specimen Reef, 600 yards, not commenced. [10]
- August 1859** One claim working, 30 miners, Specimen Gully Company [10]
- August 1859** Steam machinery employed in quartz crushing: Old Specimen Gully Gold Mining Company, Barker's Creek, 40-horse power, 32 head of stamps, pumps, etc. [10]
- August 1859** Steam machinery employed in quartz crushing: Smith & Company, Specimen Gully, 7 h.p., 8 head of stamps, etc. [10]
- August 1859** 5 claims working, 20 miners, Specimen Reef Company [working continuation of Specimen Reef, Barker's Creek] [10]
- Sept 1859** Specimen Hill Gully Quartz Mining Association - The powerful engine and stamping machinery of this company are completed, and are working satisfactorily. There is a 40-horse power high-pressure steam engine, with 2 boilers of 4 tons each. There are 16 heavy stamps - to be increased to 32. The gold is to be saved by fixed inclines, set with ripples, the debris finally passed through an amalgamator. An exceedingly well constructed dam crosses the gully above the reef. The company's first crushing 18 tons yielded 35 1/4 oz. [10]
- 1859** Specimen Gully - area on north side of Forest Creek marked 'Very Rich'. [29]
- early 1860** Flagstone Quarry, Specimen Gully - This is the original quarry, and it has been extensively worked for over 40 years. It is 4 miles by road in a north-easterly direction from Castlemaine, and there is a railway siding but a short distance from the quarry...The belt of the valuable flagstones is about 23 feet wide, and it has been worked at intervals for a length of 20 chains (400m). At the south end a fault has broken up the rocks, so as to render them of little value. At the deepest part of the quarry has been sunk to a depth of 220 feet (67m); this is filled with water to within 30 feet of the surface. There is an immense amount of valuable material available, and as the quarry has been sunk down to a depth of 220 feet, the heavy initial expenses have been defrayed, and a working face prepared. In dealing with such a quarry pillars should be left at proper intervals to support the sides. Stone of the character obtainable here is useful for building material, for paving, and for many other purposes. There is a 25 horse-power engine and planing and sawing plant at the quarry but no work has been done here for several years. This industry should be revived. [44: 31/7/1907: p.171]
- October 1859** Specimen Gully Mining Association - The whole of the machinery of this company is completed, and is the most powerful and substantial in the district. The main tunnel is now driven 355 feet in the line of the reef. [10]
- May 1860** The Old Specimen Gully Gold Mining Association - The prospects of this company are more encouraging, the working expenses have been considerably diminished, the usually tedious and costly operations of opening the mine have been perseveringly prosecuted through a hard blue stone country; the main tunnel being now 500 feet long connecting nearly all the original claims and shafts, and several material alterations have been effected in the plant by additional tramways, winding gear, &c, and two shafts have been sunk and will be connected by adit to work the known auriferous leads. A trial of 6 tons from this adit yielded 1 oz. per ton, and 464 tons crushed from this reef gave an average yield of 17-dwt. 18 1/3 gr. per ton [10]
- Oct 1860** The Old Specimen Gully are improving and anticipating a dividend. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Specimen Gully Company  
No. of claims:  
Extent of claim: 804 feet  
No. of men employed:  
Extent of Reef prospected: 1,400 feet [10]
- Dec 1860** Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include]  
Specimen Gully Company  
Area of Lease: 5 acres 2 rods 32 perches  
Amount of Capital: £10,000  
Machinery: Forty horse-power engine, thirty-two stamps, pump gear, &c.  
Value of Machinery: £5,000  
Cash Expended: £11,612 12s 10d  
Miners now employed: 2  
Men lately employed: 39  
Gold or Value realised by Company: £3,837 18s 11d  
Dated: 10 Oct 1860  
Remarks: Recommencing next week. [10]

- Feb 1861** The Specimen Gully Co. is also temporarily suspended, waiting the contemplated loan. [10]
- March 1861** The Eureka Reef, Capper's Reef, and Old Specimen Gully Companies continue inactive. [10]
- April 1861** The Specimen Gully Gold Mining Company was the first formed in this district and consequently had to pioneer its way. Their powerful machinery was erected about two years ago, yet only 3,705 1/2 tons have been crushed from the mine; this produced 1,367 oz. 4 dwt. of gold. [10]
- July 1861** The Old Specimen Gully, the first ... [of the Division's public quartz companies] ... is about to be wound up, advertisements being out for the disposal of the plant and machinery. [10]
- Aug 1861** The Old Specimen Gully Co.'s lease runs across gully (grid ref.55HBU565980). Machinery on lease: 40hp engine, 16 stamps on N side of gully; open workings, pumps and dam in gully; office on S side [1]
- Aug 1861** Specimen Gully Reef being worked by the Old Specimen Gully Co. on their lease, situated where reef crosses Specimen Gully (grid ref. 55HBU565980). [1]
- Aug 1861** Capper's Reef Co. lease at head of both Specimen and Launceston Gullies (grid ref. 55HBU566969-55HBU566975). Machinery on lease (at Specimen Gully end): 20-hp engine and 8 stamps, also dam in Specimen Gully (grid ref. 55HBU566974). Working Capper's and Aplin's Reefs. [1]
- Sept 1861** Some of our older companies, as the Old Quartz Hill, Specimen Gully, Phoenix (late Eureka), and El Dorado, have been trying to let the mines and plant upon tribute, the success of the Bolivia Reef tributers inspiring great confidence in that system of working. [10]
- Nov 1861** Lease No. 4 - 5 acres, 3 rods, 32 perches - Specimen Gold Quartz Mining Association - map shows a large dam and a 40 hp engine - grid ref. for engine is 55HBU566979. [64]
- Nov 1861** Map shows - Flag (stone) Quarry - large quarry running N-S, either side of Specimen Gully (Grid ref 55HBU558980. [64]
- Nov 1861** Map shows - Lease No 39, 12 acres 1 r. 20 p. Fortuna Mining Association - working Fortuna Reef, N side of Specimen Gully. Includes dam across Specimen Gully, and a tunnel leading from the Fortuna's Company's Engine (located on the western boundary of the lease) to the middle of the lease. Tunnel is about 800 feet long, grid ref of engine 55HBU558980. [64]
- Dec 1861** Thompson Brothers...have added a very simply constructed 5 horse-power engine to the Old Specimen Gully plant, for the purpose of draining the mine, thereby superseding the cumbersome machinery formerly used. [10]
- June 1861** The Specimen Gully, the Old Quartz Hill and the Cumberland and Bolivia mines and machinery have been unworked, and several other plants only partially employed. [10]
- May 1862** Public Companies - Fortuna Quartz Mining Association, Specimen Gully, Barkers Creek. [See Fortuna Reef - 7.24] [59]
- March 1862** Old Specimen Gully Quartz Mining Association -Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek.  
Area and Title - The extent of ground held by this association is 660 feet from north to south. Title, a lease from the Crown.  
Position - The Old Specimen Gully Reef, for the purpose of working which this company was formed, lies about two and a half miles from Castlemaine, and is to the east of the Barker's Creek Road. The reef is situate in Whirley's Gully, at the very head of Specimen Gully, and within a short distance of the Fortuna Reef and Capper's Reef. The ground rises very precipitously at the back of the crushing plant, the distance of the mouth of the shaft from the engine crank being about 150 feet, and the difference in elevation about 40feet.  
Workings - There are two lodes that have been wrought by former claim holders, the one distinguished as the Gully Reef, and the other as the Hill Reef, from their position relatively in the Gully and on the Hill...The difference in elevation between the mouth of the northernmost shaft on the hill and the mouth of the shaft in the gully is 130 feet, most of the surface work having been done by former claimholders. The Gully Reef has been wrought for a length of about 100 feet, and for a depth of about 105 feet. The Hill Reef has been removed for a length of about 150 feet, and for a depth of about 130 feet. The distance between the two workings is about 180 feet. There is a tunnel into the hill along the course of the lode, level with the stamp platform, and the tributers were engaged at the time of our visit pushing forward the tunnel north, and very hard driving. They were also engaged in driving at a depth of 90 feet in a shaft that passes alongside the tunnel just mentioned, in order to connect with old workings.  
Machinery - The Association have a splendid 40 h.p. beam condensing engine, perhaps the finest on these gold-fields, but unfortunately out of all proportion to the work it has to do. The tributers have had manufactured for them a small 6 h.p. engine by Messrs Vivian and Co., of Castlemaine. This they have erected over one of the boilers of the large engine, for the purpose of working the 4 1/2 inch pumps fixed in the shaft up the hill, and also for the purpose of working winding gear in connection with the same shaft. Although its work is 150 feet off, and at a difference in elevation of some 40 feet, it

appears to answer admirably well. The large engine works four batteries of four heads each. These were not at work, and had not been apparently for some time. The shafts of the stamps are of wood. The large engine cylinder is 22 inches, stroke 3 feet 6 inches, with two boilers of 18 feet by 5 feet each.

Amalgamation - Eight heads of ripples and blanket tables, the second eight heads are furnished only with blanket tables.

- Remarks - Comparatively little progress has been attempted in mining by this Association since it was first formed, the greater portion of the capital having been expended in the purchase of the ground, and the purchase and erection of machinery. As an instance of the experience that is being bought, and that may be useful to others, we may state the Association erected 9 or 10-inch pumps for draining the claims, but the supply of water was out of all proportion to the size of the pumps. The consequence was the pumps were always out of order, and the claim never properly drained. Neither was the supply of quartz sufficient to keep the mills going. The large engine, a very expensive one when not fully at work, was thus frequently employed pumping only from the claim, and even this duty it was performing very inefficiently, at a cost to the Company of not less than £10 per week for firewood alone. The little engine recently erected, at a comparatively small outlay, is pumping effectually, and winding, at a cost of £2 only a week for firewood, thus showing a saving in that item alone of £416 per annum. The deepest shaft on this reef is 130 feet. [59]
- 3 Nov 1862** Specimen Gully Mining Association has sold engine and claim to 14 miners - tunnel is 400 ft. [37]
- Sept 1864** The Old Specimen Gully and Cumberland mines remain unworked. [10]
- March 1870** Several of the old reefs in Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek, have been re-occupied. [10]
- Sept 1870** The Old Specimen Reef, Barker's Creek, is again occupied; the parties on cleaning out an old shaft, found a gold-bearing lode, the first crushing giving the tributers £4 per week and the proprietors £32 each. The reef shows to yield many similar returns. [10]
- Dec 1870** At Barker's Creek the Specimen Gully Reef is being profitably worked by Bibby and Walters. The reef is 20 to 30 feet wide. Six feet of its western face is being worked, from which 397 tons have yielded 176 oz. 16 dwts. Thirteen men are employed. [10]
- March 1871** On Specimen Gully Reef, Walters and Co. have driven a cross-cut from their tunnel through a wide reef impregnated with indications of gold. The Specimen Gully Tribute have succeeded in draining their mine, and reaching the lode where much gold was obtained some years ago. The Specimen Gully Extended, the Imperial, the Hermit, the Lady Barkly, the Cappers, and many other companies throughout the division, are engaged in sinking shafts, or driving tunnels or levels, very few breaking out quartz. [10]
- 10 April 1871** Walters and Bibby - 38 ton yielded 73 oz. [37]
- 27 June 1871** Specimen Gully Tribute Co. - prospectus issued. [37]
- June 1871** On the Specimen Gully Reef, Walters and Co. obtained 232 oz. from 141 tons. The old Gully Claim has been let on tribute to a good proprietary, which will erect suitable machinery. The reef, both north and south, is being worked with very good prospects. [10]
- 10 July 1871** Imperial Co. to form a company. The claim adjoins Walters and Bibby's original claim. [37]
- Sept 1871** On Specimen Gully Reef, the Imperial Company, lease No. 670, are sinking their main shaft, now 60 feet, and are getting out quartz for Crushing. They have applied for an extension of ground. Walters and Bibby have just disclosed another excellent shoot of golden quartz in their tunnel, and within 30 feet of the Specimen Gully Tribute Co., who have a whim erected and are busily sinking a shaft, now 80 feet, to strike the run of gold left by the old company. The claims of Clarke, Homan, and others, on the south end of the reef, have been amalgamated with a view of more economical and systematic mining. [10]
- 2 Oct 1871** Two new reefs discovered by Patrick McClusky and other by Bibby and party. [37]
- 6 Nov 1871** Specimen Gully Tribute Co. - lease of 520 ft on south end of Walter and Bibby claims. [37]
- Dec 1871** In Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek, the Specimen Gully Reef is being worked by the company at 100 feet deep, by the Specimen Gully Tribute at 110 feet and by the Imperial Company at 77 feet. [10]
- 13 July 1872** Specimen Gully Reef - Lewis Amalgamated - a shaft 5 ft x 4 ft has been sunk. Old workings are very extensive. Engine shaft has been cut to 123.5 ft. [37]
- 15 July 1872** Specimen Gully Tribute Co. - owing to hardness of ground, downright shaft was abandoned. South shaft. Further shaft 250 ft north. [37]
- 20 July 1872** Specimen Gully Extended Gold Mining Co. [37]
- Dec 1875** Many of our old lines of reef are at present unworked, as the Sebastopol, Caledonia, Volunteer, Specimen Gully, Dead Cat, Fortuna, and others. [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing: Bennett's, Old Specimen [10]
- 6 May 1878** Specimen Gully Tribute Co. formed. The obstacle to this reef being systematically worked is the great weight of water that has to be mastered. [37]
- Sept 1878** The Specimen Gully Reef is let on tribute in 25 shares, and prospecting operations commenced on the 5th May last. [10]
- 26 May 1879** Specimen Gully Tribute Co. - tried two small crushings yielding 2 dwt and 2.5dwt to the ton - sufficient to try further prospecting. [37]
- March 1882** Mineral. - Slate and Flagging. Three mineral lease blocks are being worked in Specimen Gully, giving employment to 47 men, in addition to several draymen. [10]

- Sept 1883** At Specimen Gully, the Castlemaine Flagging Company, in excavating at the south end of their slate-flagging formation, found it cut off by a cross flookan, which they followed away to the south-east, and again found the vertical flagging; and whilst stripping they also met with a southerly continuation of the Fortuna quartz reef, carrying coarse gold. [10]
- 22 July 1886** Specimen Gully Reef - Lease 1769 crosses Specimen Gully (grid ref. 565981). Lease No. 786 crosses Long Gully. Mineral lease 758 runs south from Specimen Gully towards Launceston Gully (mid grid ref. 563978) Fortuna Reef crosses Specimen Gully - Lease 2401 and mineral leases 235, 455 and 719 all appear to belong to the Castlemaine Slate Paving Company. These leases stretch from north of Specimen Gully to south of Launceston Gully. (mid grid ref. [Specimen Gully] 560980) At the head of Specimen Gully is Lease 2669, working the Caledonian Reef. (mid grid ref. 529918) [30]
- Dec 1887** Gaylard and Sons, of Specimen Gully, have cleaned up their ground sluice and obtained 214oz. 10dw. of gold. [10]
- 26 Jan 1899** Specimen Reef Gold Mining Co. - A contract has been let to sink main shaft, 11ft x 4ft, to 100ft - already sunk 31ft. The tunnel and tramway are being put in order. [37]
- 27 July 1899** Specimen Reef Gold Mining Co. - During the past six months they have been pushing on with the sinking of the main shaft, and the erection of machinery and plant. This plant, which is now complete, is of the most effective modern type, and is, consequently, working with the greatest economy. The main shaft has been sunk and timbered to a depth of 127ft; the last 30ft being in splendid country, ie. spurs and leaders, highly charged with mineral, but with no gold showing in the stone. It being deemed advisable to test the big reef in the tunnel, several crushings were put through, but as they did not prove payable, it was decided to stop prospecting work here for the present, and concentrate all work on the main shaft. In sinking this shaft, the water has proved very heavy, but with two Blakes' pumps, one in old stopes and one in shaft, it is now well under control. These pumps are capable of a discharge of 3000 gallons per hour. Mine manager's report...You have not a large but a very complete and up-to-date battery, consisting of 10 heads, copper plates and blanket tables, with all necessary fittings, battery engine, capable of being compounded, high pressure multi-tubular boiler, and a complete double winding engine, equal to a depth of about 600ft. together with poppet heads. I consider that you have a good property, which, with a fair amount of capital for development, should soon prove payable. [37]
- 25 Jan 1900** Specimen Reef Co. - Mine Manager's Report...I consider this quartz identical with gold bearing stone known to exist in Turner's Hill at a depth of 85ft (dipping north) and therefore well worthy of further prospecting. The connection having been made with the old shaft, a lead was formed north, through the old workings, a distance of 100ft at a depth of 60ft. [37]
- 19 April 1900** Specimen Reef Co. - The present company started operations about 20 months ago, and sunk their shaft in the gully, about 70ft west of the old shaft, and about 35ft east of centre country. The shaft is down 130ft. The mine is well supplied with machinery, manufactured by Messrs Thompson and Company. They drain the mine by one of Blackie's steam pumps, which, despite the general prejudice against them, acts very well. The winding engine is 8in cylinder, 10in stroke, and the crushing is 10in cylinder, 16in stroke, which can be compounded if necessary. The battery contains 10 head of stamps, and the boiler is a 12ft by 4ft multitubular. [37]
- 26 July 1900** Specimen Reef Co. Mine and machinery in good order, battery going part time on public crushing. [37]
- Sept 1902** Map shows Specimen Reef Company's property - workings shown comprise a tunnel driven W from the head of a small feeder gully (N side of gully), extensive patch of working on crown of hill, the main shaft in the gully, upstream (E) of the gully Potter's dam, and on the slope on the s side of the gully, some more workings. The V.W.S race crosses the head of the gully, running along both sides. [75]
- Sept 1902** Map shows downstream (w) of Specimen Reef Company's property - Jackson's Flag Quarry, s side of gully, on the SW corner of the company's property; a tunnel driven W from Worley's Gully (N side of gully) into workings marked on the Lady Barkly Reef. [75]
- 1903** Specimen Reef Co. Complete winding and crushing plant erected [12: p.72]
- 1903** Specimen Reef Company. This company has, for a considerable time, been working in a systematic manner on the Specimen Gully Reef, endeavouring to find at a deeper level a new formation in centre country, the large surface reef which...although highly payable in places, being unprofitable at a depth. The main shaft being in the bed of a gully...about 30 chains from the granite, sinking is costly on account of the hard nature of the strata. Three levels have been opened out and cross-cuts driven, in each of which centre country is met with... A complete winding and crushing plant is erected on the mine. [55]



**1904**  
**29 Jan 1904** Specimen Reef Co. The large shareholders still retain their interests, and have paid up the calls well; but there are 15,000 forfeited shares now in the hands of the company. The future operations at your mine will require serious consideration, progress necessarily being very slow when your board has only half the shares upon which to make calls. [37]

**March 1905** Specimen Gully Dredging Co.: 209oz gold [10]  
**June 1906** Specimen Gully Dredging Co.: 426oz gold - D. Fraser, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]  
**1907** Flagstone Quarry, Specimen Gully - This is the original quarry, and it has been extensively worked for over 40 years. It is 4 miles by road in a north-easterly direction from Castlemaine, and there is a railway siding but a short distance from the quarry. There is a 25 horse-power engine and planing and sawing plant at the quarry, but no work has been done there for several years. The new quarry is in Nicholson's Gully, at a distance of about 1 1/2 miles E, 30 deg. S. from the old quarry. The belt of flagstone is 17 feet in width, the flags range from 1 inch to 4 or 5 inches thick, and the material is material is slaty, as at the old quarry. The strike of beds is about north and south, and the dip is 82 deg. E. This quarry has been opened up for a length of 200 feet, and to a depth of 50 feet. The flags do not split so readily as at the old quarry. An engine with planing and sawing machines is on the ground, but the quarry is not being worked. [44: p. 171]

**March 1908** Specimen Gully Dredging Co.: 287oz gold [10]  
**June 1909** Specimen Gully Dredging Co.: 383oz gold - G. Chester, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]  
**March 1910** Specimen Gully Dredging Co.: 190oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1910** Specimen Gully Dredging Co.: 97oz gold [10]  
**1990** Specimen Gully - slate quarries, historic monument. Also remains of machinery site, dam, main shaft in gully and extensive line of workings (deep, well formed shafts, open cuts, one tunnel with associated forge and mullock) on the hill above...located a short distance E of the historic monument. In the gully running N along the W edge of the slate quarry (N side of road) is a tunnel associated with some stone footings. [69]

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<b>7.3</b>	<b>LAUNCESTON GULLY</b>
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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully, Capper's/Aplin's/Launceston Reefs.

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1854</b>	I...eventually camped in Launceston Gully, Barker's Creek, where I started a small store, but, getting acquainted with Messrs. Ross and Hobby, I sold out, and went into their employ for a time... [23: p. 54]
<b>3 August 1855</b>	Barker's Creek - A heavy rush has now set in to these new diggings, and the population is little short of a thousand. Large numbers arrive every hour... The diggings are close to a lofty range somewhat resembling Bryant's ranges at Tarrengower, and the quartz vein, Specimen Gully, can be traced from Golden Point to these new diggings. That portion of the vein, which is being worked at Launceston Flat, about half a mile from the rush, is turning out particularly rich. [47: p.2]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 3 puddlers, 6 tub and cradle workers. 4 puddling machines. [10]
<b>Aug 1861</b>	Capper's Reef Co. lease at head of both Specimen and Launceston Gullies (grid ref. 566969-566975). Working Capper's and Aplin's Reef. [1]
<b>Aug 1861</b>	On the S side of Launceston Gully is a bluestone quarry used for road metal (grid ref. 570974). This is the head of Launceston Gully shown as unworked/non-auriferous. [1]
<b>March 1867</b>	On Barker's Creek parties are prospecting the Capper's and Fortuna Reef [10]
<b>March 1871</b>	This day I was shown a dish of splendid specimens from a new reef near top of Launceston Gully; the prospector (Smith) picked up a specimen on surface weighing nearly an ounce, and then discovered the leader from which these specimens are obtained. [10]
<b>16 Oct 1871</b>	Kent and Co. - a tunnel being driven into the hill and good stone found. [37]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Mineral lease 758 runs south from Specimen Gully towards Launceston Gully (mid grid ref. 563978) Fortuna Reef crosses Specimen Gully - Lease 2401 and mineral leases 235, 455 and 719 all appear to belong to the Castlemaine Slate Paving Company. These leases stretch from north of Specimen Gully to south of Launceston Gully. (mid grid ref. [Specimen Gully] 560980) [30]

- Sept 1902** Map shows Capper's Reef Company's property - W boundary runs through the head of Launceston Gully, N boundary runs along Norris' Gully and S boundary along Hermit's Gully - workings shown include old shaft, shallow workings and open cut on the crown of the hill; two tunnels driven E into the hill - Norris' tunnel is driven from the very head of Launceston Gully, and there is another smaller length of tunnel shown starting further down Launceston Gully; the V.W.S race runs along the N boundary and also touches on the W boundary of the property. [75]
- 1903** At the head of Launceston Gully, two tunnels (Norris') started to intersect [Capper's] reef from the west stopped before reaching centre country. [55]

7.4

**CAPPER'S REEF**

**Mining Division** Barker's Creek  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Gully, Launceston Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>early 1850s</b>	This reef was discovered during the early part of the fifties, and yielded wonderfully rich returns to the parties that first worked it. [55: p.22]
<b>August 1859</b>	3 claims working, 11 miners, Launceston Gully Company [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	List of public companies in existence, and contemplated [includes]: Launceston Gully Quartz-Mining Company, Capper's Reef, 600 yards, projected. [10]
<b>Nov 1859</b>	Operations commenced...on the Capper's. [10]
<b>Feb 1860</b>	Some of our quartz companies are progressing satisfactorily; one other engine of 20-horse power has just been added to our crushing machinery by the Capper's Reef Company. [10]
<b>May 1860</b>	The Capper's Reef Company have arranged their differences with the contractors for machinery, and their plant consisting of 20 horse-power engine and 8 revolving stamps, is now reducing their piled quartz, a trial from which yielded above 1 oz. per ton. [10]
<b>July 1860</b>	Capper's Reef Mining Company - from 15th May to 30th June, 400 tons returned 113 oz. 17 dwt., out of which a dividend of five per cent. has been paid. [10]
<b>29 Oct 1860</b>	Capper's Reef Company - eastern reef, 180 feet - western vein, extending cutting 57 feet in length from the large body of quartz, which proves to be 8 inches thick. The deepest shaft in the middle vein is 170 feet down. [37]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	The Cappers Reef Company have just issued their by monthly report, setting down for two months ending 24th October, £945 realised from quartz crushed. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	The Capper's Reef Company are not progressing so satisfactorily as when last reported, the run of gold then working being lost, and the company having no reserve fund, the working miners, who are principally shareholders, have magnanimously gone on half wages rather than the work should be suspended. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Capper's (3) No. of claims: Lease Extent of claim: 1,518 feet No. of men employed: Extent of Reef prospected: 1,000 [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include] Capper's Reef Company Area of Lease: 19 acres 3 rods 13 1/2 perches Amount of capital: £6,000 Machinery: Twenty horse-power engine, eight stamps, feed pump, &c. Value of machinery: £3,034 Cash expended: £4,797 4s 6d Men now employed: 17 Gold or Value realised by Company: £1,649 9s 4d Dated: October 24 1860 Remarks: Working [10]
<b>end 1860</b>	By the end of 1860, [the Capper's Reef Co.] had expended £4,797 4s., principally on machinery, for a return of £1,649 9s 4d. Work stopped, the yields, at first payable, having become poor... [55: p.22]
<b>Feb 1861</b>	The Capper's Reef Company is not at present working, the only person engaged being the manager and engineer. [10]
<b>March 1861</b>	The Eureka Reef, Capper's Reef, and Old Specimen Gully Companies continue inactive. [10]

- July 1861** The Capper's Reef and Wattle Gully Companies ...[public quartz companies]... are quietly disappearing, but little remains of the companies' property which is dwindling away and dissolution is inevitable. [10]
- Aug 1861** Capper's Reef Co. lease at head of both Specimen and Launceston Gullies (grid ref. 55HBU566969-55HBU566975). Working Capper's and Aplin's Reef. [1]
- Oct 1861** The Capper's Reef Company is at last to be wound up, the directory having disposed of the whole plant, &c. The machinery is to be removed from the district, and the lease abandoned. [10]
- Nov 1861** Map shows Lease No 46, 19acres 3 rds 13 1/2 p. - Capper's Reef Quartz Mining Company - 20 hp. engine, grid ref 55HBU564974 [64]
- Nov 1861** The machinery of the Capper's Reef Company has been removed to Muckleford. [10]
- March 1862** Public Companies - Cappers Reef Quartz Mining Association, Specimen Gully, Barkers Creek.  
Seeing this Association quoted daily amongst the list of our Public Companies, we paid the locality a visit. We were informed that the machinery and all the assets of the Company had been sold off some time, and that quartz was being carted away from it as ballast for the railway. [59]
- 1866** In 1866 the ground was again taken up by a prospector named Morris (Norris?), whose yields, however, were unremunerative. [55: p.22]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
Morris, Norris [10]
- June 1871** From Capper's Reef, Bibby obtained 83 oz. 19 dwts. from 148 tons, the result of two men's labour during six weeks; the lode being worked near the surface, on the crown of the hill. [10]
- 25 Sept 1871** South Capper's Co., North Capper's Co. [37]
- Sept 1871** Capper's Reef is being worked by three companies, each, near surface, is obtaining payable quartz. [10]
- Dec 1871** South Capper's Reef Company is down 153 feet, getting gold. The Capper's, Capper's Energetic, and Lady Barkly Companies work by tunnels. [10]
- March 1872** The Specimen Gully Extended, the Imperial, the Hermit, the Lady Barkly, the Cappers, and many other companies throughout the division, are engaged in sinking shafts, or driving tunnels or levels, very few breaking out quartz. [10]
- Sept 1873** A new reef has just been discovered, situate east of the Capper's Reef, reported to be exceedingly rich. It has been taken up for a considerable distance on either end. [10]
- 10 May 1899** Capper's Reef Gold Mining Co. - Have had one crushing of 23 loads for a yield of 7oz 3dwt. The shaft is 153ft deep... [37]
- 2 Dec 1899** Capper's Reef Co. - Present depth of shaft 219.5ft. [37]
- March 1899** Capper's Reef Co.: 20 ton crushed, 7 oz gold [10]
- 28 April 1900** Some of the richest surface finds, both quartz and alluvial, obtained in the early days, came from the property now held under lease by the Capper's Reef Gold Mining Company. The lease, which comprises about 41 acres, lies immediately south of the Specimen Reef mine at Barker's Creek, and although the line of reef has not been positively identified, it is generally believed to be the favourably known Nimrod line. The shaft at the Capper's mine is not large enough for an engine shaft, and was sunk more as a prospecting shaft, being run down about 15ft east of centre country on the crest of a rather steep hill. The eastern and western legs are visible on the surface having been worked years ago to a considerable length and depth. The shaft was sunk to 153ft in very hard country.  
The intention of the company is to sink a main engine shaft 438ft north-east of the present shaft in the lower ground. The site chosen is in every way suitable for a main shaft a machinery site with the exception probably, that it is rather far north.  
They are running about 50 tons through the Specimen Reef battery and will clean up today. [37]
- April 1900** Capper's Reef Co.: 74 ton crushed, 30oz gold [10]
- June 1900** Capper's Reef Co.: 72 ton crushed, 19oz gold [10]
- Feb 1901** Capper's Reef Co.: 18 ton crushed, 7 oz gold [10]
- Sept 1902** Map shows Capper's Reef Company's property - W boundary runs through the head of Launceston Gully, N boundary runs along Norris' Gully and S boundary along Hermit's Gully - workings shown include old shaft, tunnel, shallow workings and open cut on the crown of the hill; two tunnels driven E into the hill - Norris' tunnel is driven from the very head of Launceston Gully, and there is another smaller length of tunnel shown starting further down Launceston Gully; the V.W.S race runs along the N boundary and also touches on the W boundary of the property. [75]
- 1903** The Capper's Reef Company's lease adjoins that of the Specimen Reef Company, and throughout its full length well-defined centre country can be traced by surface outcrops and reef workings. The present company's old shaft, which was intended as a prospecting shaft rather than for an engine shaft, was sunk near the crest of a spur on the watershed between Norris' and Launceston Gullies, on the eastern side of, but closely adjacent to centre country, to a depth of 220 feet. In tunnels driven south from the northern slope of

the hill payable stone was obtained from saddle reef and legs. The shaft...continued to 219 feet, where water-level was met with; work in this shaft was then stopped for want of suitable appliances to cope with water. Work on this lease was suspended until recently, when a start was made at a depth. At the head of Launceston Gully, two tunnels (Norris') started to intersect the reef from the west stopped before reaching centre country. [55]

**1990** Going to Cappers Reef, Moonlight Pine Plantation. Used to be several large slate quarries which were worked in the early days, incl ... After Dark quarry (now almost filled in), Gentle Annie, and Break of Day.

Cappers Reef/Cappers Hill - some workings still survive...an open cut, some mullock, also a tunnel driven E into Cappers Hill. Tunnel in good condition, must go in 200 to 300 feet.

Other gullies near Cappers Reef include Smith's and Hermit's gullies.

Pine Plantation - 1919 was the first pine planting, and right over in the back corner was the last planting in 1929. There were 1300 acres planted. [Whose idea was it?].well, I will tell you...Sir Harry Lawson, he was a big man in Castlemaine (barrister and solicitor)...he got into Parliament and then became Premier of Victoria. Around the end of the First World War, this was one of his projects...was to plant this to supply work for the soldiers coming home. Well, the government could see that they were going to have thousands of idle men, so they started this. Well, people reckoned they were mad, planting pine on these hard rocky hills. Yet it turned out successful. It was only a stab in the dark because they didn't know. Pine growing was very young then, Creswick was about the only place going at the time. It created a bit of work and kept the returned men quiet. It was all hand work. Lots of roads put in since by bulldozers, and a lot of the old slate quarries filled in. Everything's been bulldozed about. [72]

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**7.5** **APLIN'S REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Gully, Launceston Gully

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**Aug 1861** Capper's Reef Co. lease at head of both Specimen and Launceston Gullies (grid ref. 566969-566975). Working Capper's and Aplin's Reef. [1]

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**7.6** **LONG GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Faraday Parish, Specimen Gully, Mosquito Gully, Specimen Gully Reef

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**22 July 1886** Lease No. 786 or 1786 crosses Long Gully, working Specimen Gully Reef. [30]

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**7.7** **BELLTOPPER REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Gully

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**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**7 March 1898** A German has been driving a tunnel 50 feet into a hill on the Belltopper line and has come across a reef 5 feet thick, showing gold all through the stone. [37]

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**7.8** **CRANKY NED'S REEF**

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<b>Sept 1871</b>	The Shellback, Hermits, Fortuna, Henricks, Lauriston, Granite, Cranky Neds, Warren's or Turnbull's, Gordon's, and other reefs in this locality are being worked, in most cases, by companies. [10]
<b>6 Nov 1871</b>	North Warrens Railway Reserve Co. (Bibby, Walter and Noble) joins Warren Reef Co. - driving from shaft. [37]
<b>Dec 1871</b>	Warren and Co.'s Claim has been purchased by a company, who are erecting a 15-inch cylinder engine, 12 stampers, &c., thereon; their shaft is 52 feet deep, their reef 14 feet thick, easily broken, trial crushings from the body gave 32 oz. 14 1/2 dwts. from 74 tons. The North Warren's shaft is 80 feet deep; their level, 34 feet westerly, is on the reef, which, as in Warren's is large and shows gold. [10]
<b>March 1872</b>	On Warren's Reef, Barker's Creek, a very complete plant, including a 12-head battery, is nearly completed. At Barker's Creek, on Warren's and Crankey Ned's Reefs, shafts are being sunk on each side of the Railway Reserve. [10]
<b>Sept 1872</b>	The four extensive plants being erected last quarter, viz., the Warren's Reef, Devonshire, Lewis's Amalgamated, and Chewton United, have been completed, and working very satisfactorily so far as the machinery is concerned, but it will yet take some weeks before the main shafts and levels are sufficiently advanced for supplying quartz from the lodes; in each case the sinking is being pushed forward with three shifts of men. [10]
<b>March 1875</b>	The Englishman's and Warren's Company's machinery have been sold and removed from the district. [10]
<b>June 1884</b>	...from Warren's Reef, O'Connor and Co. crushed 9 tons, yielding 13oz. 16 dwt. [10]

**7.11 HERMITS REEF**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1871</b>	The Shellback, Hermits, Fortuna, Henricks, Lauriston, Granite, Cranky Neds, Warren's or Turnbull's, Gordon's, and other reefs in this locality are being worked, in most cases, by companies. [10]
<b>March 1872</b>	The Specimen Gully Extended, the Imperial, the Hermit, the Lady Barkly, the Cappers, and many other companies throughout the division, are engaged in sinking shafts, or driving tunnels or levels, very few breaking out quartz. [10]
<b>Sept 1902</b>	Map shows Capper's Reef Company's property - W boundary runs through the head of Launceston Gully, N boundary runs along Norris' Gully and S boundary along Hermit's Gully - workings shown include old shaft, shallow workings and open cut on the crown of the hill; two tunnels driven E into the hill - Norris' tunnel is driven from the very head of Launceston Gully, and there is another smaller length of tunnel shown starting further down Launceston Gully; the V.W.S race runs along the N boundary and also touches on the W boundary of the property. [75]

**7.12 LAURISTON REEF**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1871</b>	The Shellback, Hermits, Fortuna, Henricks, Lauriston, Granite, Cranky Neds, Warren's or Turnbull's, Gordon's, and other reefs in this locality are being worked, in most cases, by companies. [10]

**7.13 GORDON'S REEF**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1871</b>	The Shellback, Hermits, Fortuna, Henricks, Lauriston, Granite, Cranky Neds, Warren's or Turnbull's, Gordon's, and other reefs in this locality are being worked, in most cases, by companies. [10]

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<b>7.14</b>	<b>LADY BARKLY REEF</b>
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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Aug 1861</b>	Now being prospected by sixteen French and Italians. [1]
<b>June 1871</b>	The Little Quartz Hill, the Shicer Reef, the Greater Ox Reef, Lady Barkly, and many other of our old reefs are again occupied and very good prospects being obtained. [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	The Lady Barkly Reef is worked by two companies, one of who is applying for lease and now raising payable quartz. [10]
<b>March 1872</b>	The Specimen Gully Extended, the Imperial, the Hermit, the Lady Barkly, the Cappers, and many other companies throughout the division, are engaged in sinking shafts, or driving tunnels or levels, very few breaking out quartz. [10]

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**7.15****GRANITE REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen & Launceston Gullies

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b> <b>1859</b>	one claim working, 2 miners, 320 feet claim [10] Granite Reef was opened in 1859 when the whole length was rushed. Each claim yielded fine gold, most of which could be washed from fissures between the quartz and granite. [1:1861]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Granite Reef No. of claims: Extent of claim: No. of men employed: Extent of Reef prospected: 1,200 feet [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	The Shellback, Hermits, Fortuna, Henricks, Lauriston, Granite, Cranky Neds, Warren's or Turnbull's, Gordon's, and other reefs in this locality are being worked, in most cases, by companies. [10]
<b>Dec 1871</b>	The Granite Reef, on boundary of granite formation, Barker's Creek, is being prospected; sinking very hard with quartz leaders. [10]

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**7.16****SPECIMEN FLAT**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Gully, Union Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Aug 1861</b>	Only partially worked, in consequence of quantity of underdrainage. Gold patchy. [2]

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**7.17****RIGBY'S HILL**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Union Gully, Specimen Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Aug 1861</b>	Workings - surface to 10 feet. Gravel and conglomerate cement contains payable gold. [2]

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**7.18****UNION GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Flat, Rigby's Hill

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>8 June 1855</b>	During the week Barker's Creek, in the neighbourhood of the Union Inn, has been 'rushed' by a party of Chinamen, who to the number of three or four hundred have been very diligently, if not profitably, surfacing over a wide extent of ground. The rush is said to have been occasioned by three or four Celestials finding on one day last week as much gold as brought them in the enormous sum of £4 5s which great success induced the migration of so many of their brethren. [47: p.3]



**Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 13 puddlers  
3 puddling machines [10]

**Aug 1861** 3 dams, 3 puddling machines (grid ref. 541979-543979). [2]

<b>7.19</b>	<b>HARD HILL (later known as Old Hard Hill)</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Union Gully, Union Flat
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>6 July 1855</b>	Our old friend, 'Black Jack' who had been so successful in the gully which bears his name, began to try the surrounding country, and finally bottomed a hole on an adjacent hill [Hard Hill?...] forthwith as if by magic... up sprung about 500 men and marked out the adjoining ground. [47: p.2]
<b>7 Sept 1855</b>	There does not appear to be any falling off as yet in the produce of Hard Hill. [47: p.2]
<b>Aug 1861</b>	Sinking to a depth of 8-17 feet. Conglomerate and gravel. [2]
<b>7.20</b>	<b>WATTLE GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Aug 1861</b>	Large garden with one structure shown. [2]
<b>7.21</b>	<b>LAUNCESTON REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Launceston Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 2 miners, 320 feet claim [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Launceston Reef No. of claims: Extent of claim: No. of men employed: Extent of Reef prospected: 500 feet [10]
<b>7.22</b>	<b>HEINRIECH'S REEF OR HENRICK'S REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Launceston Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	2 claims working, 4 miners, prospecting [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Henrick's Reef No. of claims: Extent of claim: No. of men employed: Extent of Reef prospected: 400 feet [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	The Shellback, Hermits, Fortuna, Henricks, Lauriston, Granite, Cranky Neds, Warren's or Turnbull's, Gordon's, and other reefs in this locality are being worked, in most cases, by companies. [10]

<b>7.23</b>		<b>DEVONSHIRE REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Church and Company [10]	
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Higgins [10]	
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Barge [10]	
<b>March 1868</b>	On the Devonshire Reef, Barge and mate average nearly 4 1/2 oz. per ton. [10]	
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Barge [10]	
<b>10 June 1871</b>	Devonshire Reef Co. - down 123 feet (will go to 150 ft). [37]	
<b>June 1871</b>	The Devonshire Reef Company has sunk their engine shaft 150 feet, erected a sixteen horse-power engine with pumping gear, &c., and will commence driving along the reef. [10]	
<b>26 July 1871</b>	Devonshire Co. - opening ceremony for engine - shaft sunk to depth of 140 ft. [37]	
<b>March 1872</b>	On the Devonshire and Sebastopol Reefs, where water has much impeded work, first-class machinery is being delivered; whilst upon the lines of reef, new poppet-heads, whims, whips, &c., indicate the sites of new main shafts. [10]	
<b>June 1872</b>	The Devonshire Company has sunk to 250 feet, and is driving north and south in a well-defined reef showing gold. They are improving their pumps to sink 50 feet deeper. [10]	
<b>8 July 1872</b>	North Devonshire Amalgamated Co. - will open out at 100-ft level. Castlemaine North Devonshire Gold Mining Co. - 125 ft deep. [37]	
<b>Sept 1872</b>	The four extensive plants being erected last quarter, viz., the Warren's Reef, Devonshire, Lewis's Amalgamated, and Chewton United, have been completed, and working very satisfactorily so far as the machinery is concerned, but it will yet take some weeks before the main shafts and levels are sufficiently advanced for supplying quartz from the lodes; in each case the sinking is being pushed forward with three shifts of men. [10]	
<b>Dec 1872</b>	The Devonshire Reef Company has sunk a main shaft to 210 feet. The 200-foot crosscut easterly has been driven 72 feet, and struck a reef, containing course gold; thence a connection is made with the old 150-foot level. Their passes are full of quartz, and they have every prospects of profitably employing their extensive machinery, to which they have added a 10 horse power engine for winding only. [10]	
<b>March 1873</b>	The Devonshire Reef Company has nearly completed the erection of a 25 horse-power engine, with extensive pumping, winding, and crushing machinery. Their engine-shaft, levels, reservoir, and housing are now in progress, and 600 tons of payable quartz is raised ready for crushing. [10]	
<b>June 1873</b>	The Devonshire Company has obtained 802 oz. from 590 tons of quartz, obtained from their 200-foot level...the shaft is being sunk deeper in water, over 6,000 gallons per hour having to be raised. The mine and plant are in excellent order. [10]	
<b>Sept 1873</b>	The Devonshire Company...at the bottom of their shaft - 294 feet - has just cut an extra rich lode. The Duke of Devonshire to the south and the north and North Amalgamated Companies to the north are persevering, with every prospect of soon discovering continuations of the same lodes. [10]	
<b>Dec 1873</b>	The deepest mines in this division are - [5th] the Devonshire, at 304 feet, both driving and stoping in gold-bearing stone. Some of our mines have become dividend-paying, as the Caledonia, Devonshire, Little Nuggetty, Volunteer, and some private companies. [10]	
<b>9 Jan 1874</b>	Devonshire Gold Mining Co. - directors would recommend that 3 batteries of 5 heads of stamps each be at once obtained and erected as an addition to the present 10 heads, to be worked by a separate engine and boiler; the present engine would thus be relieved of much of its work, and would do all the necessary pumping and winding from present levels. [37]	
<b>Dec 1874</b>	The Devonshire Company is extending their levels south, at 200-foot level having a reef, one foot thick, charged with sulphurets of iron, copper, &c. [10]	
<b>6 Jan 1876</b>	The Devonshire Tribute Co. - About the 14th August, an arrangement was made by which we took the whole of the Duke of Devonshire Company's mine on tribute for ten years at the rate of 7 per cent. on the gross yield of gold; we also arranged with the Devonshire Reef Gold Mining Company (No Liability) to allow us to use the shaft and levels of the	

	mine for the purpose of raising stone from the Duke of Devonshire Company's mine for the moderate amount of 1s per ton. [37]
<b>March 1876</b>	The Devonshire tributers, after driving nearly 500 feet, at 300-foot level, have abandoned the venture as non-payable. [10]
<b>June 1876</b>	The Devonshire mine has become the property of a few men, who are considering the best way to develop its riches in depth. [10]
<b>Dec 1877</b>	The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
<b>March 1880</b>	One engine and plant (the Devonshire) has been sold and is being removed to the Maldon division. [10]
<b>Sept 1885</b>	In the Devonshire Reef old workings was found 7 tons, yielding 29oz. 1 dwt. [10]
<b>Sept 1891</b>	Machinery valued at £2,000 has been erected by the Devonshire Company in order to work the old Devonshire Reef.[10]
<b>1891-1903</b>	In consequence...of expensive management and the flow of water from old workings, the returns were unprofitable and the company ceased operations before the ground was properly tested. Since then a few small parties have 'fossicked' about in shallow workings, where large bodies of stone are proved, but very little work has been carried on. [55: p.24]

**7.24****TONGUE'S REEF OR FORTUNA REEF**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1850s</b>	This reef, the richer surface portions of which were worked during the alluvial rush of the fifties, was practically abandoned until...1860. [55: p.25]
<b>August 1859</b>	One claim working, 5 miners, Fortuna Mining Association [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes] Fortuna Mining Association, Tongue's Reef, 600 yards, projected. [10]
<b>July 1860</b>	The Fortuna Company, which, like many of its co-existents, was rejected and disbelieved in by the public, has so far succeeded admirably. A few practical miners, believing in its auriferous character subscribed and worked the ground, and formed themselves into a company liable to £10 per share, £3 of which was paid as a first instalment; with this capital they executed the lease, and commenced operations, the first 30 tons yielded 69 oz., out of which they returned the capital subscribed in the form of a dividend; they have since raised a quantity which has yielded over 6 oz. per ton. [10]
<b>mid 1860</b>	As [the reef] had been opened to a depth of 100 feet by former holders, by means of shafts and a tunnel, the company had only to break the quartz and run it out by tramway. [55: p.25]
<b>17 Sept 1860</b>	Fortuna - 206 tons yielded 1.3 oz per ton - total yield for last two months - 265.75 oz. [37]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	The Fortuna Company is being re-constituted and its sphere of operations enlarged so as to erect crushing machinery. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	The Fortuna Quartz Mining Association has been re-formed under Ireland's Act, the new company (having purchased the claim and plant of the old company for £2,060) have started with a capital of £5,000, in £1 shares, and have entered into contracts for the excavation of a reservoir and the erection of steam engine, crushing machinery, pumping and winding gear, &c.; whether the new company survive the erection of machinery is doubted by some of the old shareholders who are consequently selling out. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Tongues Reef No. of claims: 3 Extent of claim: 560 feet No. of men employed: 6 Extent of Reef prospected: 900 feet 4 dwt. to 6 oz. per ton. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Fortuna Company No. of claims: Lease Extent of claim: 1,800 feet No. of men employed: 14 Extent of Reef prospected: 960 feet [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	The Fortuna Company has their boiler, pump, and stamping machinery on the ground. [10]

- Dec 1860** Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include]  
Fortuna Company  
Area of Lease: 12 acres 1 rood 20 perches  
Amount of Capital: £10,000  
Machinery: Sixteen horse-power engine, eight stamps, pumping and winding gear erecting  
Value of machinery: £1,637  
Miners now employed: 16  
Men lately employed: 23  
Gold of Value realised by Company: £1,139 8s  
Dated: 31 August 1860  
Remarks: Machine being erected and reservoir excavated [10]
- Feb 1861** The Fortuna Company's machinery is erected, but cannot be started until a supply of water is obtained - rainfall being the only water source. [10]
- March 1861** The Fortuna Company has a few men employed opening the mine, but cannot commence active operations without a supply of water. [10]
- May 1861** The Fortuna Gold Mining Company's machinery, of a light useful character, started on the 25th April. [10]
- Oct 1861** The Fortuna, for a short time yielding well, is now suffering decline, and will probably share the fate of its sister (Capper), being under the same management. [10]
- end 1861** The Fortuna Quartz Mining Association...maintained profitable yields until near the end of 1861, when a decline set in and the company ceased operations without any further prospecting. [55: p.25]
- May 1862** Public Companies - Fortuna Quartz Mining Association, Specimen Gully, Barkers Creek.  
Area and Title - 500 yards from north to south, held under lease.  
Machinery - The Company have a 12 horse-power engine; 10inch cylinder, stroke 2ft 6in; boiler, 17ft by 4ft, driving 2 batteries of 4 stamps each. The barrel is a Cornish barrel, with cams intended for 3 batteries, but the third battery is not yet erected.  
Amalgamation - Ripple and copper plates.  
Remarks - The Company was formed for the purpose of purchasing and working the ground held by the Old Fortuna Company, and erecting machinery...Crushing commenced about the 2nd of May last, and ceased the beginning of November, owing to the difficulty of getting in calls. The management was engaged in suing for the recovery of them at the time of our visit. Pending the settlement of this litigation, the plant and the ground have been taken by a party of miners on trial, with a view to an ultimate tribute arrangement. One crushing of 25 tons on 7th December last gave them 31 1/3ozs.; but this was an early patch. It does not say much for the mining enterprise of this Association, that they are beaten out of the lower workings through having no perpendicular shaft from which to raise the surface water that has found its way into the claim. The reef has been wrought on the underlie; but a perpendicular shaft of 45 feet on the side of the hill would reach the bottom of the lowest workings. There is a tramway from the reef to the stamps' platform. [59]
- June 1866** At Barker's Creek, a continuation of the Fortuna Reef, going southerly 12 claims, 2,880 feet have been taken up with good prospects [10]
- Sept 1871** The Shellback, Hermits, Fortuna, Henricks, Lauriston, Granite, Cranky Neds, Warren's or Turnbull's, Gordon's, and other reefs in this locality are being worked, in most cases, by companies. [10]
- Sept 1871** In September, 1871, in consequence of payable results being obtained in the Specimen Reef and Capper's Reef mines adjacent, prospecting operations were again carried out on this line, a new company sinking a main shaft 130 feet, besides a number of shallow trial shafts, without any payable results being obtained. [55: p.25]
- 25 Oct 1871** Kent Quartz and Gold Mining Co. - will sink 100 ft shaft. [37]
- Dec 1871** The Fortuna Company are down 130 feet, whilst numbers of trial shafts are being sunk around the locality. [10]
- June 1875** On several of the lately abandoned reef leases excellent prospects have been obtained, as with the Fortuna, Palmer, 36 oz. from 6 tons. [10]
- Dec 1875** Many of our old lines of reef are at present unworked, as the Sebastopol, Caledonia, Volunteer, Specimen Gully, Dead Cat, Fortuna, and others. [10]
- March 1878** In March 1878, the reef was again taken up, and although prospects were good, nothing payable, in bulk, was obtained. [55: p.25]
- Sept 1883** At Specimen Gully, the Castlemaine Flagging Company, in excavating at the south end of their slate-flagging formation...met with a southerly continuation of the Fortuna quartz reef, carrying coarse gold. [10]
- Sept 1884** The Fortuna water-wheel and battery is nearly completed... [10]
- 22 July 1886** Fortuna Reef crosses Specimen Gully - Lease 2401 and mineral leases 235, 455 and 719 all belong to the Castlemaine Slate Paving Company. These leases stretch from north of Specimen Gully to south of Launceston Gully. (mid grid ref. [Specimen Gully] 560980) [30]

<b>7.25</b>		<b>NATHAN'S GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 4 puddlers, 4 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 8 tub and cradle workers 1 puddling machine [10]	
<b>7.26</b>		<b>MILKMAN'S FLAT AND MILKMAN'S GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Barker's Creek	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 2 tub and cradle workers [10]	
<b>June 1864</b>	A small rush occurred to ground formerly prospected in Milkman's Gully, and a considerable quantity of heavy gold obtained, but the gully being narrow was soon exhausted. [10]	
<b>Sept 1864</b>	The new rush to Milkman's Gully ... continues, easy gold being found for nearly a mile in length. Pieces of gold from 2 to 14 dwt. each have been found in the gully, much water. [10]	
<b>Sept 1861</b>	New workings, Milkman's Gully - Europeans: 21 ordinary miners [10]	
<b>June 1868</b>	In alluvial mining there is nothing of importance to report...and small rushes in Milkman's Flat and Campbell's Creek employ a few miners with only poor results. [10]	
<b>7.27</b>		<b>MOSQUITO GULLY &amp; REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Barker's Creek	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Mosquito Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 3 Extent of Reef prospected: 720 feet [10]	
<b>6 Oct 1863</b>	Poor crushing results. [37]	
<b>June 1868</b>	New Reefs in Mosquito Gully - A flat lode has been opened, from which splendid specimens, as heavy as 1 oz. each, have been taken: no crushing yet made. [10]	
<b>7.28</b>		<b>BLACK JACK'S GULLY OR HICKMAN'S GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Specimen Gully, Uncle Billy's Gully, Harcourt	

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>15 June 1855</b>	A new rush occurred this week to a place called Hickman's Gully... Hickman's Gully stretches through six or seven miles of auriferous looking country, one end touching on a range to the northward of Moonlight Flat. [47: p.3]
<b>22 June 1855</b>	This new rush is situated about a mile this side of Harcourt, a short distance to the right of the Bendigo road. The gully is about three miles in length, and is a continuation of Specimen Gully. We have to apologise to the gentleman of colour who initiated the rush, for stating in our last that the place was called 'Hickman's Gully', the new auriferous region having been christened 'Black Jack's Gully', after the illustrious founder, or rather finder. Jack informs us that he had been working on the spot with his mate for three weeks before he was discovered by the public at large, and during that interval he washed two ounces to the tub. The entire produce of the stuff raised from the bottom of the hole was scarcely less remunerative, but the lead was particularly narrow, being only from four and a half to seven feet in width. A great number of holes have been sunk, both above and below Jack's claim, but as yet the lead has not been struck, either towards the head of the gully or in the flat below.
<b>6 July 1855</b>	Twenty feet shicers have therefore been sunk by several parties, and many are dissatisfied in consequence. A few holes are yielding two and three pennyweights to the tub. There are at present about 150 persons on the ground, but at one time there were 500 at work...we should say the place will be nearly deserted in a few days. At present the locality may scarcely be said to have had a fair trial. [47: p.2] Our old friend, 'Black Jack' who had been so successful in the gully which bears his name, began to try the surrounding country, and finally bottomed a hole on an adjacent hill [Hard Hill?...]forthwith as if by magic...up sprung about 500 men and marked out the adjoining ground. [47: p.2]
<b>Dec 1861</b> <b>Sept 1864</b>	Mining population: Black Jack's & Uncle Billy's Gullies - 81 alluvial workers [10] No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Black Jack's and Uncle Billy's Gullies - Europeans: 4 puddlers, 35 ordinary miners [10]

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**7.29** **UNCLE BILLY'S GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Barker's Creek, Black Jack's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>3 August 1855</b>	We may mention as a coincidence, that a respectable fellow townsman sunk a hole, three years ago, in Uncle Billy's Gully, which proved an absolute shicer; this hole is within fifty feet from the spot from whence the seventy-five ounces were taken a few days since. [47: p.2]
<b>Dec 1861</b> <b>5 Jan 1864</b>	Mining population: Black Jack's & Uncle Billy's Gullies - 81 alluvial workers [10] Guier and Co - taken up 320 ft lease Bennet and Co. - taken up 320 ft lease [37]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Black Jack's and Uncle Billy's Gullies - Europeans: 4 puddlers, 35 ordinary miners [10]

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**7.30** **HARCOURT**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Mount Alexander Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>late 1851</b>	We arrived at the township of Harcourt, which, it is not generally known, is one of the oldest inland townships in the Colony. [17: p.10]
<b>late 1853</b>	The road from Castlemaine to Harcourt I thought the prettiest I had ever walked. The creek meandering along the roadside, and the magnificent trees under the shade of which we rested, reminded me greatly of some places at home. [20: p. 39]
<b>June 1869</b>	On an isolated surface hill at Harcourt a reef 3 feet wide has been opened; three crushings have averaged 10 dwts. per ton, 23 carats fine. Several claims are in work, with every probability that the reef will extend through the adjacent granite country. [10]

- June 1881** At Harcourt, the Catherine Reef Company finds their Exhibition pump to answer admirably; it raises about 3,000 gallons of water per hour. [10]
- June 1882** An increased number of men are engaged quarrying and working granite, at Mount Alexander, Harcourt. [10]

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**7.31** **MOUNT ALEXANDER REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Harcourt

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- | <b>DATE</b>       | <b>HISTORY</b>   |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>19/7/1857</b>  | Reefs being worked: Bolivia, Town, Eureka, Lower Wattle Gully, Specimen Hill, Mt Alexander, Golden Point, Dirty Dick's, Old Specimen Hill, Sebastopol, Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. [37]  |
| <b>Dec 1880</b>   | The Mount Alexander Reef has been again taken up by a strong party of men, who are sinking an engine shaft. [10]   |
| <b>March 1881</b> | On the Mount Alexander Reef, Harcourt, the shaft, at 88 feet, went through the granite into mixed schist country, carrying a vein of lava, with soft blue slate on its face. This, it is supposed, will lead to a second formation of quartz. [10] |



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**7.32**
**CHINAMAN'S FLAT**


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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Barker's Creek

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**DATE**
**3 August 1855****HISTORY**

Barker's Creek - A heavy rush has now set in to these new diggings, and the population is little short of a thousand. The diggings are close to a lofty range somewhat resembling Bryant's ranges at Tarrengower. The discovery of the surfacing fully accounts for the large number of Chinese here; for some months, upwards of four thousand celestials have been located in the various gullies. About three thousand celestials were working a few days ago on Chinaman's Flat, which adjoins the European rush. [47: p.2]

**ZONE 8: MOONLIGHT/PENNYWEIGHT FLATS AND ENVIRONS****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>8.1</b>	Napier's Reef	<b>8.2</b>	Lady Gully	<b>8.3</b>	Nicholson's Gully
<b>8.4</b>	Racehorse Gully/Reef or German Banner Reef	<b>8.5</b>	Nicholson's Reef	<b>8.6</b>	Lucknow/Nthumberland Rf
<b>8.7</b>	Dog Leg Gully/Reef	<b>8.8</b>	Sebastopol Reef	<b>8.9</b>	Shicer Gully/Hill
<b>8.10</b>	Lever/Lion Point	<b>8.11</b>	Moonlight Flat	<b>8.12</b>	Moonlight Reef
<b>8.13</b>	Hundredweight Gully/Hill	<b>8.14</b>	Fiddler's Reef	<b>8.15</b>	Pennyweight Flat
<b>8.16</b>	Burns's Gully	<b>8.17</b>	Cemetery Gully/Reef	<b>8.18</b>	Great Britain Reef
<b>8.19</b>	Greaterox Reef	<b>8.20</b>	Jumper's Reef	<b>8.21</b>	Dirty Dick's Gully
<b>8.22</b>	Magenta Reef	<b>8.23</b>	Shicer's/Cadzow Reef		

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**8.1 NAPIER'S REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Specimen Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	2 claims working, 6 miners [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Napier's Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 2 Extent of Reef prospected: 540 feet [10]

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**8.2 LADY GULLY**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Moonlight Flat, Sebastopol Reef, Great Britain Reef.

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1852</b>	In 1852, [Lady Gully] was opened up by the discovery of rich alluvial, and several parties had no difficulty in securing competences. Many Germans gathered there, hence the original company was known as The Germans. [74: 10/8/1910]
<b>1854</b>	I then returned to Moonlight Flat, and, from what the police call "information received," or, as the diggers would say, "laid on," I and two others set to work on a quartz reef in Lady Gully, now known as "The Sebastopol Reef." There commenced my first experience in quartz mining, if it can be called such. I prefer giving the details of this to my tub and cradle work, as it may prove suggestive, if not interesting, at this particular time, seeing it is our only hope for the future, and will ultimately prove a source of wealth more permanent and useful than gold mining in the alluvial... [At Tarrengower, Christmas 1854] ...we broke up with hammers... we left the tailings in the gully, intending to wash them over again, as we could not save all the gold... We were without knowledge or experience to turn such a discovery to proper account, there being no machinery for crushing or amalgamating. [19: p. 26]
<b>9 Nov 1855</b>	The quartz reef running across Lady's and Dirty Dick's Gullies, Moonlight Flat, continues to be worked with vigour, and the line of reef is taken up a mile in length, extending north and south of the rich claims on the south side of Lady Gully... [47: p.2]
<b>1855</b>	Returning to Lady Gully to find it rushed. This time some good patches were obtained. We sank two holes on the south end of the hill. No doubt many here will remember the interminable disputes, and police court cases of "assault and battery" which took place between two men named Goss and Nathan, brothers-in-law. They had a good patch in leaders, for I saw, taken out of their claim, apiece weighing 21 dwts. of solid gold. After five months of unprofitable labour, we left Sebastopol Hill. [19: p.26]
<b>23 May 1856</b>	15 ton yielded 156 oz. [37]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 2 tub and cradle workers. [10]

- 1860's** The richest of the shafts were Elfer's, a crushing from which gave 115 oz. from 55 tons, when water came in and flooded them out; and Straede's shaft, 120 feet deep from the surface...gave 2 oz. to the ton. This party paid between £900 and £1000 in 18 months in tribute money (royalty) in Dr. [Ir]win's shaft... The Bendigo Company's shaft, 280 feet, was rich in places, 400 tons yielding 800 oz. and 17 tons 32 oz. gold... Lewis Amalgamated was good, and Lewis "cutting" was exceedingly rich, but was only worked to a depth of 30 feet. [74: 10 August 1910]
- Aug 1861** On the NE side of the junction of Lady Gully with Nicholson's Gully is Irwin's horse-powered crushing machine (grid ref. 55HBU552962). [2]
- Aug 1861** Elfers & Co., 12hp engine and 12 stamps, situated on S side of Lady Gully's middle reaches. Associated with large dam across gully at this point. (Grid ref. 55HBU 553961) [2]
- Aug 1861** Buck & Co., 10hp engine, 12 stamps, situated on S side of head of Lady Gully. Associated large dam at head of gully. (Grid ref. 55HBU555961) [2]
- Nov 1861** Map shows Irwin's Horse Power Crushing Machine, on N side of Lady's Gully, where it joins with Moonlight Flat - 55HBU550962; Elfer's & Co's 12 HP Engine, S side of Lady's Gully, plus dam in gully - 55HBU552961; Buck & Co's 10 HP Engine, located at the head of Lady's Gully, associated with dam - 55HBU554961 [64]
- 1860's** [Although Ray Bradfield suggests there was a village in Lady's Gully in the 1850s, the mining survey map of Nov 1861 shows the gully occupied by quartz crushing machinery. Presumably the village post-dates this.] ...Let us begin at Lady Gully, where Stronells Road joins the main road. Nowadays, it is easier to walk the two hundred yards or so through the site of the old village, over the rough pavement to the beginning of the pine plantation. On the corner of Stronells Road, one cannot help but notice the massive walls of sandstone blocks around a field built up with manual labour. These formerly enclosed an orchard of fruit trees. On the hillside above stands the solid brick home built by the Lewis family... All the way along Lady Gully can be seen the traces of the houses and shops which formerly made up the village. The most extensive site was formerly occupied by the Sebastopol Hotel, a large business established by the Hoffman Family, who also operated a butcher's shop. They also held a gold-buyers licence. The Hoffmans left the old place about 1890, I'm told, and the building was gradually removed. About all that is left now are the large underground tanks, the domes of which can be easily seen.  
The old home just inside the pine plantation was built by a Mr Straede, and was the last home occupied in Lady Gully.  
The last home, which had any permanence here, was built by the Stronells. Mr Stronell was one of the first men on Moonlight, and he did very well. [82:pp 62-63]
- 10 Aug 1864** Lady Gully - Lewis and Co. - 50 tons yielded average 14 dwt/ton. [37]
- 12 Sept 1864** Reef on top of Lady Gully called Great Britain Reef. [37]
- Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Lady and Nicholson's Gullies - Europeans: 13 puddlers, 14 ordinary miners [10]
- 22 April 1878** A new reef to the east of good promise has been struck in Lady Gully by the Sebastopol Crushing Co., at a depth of 50 feet. It is between 6 and 8 ft wide and widening as it goes - gives 8dwt to the ton. [37]
- 14 June 1880** Sebastopol Crushing Co. - 4 oz 8 dwt. [37]
- 22 July 1886** Lease 1824 working Sebastopol Reef heads south from Lady Gully towards Dog Leg Gully (mid grid ref. 554960). [30]
- Dec 1904** Perseverance Co.: 340 ton crushed, 31oz gold [10]
- June 1909** Perseverance Co.: 57 ton crushed, 14oz gold - W. M. Bull, Legal Manager [10]
- Sept 1910** Perseverance Co.: 45 ton crushed, 4oz gold [10]
- c. 1910** The next show of importance is the Sebastopol, now kept going by a local company, called the Perseverance, managed by Mr W. McLeod Bull. The history of this mine, situated in Lady Gully, has been one of much variety... They are now at 180 ft, with hopeful prospects. There is a good plant and battery on the ground. [74: August 10. 1910]
- 1972** Further up, the large mullock dump in the gully marks the site of the Perseverance mine, which was one of the quartz shows operated by the Lewis's. [82:pp 62-63]

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**8.3****NICHOLSON'S GULLY**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Moonlight Flat, Lucknow/Hermitage/Nicholson's/Sebastopol Reefs; Hermit's Gully is a branch from Nicholson's Gully

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**DATE****HISTORY**

- October 1859** New prospecting - Hermitage, head of Nicholson's Gully - fine gold found by Barker's Creek Prospecting Association. [10]
- October 1859** Barker's Creek Prospecting Association have been prospecting several reefs, some of which are likely to yield well - Nicholson's Gully Reef, Bon Adventurer and the Hermitage Reef. [10]
- Dec 1859** The Barker's Creek Prospecting Association is prospecting with every probability of success and has some idea of enlarging their field of operation. [10]
- Oct 1860** Only one machine remains in Nicholson's Gully and a few tub and cradle-men. There are a number of springs in this Gully, which impeded mining operations. [8]
- Oct 1860** S end of Nicholson's Gully, N of Lady Gully - black soil 25-30ft deep, then 6-7ft of water drifts; very wet workings requiring several horse pumps. The gold was deposited on the bedding rock, and has been abstracted (mid ref. 551963). [8]
- Oct 1860** In S Nicholson's Gully, between Lady and Dog Leg Gullies (549959 to 551961), are a number of claims, including Griegg & Co. and Nicholls & Co. Also a garden on the W side and a store on the E. [8]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 6 puddlers, 5 tub and cradle workers.  
Chinese: 2 tub and cradle workers.  
3 puddling machines. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Hermitage Reef  
No. of claims: 1  
Extent of claim: 320 feet  
No. of men employed: 2  
Extent of Reef prospected: 460 feet  
Very fine, not proved payable. [10]
- Aug 1861** On the NE side of the junction of Lady Gully with Nicholson's Gully is Irwin's horse-powered crushing machine (grid ref. 552962). [2]
- Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Lady and Nicholson's Gullies - Europeans: 13 puddlers, 14 ordinary miners. [10]
- Sept 1902** Map shows Capper's Reef Company's property - W boundary runs through the head of Launceston Gully, N boundary runs along Norris' Gully and S boundary along Hermit's Gully [branch of Nicholson's Gully] - workings shown include old shaft, shallow workings and open cut on the crown of the hill; two tunnels driven E into the hill - Norris' tunnel is driven from the very head of Launceston Gully, and there is another smaller length of tunnel shown starting further down Launceston Gully; the V.W.S race runs along the N boundary and also touches on the W boundary of the property. [75]
- July 1907** Flagstone Quarry. The new quarry is in Nicholson's Gully, at a distance of about 1 1/2 miles E. 30 deg. S from the old quarry. This quarry has been opened up for a length of 200 feet. and to a depth of 50 feet. The flags do not split so readily as at the old quarry. An engine with planing and sawing machines is on the ground, but the quarry is not being worked. [44: 31/7/1907: p.171]

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**8.4****RACEHORSE GULLY & RACEHORSE REEF OR  
GERMAN BANNER REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Nicholson's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Aug 1861</b>	Two gardens shown, located across the mouths of two small gullies branching S at the head of Racecourse Gully [1]
<b>20 May 1864</b>	Straede and Co. - new reef discovered 100 yards west of Welcome Reef. [37]
<b>June 1865</b>	New Reef, Racehorse Gully - Racehorse Reef. [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Trevorah [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Trevorah. [10]
<b>June 1866</b>	The German Banner Reef is again occupied, and claims taken up connecting it with the Race Horse Reef. [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Morris. [10]

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**8.5****NICHOLSON'S REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Nicholson's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 3 miners. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Nicholson's Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 2 Extent of Reef prospected: 320 feet. [10]
<b>Sept 1902</b>	Map shows Cox's race crossing Nicholson's Gully, by a flume, just below the junction of this gully with Hermit's Gully; also shows a number of quarries - most westerly Bull's Flag Quarry, Bower's Flag Quarry (N side of gully), on opposite side to Bower's is Bower's 'Gentle Annie' Quarry, and at the head of the gully (most easterly) is Wilson's 'After Dark' Flag Quarry. [75]

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**8.6****LUCKNOW OR NORTHUMBERLAND REEF**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Nicholson's Gully, Dog Leg Gully, Lady Gully, Magenta Reef, Lucknow Reef, Dan O'Connor's reef.

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Lucknow Reef No. of claims: 2 Extent of claim: 520 feet No. of men employed: 4 Extent of Reef prospected: 1,000 feet [10]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	A new claim, in continuation of the now abandoned Lucknow reef, has been opened... Trevorah - first yield, near surface. [10]
<b>14 March 1862</b>	Lucknow Reef - still producing. [37]
<b>14 April 1862</b>	Lucknow Reef - Currie and Co. [37]
<b>29 Aug 1862</b>	Carter and Co. - 20 tons yielded 50 oz. [37]

**5 Oct 1862** McIntosh, Carter and Co. - have once more cut quartz in their claim. [37]  
**11 Dec 1862** Carter and Co., Currie and Co. [37]  
**17 Dec 1863** Curry and Co. - a new reef situated north-east of Capper's Reef. [37]  
**Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Northumberland: 1 claim, 3 men [10]  
**1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865:  
Trevorah [10]

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**8.7****DOG LEG GULLY & REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Nicholson's Gully, Moonlight Flat

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**DATE****HISTORY**

- 14 Sept 1855** Also a small gully leading into Dogleg gully, Moonlight Flat, has been opened up, and found rich enough to yield one pound of gold to the tub in some instances. [47: p.2]
- 29 Jan 1856** Dog-leg Gully, Pennyweight Flat - There is a large size puddling machine, 19 feet in diameter, in full work here; it is made of strong timber, and better constructed than usual. Twenty-five loads a day have been run through it. A hill has been opened in the neighbourhood, and a reef struck, but nothing yet discovered. [47: p.2]
- 26 Feb 1856** We had an opportunity of inspecting a fine sample of amalgamated gold, at the establishment of Messrs Stewart, Robins, and Co., quartz crushers, Wesley Flat. It weighs 981/2 ounces and was crushed from 7 tons of quartz from Dog-leg Gully, Forest Creek. [47: p.3]
- 23 May 1856** 7 tons yielded 98.5 oz. [37]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 6 puddlers, 4 tub and cradle workers.  
Chinese: 2 tub and cradle workers.  
2 puddling machines. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Dog Leg Reef  
No. of claims: 2  
Extent of claim: 280 feet  
No. of men employed: 5  
Extent of Reef prospected: 480 feet [10]
- 25 Jan 1861** There is a large body of mineral claims in Dog Leg Gully - but too far from machinery. [37]
- 15 Feb 1861** Lewis and Co. - struck rich lead on opposite side of the Gully. [37]
- Aug 1861** Elfer's & Co. gold mining lease, 2 acres in middle reaches of Dog Leg Gully (grid ref. 554956). Working Sebastopol Reef. [2]
- Aug 1861** To the N of Elfer's lease, at the head of a gully running from Dog Leg Gully along Sebastopol Reef, is a pumping engine and shaft, 162ft deep, on Smith's small lease (grid ref. 554958). Working Sebastopol Reef. [2]
- Aug 1861** South of Dog Leg Gully is a prospecting shaft, 52ft deep (grid ref. 551955). [2]
- Dec 1861** Mining Population: Jones's Flat & Dogleg - 47 working alluvial. [10]
- 19 Sept 1863** Strade and Co. - 7 ton yielded an average of 11 dwt/ton. [37]
- 5 Jan 1864** Daniels and Co. - taken up 320 ft lease. [37]
- Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Dogleg and Dirty Dick's Gullies - Europeans: 11 puddlers, 12 ordinary miners. [10]
- 18 Sept 1871** Dog Leg Gully (Sebastopol Reef) - McClinchy and Co. [37]
- Sept 1881** In quartz mining, a new reef has been opened in Dogleg Gully, by O'Connor and Co. It lies east of the Sebastopol Reef, and is supposed to be upon the Old Quartz Hill line. A trial of 10 tons yielded 26 oz. of gold. [10]

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**8.8****SEBASTOPOL REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**Dog Leg Gully, Lady Gully, Magenta Reef, Nicholson's Gully, Lucknow Reef, Dan O'Connor's reef.

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**DATE****HISTORY**

- 1852** In 1852, [the Sebastopol reef] was opened up by the discovery of rich alluvial, and several parties had no difficulty in securing competences. Many Germans gathered there, hence the original company was known as The Germans... [74: 10/8/1910]
- 1854** I then returned to Moonlight Flat, and, from what the police call "information received," or, as the diggers would say, "laid on," I and two others set to work on a quartz reef in Lady Gully, now known as "The Sebastopol Reef." There commenced my first experience in quartz mining, if it can be called such. [19: p. 26]

- 9 Nov 1855** The quartz reef running across Lady's and Dirty Dick's Gullies, Moonlight Flat, continues to be worked with vigour, and the line of reef is taken up a mile in length, extending north and south of the rich claims on the south side of Lady Gully. [47: p.2]
- 30 Nov 1855** Robert Staley and John Cleland have reported a new reef above Dirty Dick's and Lady's Gully, and have in consequence had double claims granted them. [47: p.2]
- 1855-60** We were the first to break ground at Sebastopol south, half-a-mile from Old Sebastopol, where we obtained a good prospect, but it ran out, as usual. At several other places I found gold in the quartz, and registered double claims for the discovery. The price of crushing was at first £7 and £5 per ton, and afterwards £4-10/- per ton. We carted a ton from the top of Moonlight Flat to the Colin Campbell machine at Winter's Flat, and although it yielded 4 oz. 4 dwts. to the load we only divided, after paying expenses of carting and crushing, &c., about 13/- per man of four in the party. [19: p. 27]
- 19/7/1857** Reefs being worked: Bolivia, Town, Eureka, Lower Wattle Gully, Specimen Hill, Mt Alexander, Golden Point, Dirty Dick's, Old Specimen Hill, Sebastopol, Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. [37]
- 5 Nov 1858** Worked by about 5 claims. [37]
- 26 Nov 1858** Opened three years ago - was abandoned after one year, but has since been rushed. [37]
- August 1859** Sebastopol Reef, Lady Gully - 8 claims, 40 miners. [10]
- August 1859** Steam Machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Elpit and Company, Sebastopol Reef, 12 h.p. 12 head of stamps, pumps, &c. [10]
- Dec 1859** In quartz crushing machinery, we have added during the month, an 8-horse power engine, driving 16 head of stamps, erected on the Sebastopol Reef, at a cost of £1,500. [10]
- May 1860** [Returns from quartz reefs] include Sebastopol Reef, Owner Lewis, Tons 2, Yield 179 oz. 12 dwt. 18 gr. [10]
- 21 Sept 1860** Reef divided into three claims: Hope and Co., Lewis and Co., and Irwin and Co. [37]
- 2 Nov 1860** Reef still averaging 80 to 100 oz per week. [37]
- 21 Dec 1860** Warwick and Co. - Depth 160 ft - southern end of Sebastopol Reef, where it dips towards Dog Leg Gully. [37]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Sebastopol Reef  
No. of claims: 10  
Extent of claim: 1,337 feet  
No. of men employed: 37  
Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Sebastopol Reef  
No. of claims: Lease  
Extent of claim: 412 feet  
No. of men employed:  
Extent of Reef prospected: 2,650 feet (claims and lease combined)  
Exceeding rich from surface to present depth of 160 feet. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz leases applied for and surveyed, but not yet demised: [include]  
Sebastopol Reef Company  
Applicant: Gordon and Company  
Area: 2 acres  
Feet on reef: 412  
Machinery: (proposed) Steam pumping machinery [10]
- 15 Jan 1861** Sebastopol Reef - Bendigo Co. has raised hopes of claim owners on the southern slope of the hill - 38 tons yielded 22 oz. Stockport Co. - 68 oz. [37]
- 25 Jan 1861** There is a large body of mineral claims in Dog Leg Gully - but too far from machinery. [37]
- 15 Feb 1861** Lewis and Co. - struck rich lead on opposite side of the Gully. [37]
- Feb 1861** The Sebastopol Reef continues to yield its weekly return from the old claims, and during the month additional claims have proved payably auriferous on both north and south continuations. This reef has long been one of the richest and most regular in yield in the division. [10]
- March 1861** On the Sebastopol Reef the claimholders have wisely combined for the purpose of erecting steam machinery for draining, having purchased, and are now erecting the engine and pumping apparatus formerly belonging to the Chapel Hill Company, Fryer's Creek division. [10]
- Aug 1861** Elfer's & Co. gold mining lease, 2 acres in middle reaches of Dog Leg Gully (grid ref. 55HBU554956). Working Sebastopol Reef [2]
- Aug 1861** A series of small leases run N-S for the length of Sebastopol Reef, from between Nicholson's and Lady Gullies to the northern boundary of Elfer's lease on Dog Leg Gully. Starting from the most northerly, these leases are labelled as follows: Horbat, Larsis, Fischer, Gaffney, Hoffman, Straeda, Bach, Irwin, Morris, Smith, Gordon, and Helfer's & Co. [2]
- Aug 1861** A shaft is located on Sebastopol Reef, S of Nicholson's Gully, on N boundary of Horbat's lease (grid ref. 55HBU554963). [2]



- Aug 1861** Smith's small lease is at the head of a gully running from Dog Leg Gully along Sebastopol Reef, and has a pumping engine and shaft, 162ft deep (grid ref. 55HBU554958). Working Sebastopol Reef. [2]
- Nov 1861** Map shows Pumping Engine located on Sebastopol Reef, Dog Leg Gully (grid ref. 55HBU554958)
- Dec 1861** The Sebastopol Reef, which for several years has been one of the most regularly remunerative in the district, has lately much fallen off in its yield, several claims being abandoned. [10]
- 26 Sept 1862** For many months, reef has been unproductive - attributed to lack of pumps - however, arrangements are being made. [37]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Sebastopol: 2 claims, 14 men [10]  
**1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865: Straede and Company, Lewis and Company [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Streae, Lewis. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Lewis and Sons, Staley and Co., Streae and Co. [10]
- Dec 1867** Straede and Co. have also ceased working Dr. Irwin's claim, their time having expired. [10]
- March 1868** On the Sebastopol Reef, Straede and Co. have found a new reef yielding nearly 1 1/2 oz. per ton, and have again taken Dr. Irwin's claim on tribute. [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Streae and Co., Lewis, Straide and Lewis [10]
- 4 Sept 1871** Straede and Co. [37]  
**25 Sept 1871** Lewis and Co. [37]  
**5 Dec 1871** Lewis Amalgamated claim - have 1130 ft (north to south) on lease passing across Dog leg Gully - sinking shaft 40 ft from where rich leaders were found at Straede's. [37]
- 19 Dec 1873** Golden Crown Co. - driving west from water level. [37]  
**Dec 1871** The Sebastopol Reef - All the old claims, except Straede's, have been purchased by the Lewis's Amalgamated Company, who are sinking a new shaft (now 55 feet), and purpose working energetically. The North Sebastopol Company is down to water 180 feet, and erecting a whim. Straede's Company and the Golden Crown Company are also sinking. [10]
- March 1872** On the Devonshire and Sebastopol Reefs, where water has much impeded work, first-class machinery is being delivered; whilst upon the lines of reef, new poppet-heads, whims, whips, &c., indicate the sites of new main shafts.  
 On the Sebastopol Reef, Lewis' Amalgamated Company is very busy sinking engine-shafts, erecting machinery, &c., on the south end of their lease, toward which all the gold-bearing lodes strike. Their working will drain this reef, and enable the Golden Crown, Straede and Co., the North Sebastopol, and other companies, to work below the water-level. [10]
- June 1872** On the Sebastopol Reef, Lewis and Co. are still sinking - now 330 feet - and are cross-cutting at 180 feet. The North Sebastopol is driving on the reef at 262 feet, finding a little gold.  
 The Golden Crown, Working Miners, and other companies on this line are prospecting. [10]
- 25 July 1872** Golden Crown Quartz Mining Co. - main shaft down to 90 ft. [37]  
**30 July 1872** Working Miners' Co. [37]  
**Sept 1872** The four extensive plants being erected last quarter, viz., the Warren's Reef, Devonshire, Lewis's Amalgamated, and Chewton United, have been completed, and working very satisfactorily so far as the machinery is concerned, but it will yet take some weeks before the main shafts and levels are sufficiently advanced for supplying quartz from the lodes; in each case the sinking is being pushed forward with three shifts of men. [10]
- March 1873** The Lewis's Amalgamated, Sebastopol Reef, are progressing very energetically with erection of 35 horse-power engine, with crushing, winding, pumping gear, &c. complete. They have an extensive mining plant and a proven rich mine. As soon as the poppet-heads, tram and pumps are finished, which they expect three weeks will accomplish, a start will be effected. [10]
- June 1873** The Lewis Amalgamated Company is still sinking; now down 270 feet, with improved indications. The North Sebastopol Company, at 210 foot level, struck a reef 7 feet wide, which shows gold. [10]
- Dec 1873** The deepest mines in this division are - [2nd] the Sebastopol, 413 feet, and crosscutting at 400 feet. [10]
- 28 Jan 1874** Working Miner's Co. - We also had 53 tons of the stone lying on top of the old shaft from the commencement, crushed at the Lewis' machine, and obtained 34oz from it. [37]
- March 1874** The Lewis's Amalgamated, at a depth of 400 feet, have cross-cut 128 feet east, and cut a reef 5 feet carrying a fine flucan on the hanging-wall. [10]
- June 1874** The Lewis's Amalgamated have driven on the 400-foot level; but in each face the reef is much broken and mixed with sandstone. They are now cross-cutting at 250 feet, having

- quartz leaders in the face; also driving along the reef at the 180-foot level, to which depth rich gold has been obtained. [10]
- 20 July 1874** Lewis's Amalgamated - The Bendigo shaft has been put in order, the ladderway repaired...so everything is ready to commence a level south to connect the workings. [37]
- 29 July 1874** Working Miners Co. - Your directors regret that on account of the falling off in the yield of gold calls had to be made to carry on the operations of the company, and unfortunately those calls have not been responded to as they had reason to expect, owing partly, no doubt, to the very depressed state of business in the district; this, however, has had the effect of determining them on suspending operations rather than incur liabilities which might be difficult, if not impossible to meet. We have applied for a suspension of the labour covenants for three months, and now leave it with you to determine as to the future working of the mine. [37]
- 15 Jan 1875** Lewis' Amalgamated Co. - Sixth Half-yearly Report - Your directors beg to report that during the past half-year a large amount of prospecting has been done in your mine, but without any satisfactory result being obtained. The 180 foot level, which had been commenced at the close of last half-year to connect the engine shaft with the bottom workings in the 'Bendigo Claim', was driven a distance of 186 feet, when a winze was sunk and a connection effected. About 100 feet of this level was driven in quartz, several trial crushings from which were made, but did not prove payable. Stopping was commenced, principally in the northern portion, and various crushings amounting in the aggregate to 356 tons, resulting in a yield of about 15 oz retorted gold. There being no appearance of any improvement, work was temporarily suspended in this level, until recently when a crosscut was commenced west to prospect the ground in that direction. It is now in 23 feet in hard sandstone, without any appearance of quartz... The machinery is in first-class working order; the batteries have been engaged a considerable part of the time in crushing for the public, 1586 tons have been put through, for which £586 3s 11d has been received. [37]
- Dec 1875** Many of our old lines of reef are at present unworked, as the Sebastopol, Caledonia, Volunteer, Specimen Gully, Dead Cat, Fortuna, and others. [10]
- Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
- March 1878** The New Caledonia, Dan O'Connell, Burns, Nimrod, Sebastopol, Fortuna, and other quartz reefs are being worked with better prospects [10]
- June 1884** On the Sebastopol Reef, Fischer and Co. have found a surface leader yielding splendid specimens. [10]
- March 1886** The Sebastopol mine and plant has been purchased by a Castlemaine syndicate, who purpose to properly work the same. [10]
- 22 July 1886** Lease 1824 working Sebastopol Reef heads south from Lady Gully towards Dog Leg Gully (mid grid ref. 55HBU554960). [30]
- C. 1910** The next show of importance is the Sebastopol, now kept going by a local company, called the Perseverance, managed by Mr W. McLeod Bull. They are now at 180 ft, with hopeful prospects. There is a good plant and battery on the ground. [74: 10/8/1910]

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**8.9** **SHICER GULLY/HILL**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Moonlight Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Oct 1860</b>	At junction of Moonlight Flat and Shicer Gully (546955), workings 24 to 30ft deep, originally very rich, now full of water and considered abandoned. The gold lying on the bottom has been 'driven out'. [8]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 3 puddlers, 4 tub and cradle workers 1 puddling machine [10]
<b>27 March 1871</b>	Shicer Hill - Bloomfield and Co. - at head of Moonlight Flat - 3 parties. [37]

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**8.10** **LEVER POINT [=LION POINT?]**

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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** part of Moonlight Flat, Dog Leg Gully

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**DATE**

**1 Dec 1854**

**Oct 1860**

**HISTORY**

Steam machinery has been fixed near Lion Point. [47: p.2]

Large paddocks excavated by Chinese now containing 9 to 14 feet of water. [8]

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**8.11****MOONLIGHT FLAT**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Lever Point

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1 Dec 1854</b>	The population of Moonlight and Pennyweight Flats is steadily increasing, and many applications have been made and granted to parties wishing for an increased area on the flooded ground. The arrangement seems to give general satisfaction. The higher and drier grounds are becoming comparatively deserted. Steam machinery has been fixed near Lion Point [= Lever Point?]. A universal spirit of cordiality prevails throughout these districts and licenses are with few exceptions taken out readily. [47: p.2]
<b>9 Feb 1855</b>	The diggers here...are as well or better paid for their labour than on many other parts of the district. The water appears to be reduced to tolerable limits, and the reason of this flat not being more extensively worked is not very clear. Perhaps it stagnates upon its old reputation of being waded with water. Certainly if any think it nearly worked out, that is a capital error, especially when the patchy character of the ground is considered. Wheel Castlemaine is still going on, but the time elapsed has been much too short to repay the great outlay that must of necessity have been incurred at first. [47: p.2]
<b>2 March 1855</b>	Store for Sale, on Moonlight Flat, with or without Stock. The Store is 14 x 24, sawn Deal Frame, fixed on ground-plates so as to be easily removed. [47: p.5]
<b>18 May 1855</b>	Wanted. Sawyers accustomed to circular sawing. Apply Steam Saw Mills, Moonlight Flat. [47: p.1]
<b>25 May 1855</b>	We have now to chronicle the discovery of a new gully on Moonlight Flat. The latter place was rushed at the commencement of the present week, a considerable quantity of gold obtained by surfacing. Two parties have taken out sixteen and eighteen ounces to the tub respectively... The greater part of the stuff has not yet been washed, but is being carted away to the puddling machines in large quantities. The gully is of small extent, and is now completely occupied; an opinion prevails, however, that the adjacent hill would yield richly to...deep sinking. [47: p.3]
<b>8 June 1855</b>	A Ruffian Shot. - On Sunday evening the notorious 'Dublin Jack', in company with some of the members of his gang, fell into dispute with a party of diggers on Moonlight Flat... Dublin Jack is well known to the police, and it is probable that some charge may be preferred against him, arising out of the many robberies in which he has been concerned. [47: p.3]
<b>20 July 1855</b>	Wanted, an experienced Man to work a Steam Engine... Address G.R.R. Vivian, Moonlight Flat, Forest Creek. [47: p.3]
<b>21 Sept 1855</b>	New ground has been opened during the last week in gullies branching off to the eastward of Moonlight Flat. [47: p.2]
<b>9 Nov 1855</b>	The want of crushing machines...is about to be partially remedied by the erection of one at Moonlight by Vivian and party. [47: p.2]
<b>21 Dec 1855</b>	The undersigned beg to inform miners and others that their powerful Stamping and Amalgamating Machinery (on the Chilian principle), situate at Moonlight Flat, Forest Creek, is now in working order, and they are prepared to crush Quartz at £6 per ton. Quartz carted Free within a distance of one mile. Vivian and Co. [47: p.3]
<b>28 Dec 1855</b>	Robert Burns Hotel, Moonlight Flat. [47: p.2]
<b>18 Jan 1856</b>	The machine belonging to Messrs Vivian and Co., situate at the head of Moonlight Flat is...on the Cornish principle, the stampers being more than ordinarily powerful. [47: p.3]
<b>5 Feb 1856</b>	The principal [Chinese] camp, at present is...on Moonlight Flat, Forest Creek. [47: p.5]
<b>October 1859</b>	New prospecting - Good Hope, near Moonlight Flat, taken up by the Moonlight Prospecting Company. [10]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	Between Lever Point and Shicer Gully (547959 to 546955) are claims held by White & Co., J. Beard, Lane, C. Beard, and Tonkin. These claims are worked by shafts and timbered adits, only the old 'headings' and 'bottoms' being payable. [8]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	Two stores situated E of Moonlight Flat, between Lever Point and Shicer Gully (547957). [8]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	At junction of Moonlight Flat and Shicer Gully (546955), workings 24 to 30ft deep, originally very rich, now full of water and considered abandoned. The gold lying on the bottom has been 'driven out'. [8]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	On Moonlight Flat, between Shicer and Hundredweight Gullies (546955 to 545952) a few puddling claims are shown, some Chinese, some European. Bulk of area is blank. Has been very much worked by Chinese, and abandoned. [8]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	Moonlight Flat between Hundredweight and Dirty Dick's Gullies (545952 to 548948) still being worked, mainly Chinese puddling claims. On the E side of this section of the Flat is a garden, store, hotel, butcher and bakery (c. 548949). [8]

<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 51 puddlers, 4 tub and cradle workers. Chinese: 126 puddlers, 24 tub and cradle workers, 4 tunnelling. 47 puddling machines. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	A party of Chinese puddlers on Moonlight Flat washed out £300 worth of gold. Some Europeans in an adjoining claim also obtained 13 oz. The ground in each case was so wet formerly that the diggers had never been able to dig it with advantage. [10]
<b>5 Jan 1864</b>	Moonlight Flat - all the abandoned claims on the ranges west of Moonlight Flat are again taken up. [37]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Moonlight Flat - Europeans: 16 puddlers, 4 ordinary miners - Chinese: 32 puddlers, 16 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c. Moonlight Flat 58 [10]
<b>Sept 1881</b>	Some parties have started to sluice Pennyweight and Moonlight Flats, with tail-water diverted from Forest Creek... [10]
<b>Dec 1882</b>	...an engine, two (steam-power) puddling machines, and other plant, have been erected by Tonkin and Co., to work the alluviums, at Moonlight Flat. [10]
<b>March 1883</b>	In alluvial mining, Tonkin and Co. have commenced their steam puddling operations at Moonlight Flat, but, as they have to move some twelve feet in depth of non-payable dirt, their progress is necessarily slow. [10]
<b>June 1883</b>	The Moonlight Flat Puddling Company obtained 50 oz. 16 dwt., proving that the old alluviums, after 32 years working, still contain some quantity of gold. [10]
<b>Dec 1883</b>	That the flats, after 32 years' re-working, still contain gold is proved by the Moonlight Flat Steam Puddling Company obtaining 219 oz. of gold during the few months they have been at work. The auriferous deposits in the Loddon deep lead have yet to be developed. [10]
<b>Sept 1884</b>	The Moonlight Flat Steam Puddling Company obtained 60oz. 10dwt. during the quarter, and paid £18 dividend. [10]
<b>March 1886</b>	NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS: Moonlight Flat 49 [10]

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**8.12 MOONLIGHT REEF**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Moonlight Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	2 claims working, 4 miners [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Moonlight Reef No. of claims: -- Extent of claim: -- No. of men employed: -- Extent of Reef prospected: 700 feet [10]

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**8.13 HUNDREDWEIGHT GULLY & HUNDREDWEIGHT HILL**

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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Moonlight Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Oct 1860</b>	Shallow ground once so rich as to be named Hundredweight Gully. [8]
<b>19 Sept 1863</b>	Dingwall and Co. - 60 ft depth - Moonlight Flat area - have passed through a leader dipping east. [37]
<b>Dec 1868</b>	Several new lines of reef are being prospected: [including]... At Hundred-weight Hill, Moonlight Flat, where the alluvium was exceedingly rich. [10]

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**8.14 FIDDLER'S REEF**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Moonlight Flat

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>22 April 1863</b>	Jeffries and Co. - 6 tons yielded 4 oz. [37]
<b>26 Nov 1863</b>	Shraed [Straede] and Co. - 18 ton yielded average 16 dwt/ton. [37]
<b>30 Nov 1863</b>	Jeffries and Co. still sinking - have reached 30 ft and expect to cut leader in another 10 ft. [37]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Fiddlers: 1 claim, 2 men [10]
<b>23 Nov 1864</b>	Straede and Co. abandoned their claim - too much water. Lewis and Co - taken up spare ground. Working old shaft about 40 feet deep. [37]
<b>March 1865</b>	A new reef has been discovered east of the Fiddler's Reef, beautiful specimens being obtained from the surface... [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865: Schell and others [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Schell [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Babcock [10]
<b>18 Dec 1871</b>	Fiddler's Reef Co. - drive is in 17 ft. [37]

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**8.15 PENNYWEIGHT FLAT**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1851</b>	About this time (November) the Government had fixed a camp at Pennyweight Flat. The diggers had commenced sinking for gold, but before this they were mostly surfacing, and the first hole was sunk on the hill where we first found the gold. The sinking first began in consequence of a Scotchman (I think his name was Turnbull) following the gold in his claim from the surface to the rock, on the edge of the cement. [17: pp.10-11]
<b>27 Oct 1854</b>	Auriferous Lands - A district meeting, summoned by the 'Diggers' Rights Protection Committee' of Forest Creek, was held on the afternoon of Monday, the 23rd instant, in the open air outside the 'Miners' Arms', Pennyweight Flat, principally for...ascertaining the sentiments of the diggers dwelling thereabouts and on Moonlight Flat, in reference to the queries...as to granting leases or otherwise to companies, of portions of the alleged 'worked out' auriferous land of Mount Alexander. [47: p.5]
<b>1 Dec 1854</b>	The population of Moonlight and Pennyweight Flats is steadily increasing, and many applications have been made and granted to parties wishing for an increased area on the flooded ground. The arrangement seems to give general satisfaction. The higher and drier grounds are becoming comparatively deserted. Steam machinery has been fixed near Lion Point. A universal spirit of cordiality prevails throughout these districts and licenses are with few exceptions taken out readily. [47: p.2]
<b>8 Dec 1854</b>	Forest Creek - The lower part - that is, Pennyweight and Moonlight flats - is increasing in population, and daily applications for increased areas are being made. Thirty-one parties, varying from three to ten, have already been granted the increased claims. Permission to erect puddling machines is daily being applied for, and the miners generally doing well. [47: p.2]
<b>9 Feb 1855</b>	Some parties are doing very well on this flat. Nuggets of one and a quarter ounces have been [found] on the western side of the flat, rather high up, towards Moonlight. As much as eight ounces to the tub has in one or two instances been washed. It is understood that, taking the flat throughout, there is still about an hour and a half daily wasted in baling... [47: p.2]
<b>13 April 1855</b>	The old ground at Pennyweight and Wesley Hill is turning out well, and the rejected tailings of the ordinary miners are eagerly sought after by the puddlers, who find it exceedingly remunerative.

Pennyweight Flat Cemetery - A medical gentleman has given us information of the existence of a nuisance in the above burial ground, which is likely to cause disease. It appears the bodies are interred only four feet, the ground is rocky, and the stench arising therefrom intolerable. The depth of each grave ought to be at least eight feet. [47: pp. 2-3]

- 10 Aug 1855** Some good ground has been discovered at the foot of Pennyweight Flat, and some Chinese have made a move in that direction. [47: p.2]
- Oct 1860** Upper portion of Pennyweight Flat (544947 to 544943) is 9 to 14 feet deep of alluvial deposits, with 4 to 6 feet fragmentary rock or headings; from frequent workings and immense under drainage this ground has been turned, and the Gold distributed through the mass which yields 10 to 12 gr. per load. As the ground is worked out the Reservoirs are enlarged.
- Oct 1860** A series of large reservoirs (mainly Chinese) ends at a large sludge pond (541942). [8] The whole of the lower portion of Pennyweight Flat (544943 to 546936 to 538938) varies from surfacing to 14 feet sinking. Has been much worked by both Chinese and puddlers but is now wholly abandoned as non-payable. [8]
- Oct 1860** Cutting No. 4 (made to straighten out course of Forest Creek) is made at Pennyweight Flat.  
Pennyweight Bridge at eastern end of the flat. (grid ref. 545936).  
Pennyweight and Moonlight Flats have 59 puddling machines and 3 quartz crushing machines. [24]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners:  
Europeans: 27 puddlers, 4 tub and cradle workers.  
Chinese: 23 puddlers, 49 tub and cradle workers.  
19 puddling machines. [10]
- 5 Jan 1864** Roberts and Co. - taken up 320 ft lease. [37]
- Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners:  
Pennyweight Flat - Europeans: 28 puddlers, 14 ordinary miners - Chinese: 46 puddlers, 44 ordinary miners [10]
- March 1866** Nearly all the Chinese have left Strathloddon and Guildford, and are taking up old ground at Campbell's Creek, Pennyweight Flat, and Golden Point. [10]
- Sept 1881** Some parties have started to sluice Pennyweight and Moonlight Flats, with tail-water diverted from Forest Creek. [10]

**8.16 BURNS'S GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Pennyweight Flat

**DATE HISTORY**  
**Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 6 tub and cradle workers. [10]

**8.17 CEMETERY GULLY & CEMETERY GULLY REEF**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Pennyweight Flat, Cemetery Gully Reef, Shicer's Reef

**DATE HISTORY**  
**August 1859** Cemetery Gully Reef - 2 claims, 4 miners. [10]  
**Oct 1860** Cemetery Gully wholly abandoned. [8]  
**Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men:  
Cemetery: 2 claims, 4 men [10]

**8.18 GREAT BRITAIN REEF**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Lady Gully

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**DATE**

**12 Sept 1864**

**HISTORY**

Reef on top of Lady Gully called Great Britain Reef. [37]



**8.19****GREATEROX REEF**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Dog Leg Gully, Mosquito Gully

**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**June 1871** The Little Quartz Hill, the Shicer Reef, the Greaterox Reef, Lady Barkly, and many other of our old reefs are again occupied, and very good prospects being obtained. [10]  
**Sept 1902** W. Baragwanath's 'Plan of the Chewton-Castlemaine Gold Field', for the Mines Department, shows Greater Ox Reef running south from Mosquito Gully to the head of Dog Leg Gully.

**8.20****JUMPER'S REEF**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Ophir Reef, Sebastopol Reef

**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**30 Nov 1860** Wieland and Co. - situated between Ophir and Sebastopol reefs - gave 2oz per ton. [37]

**8.21****DIRTY DICK'S GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Quartz Hill, Moonlight Flat

**DATE** **HISTORY**  
**8 June 1855** The coroner held an inquest on the body of a child four and a half years of age, named Eliza Adams, who was drowned in a water hole...at Dirty Dick's gully, Forest Creek, whilst playing with other children. [47: p.3]  
**14 Sept 1855** From Manchester Flat, on to Pennyweight Flat, water is too plentiful and gold too scarce for the former residents; but in the higher part of this last mentioned ground a small rush has taken place in Dirty Dick's gully. The sinking is nine feet, partly through ironstone. [47: p.2]  
**1855-6** Old Quartz Hill, at the head of "Dirty Dick's Gully," was the first quartz mine worked, I believe, in the district, and in the years 1855 and 1856 turned out remarkably rich. [19: p. 26]  
**17 April 1857** One of the oldest reefs on Forest Creek, opened four years ago by Wilson. Now being worked by: Fairbairn and Co. - averaging 6 oz/ton. Vivian and Co. - sunk 160 ft drove 100 ft and came across quartz (averaging 8-9 oz/ton). [37]  
**19/7/1857** Reefs being worked: Bolivia, Town, Eureka, Lower Wattle Gully, Specimen Hill, Mt Alexander, Golden Point, Dirty Dick's, Old Specimen Hill, Sebastopol, Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. [37]  
**Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 23 puddling, 7 tub and cradle workers. Chinese: 5 tub and cradle workers. 10 puddling machines. [10]  
**Sept 1864** No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Dogleg and Dirty Dick's Gullies - Europeans: 11 puddlers, 12 ordinary miners [10]  
**22 July 1886** Lease 2430, working Quartz Hill Reef, is centred on the head of Dirty Dick's Gully (mid grid ref 561943) [30]  
**March 1990** Head of Dirty Dick's Gully...not a great deal in this gully. There are some large tailing dams associated with the workings at Quartz Hill. Also, on the north side of the gully, opposite Quartz Hill, a house site with five separate structures and a garden.

Mainly sluicing evidence...and at least 2 building sites. [69]

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**8.22**

**MAGENTA REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Sebastopol Reef

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**DATE**

**HISTORY**

**Dec 1861**

1 claim of 320 feet worked by 5 men, 600 feet prospected. [10]

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**8.23**

**SHICER'S REEF OR CADZOW REEF**

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**Mining Division**

Castlemaine

**Associated Fields/Reefs**

Pennyweight Flat, Dirty Dick's Gully, Cemetery Gully

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**DATE**

**HISTORY**

**Feb 1860**

South of junction of Dirty Dick's & Scotchman's Gullies is the 12-acre lease of Maguire & Co., working Shicer's Reef (grid ref. 554943). [6]

**Dec 1860**

Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Cadzow, or Shicer

No. of claims: 1

Extent of claim: 320 feet

No. of men employed: 2

Extent of Reef prospected: 1,300 [10]

**June 1871**

The Little Quartz Hill, the Shicer Reef, the Greaterox Reef, Lady Barkly, and many other of our old reefs are again occupied, and very good prospects being obtained. [10]

**ZONE 9: GOLDEN POINT/CHEWTON GAZETTEER****ZONE INDEX:**

<b>9.1</b>	Quartz Hill/Reef	<b>9.2</b>	Scotchman's Gully or Little Quartz Hill/Reef	<b>9.3</b>	No Name Reef
<b>9.4</b>	Trewartha Reef	<b>9.5</b>	Sailor's Gully/Flat	<b>9.6</b>	Little Sailor's Gully
<b>9.7</b>	Englishman's Gully/Reef	<b>9.8</b>	Dead Cat/Sailor's/ Garfield Reef	<b>9.9</b>	South American Reef
<b>9.10</b>	Sheepshead Gully/Reef	<b>9.11</b>	German Gully/Reef	<b>9.12</b>	Walker's Reef
<b>9.13</b>	Vale's/Tambaroora Reef	<b>9.14</b>	Manchester Flat	<b>9.15</b>	Manchester Reef/Hill
<b>9.16</b>	Argus Hill/Central Reef	<b>9.17</b>	Golden Point (General)	<b>9.18</b>	Expedition/Mitchell's Pass
<b>9.19</b>	Nimrod/Donkey Reef	<b>9.20</b>	Burns/Welcome Reef	<b>9.21</b>	Little Burns' Hill/Rf
<b>9.22</b>	Diamond Reef	<b>9.23</b>	Golden Gully	<b>9.24</b>	Donkey Gully
<b>9.25</b>	Deadman's Gully	<b>9.26</b>	Shicer Gully	<b>9.27</b>	Commissioner's Gully
<b>9.28</b>	Tipperary Flat/Gully	<b>9.29</b>	Trapp's Gully	<b>9.30</b>	Trapp's Reef
<b>9.31</b>	Black Monday Reef	<b>9.32</b>	Coach Flat	<b>9.33</b>	Esmond's Reef
<b>9.34</b>	British American Reef	<b>9.35</b>	Bonnet Flat	<b>9.36</b>	Scramble Gully
<b>9.37</b>	Town of Chewton	<b>9.38</b>	Break-of-Day Reef	<b>9.39</b>	Pioneer Reef
<b>9.40</b>	New Chum Gully	<b>9.41</b>	Argus Flat	<b>9.42</b>	Chewton Reef
<b>9.43</b>	Poverty Gully	<b>9.44</b>	Poverty Reef	<b>9.45</b>	Poverty Hill
<b>9.46</b>	Little/Red Hill/Gully/Rf	<b>9.47</b>	Golden Gully	<b>9.48</b>	Chapel Hill Reef
<b>9.49</b>	Old P.O. Hill Gully/Reef	<b>9.50</b>	Brice's Hill	<b>9.51</b>	Hard Hill/Reef
<b>9.52</b>	Prospect Hill	<b>9.53</b>	Charcoal Gully	<b>9.54</b>	Surveyor's Reef
<b>9.55</b>	Adelaide Flat	<b>9.56</b>	Adelaide Hill	<b>9.57</b>	Butcher's Gully
<b>9.58</b>	Adelaide Gully	<b>9.59</b>	Wattle Flat	<b>9.60</b>	Wattle Gully
<b>9.61</b>	Deadman's Gully	<b>9.62</b>	Deadman's Reef	<b>9.63</b>	Long Gully
<b>9.64</b>	Mona Reef	<b>9.65</b>	Three Speck Gully	<b>9.66</b>	Whitehorse Gully/Flat/Reef or Reservoir Reef & Dinah Flat
<b>9.67</b>	Crocodile Reef	<b>9.68</b>	Blarney Reef		

**9.1 QUARTZ HILL AND QUARTZ HILL REEF**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Dirty Dick's Gully, Argus Hill Reef

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1852</b>	In 1852 the outcrops of quartz attracted attention first at the Old Quartz Hill, where 6 to 8 inches of its eastern face was broken off, roasted, and crushed with hand-hammers, yielding, with these primitive appliances, from 60 to 72 oz. to the foot super the surface soil, 6 to 14 inches deep, yielded from 10 to 16 oz. to the tub, with richer patches. [10: Dec 1886]
<b>1852</b>	The Old Quartz Hill Mine, discovered in 1852. In 1852 when the claims were only 8 x 8, thousands of ounces were obtained from the surface downward to 30 feet by breaking it with a hammer, and afterwards abandoned. [37: 22/7/1892]
<b>23 March 1855</b>	On the opposite side of Forest Creek, also, many are actively engaged in erecting puddling machines, particularly at Sailor's Gully and the neighbourhood of Quartz Hill. [47: p.2]
<b>25 May 1855</b>	Two or three quartz-crushing parties on the quartz hill are about to erect machinery. [47: p.2]
<b>29 June 1855</b>	During the week, a most promising hill has been discovered at Golden Point, near the residence of the Commissioner, and close to the Creek. The place is called Quartz Hill, par excellence, and a reef has been discovered which is expected to turn out particularly rich. As yet the locality has merely been prospected, but a careful examination has resulted in the finding of a great many rich and beautiful specimens of gold in quartz. These for the most part were picked up on the surface. We have, however, inspected several specimens taken from the face of the reef, which were far superior to any that have been exhibited...from any locality in this immediate neighbourhood. The flats and gullies which surround Quartz Hill have turned out very well; and it is believed that the find at the newly discovered locality will be sufficiently remunerative to warrant the assumption that the alluvial gold found in the lower grounds had been washed down from the hill. As a matter of course, Quartz Hill has been rushed...

- A circumstance occurred at the newly discovered Quartz hill, Golden Point, which exemplifies...the operation of the new regulations as applied to quartz mining. It seems a party of five individuals...discovered...a quartz vein of more than ordinary richness. In accordance with the clause of the Act regulating the leases of quartz claims, the party applied for a lease, paying down the deposit of twenty-five per cent. on £63 for a claim sixty-three yards in length. The Commissioner acting as Warden handed a receipt for the money, and the party went on their way rejoicing and took possession of their claim. Shortly afterwards the place became rushed, and several miners commenced their operations on the claim belonging to the original party. The Commissioner then read from the Act, and said that the original party was entitled to their claim, but unfortunately, from the defective state of the police force, he was unable to protect them in their rights. [47: pp.2-3]
- 6 July 1855** Quartz Hill - The miners who rushed this place last week have nearly all departed, and the original discoverers of the reef are left alone in their glory. By a curious coincidence it was found that the five claims allotted to the prospectors of the hill exactly took in the whole vein. The claim on the reef...is turning out very well, and from experiments made by the party, they anticipate a yield from the pulverised quartz of six ounces to the bucket. A crushing machine on new principle is being erected at the foot of the hill. [47: p.2]
- 1855-6** Old Quartz Hill, at the head of "Dirty Dick's Gully," was the first quartz mine worked, I believe, in the district, and in the years 1855 and 1856 turned out remarkably rich. [19: p. 26]
- 4 March 1856** Dissolution of Partnership. Quartz Crushing Machine...Morris and Co., Quartz Hill, Golden Point. [47: p.1]
- August 1859** 1 claim working, 2 miners, 320 feet claim [10]
- August 1859** Steam Machinery employed in quartz crushing Roberts and Company, Old Quartz Hill, 10 h.p. 8 head of stamps, &c. [10]
- August 1859** List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes]: Old Quartz Hill Company, Old Quartz Hill, 1000 yards, projected. [10]
- Nov 1859** The Old Quartz Hill has been finally purchased and operations commenced on this. [10]
- May 1860** The Old Quartz Hill Company have purchased, and are now busily erecting, a fine engine of 50 horse-power. At starting, only 24 head of stamps will be used, but the gear is adapted for increasing that number. Old Quartz Hill Reef, which report is fully proved by an adit just completed by the company, which is driven on a level with the passes into which the quartz will be tipped for stamping. The tunnel - a good piece of workmanship - is 281 feet long, the first portion principally through sandstone. [10]
- 6 July 1860** Old Quartz Hill Co. - upper adit driven into good lode (60 ft thick) [37]
- July 1860** The splendid plant belonging to the Old Quartz Hill Company is erected, and is the most substantial and powerful I have seen in the colony; the company are extending their operations, and increasing their chances of success by a second lease containing a strong auriferous lode, and also by occupying and working claims on the Little Quartz or Scotchman's Hill. [10]
- 13 Aug 1860** Old Quartz Hill Co. - alluvial surface of this hill was highly productive. [37]
- 31 Aug 1860** Tunnel 160 ft long from gully into reef - shaft 120 ft deep - a second tunnel running at right angles with the open cut. [37]
- August 1860** Old Quartz Hill Company's machinery is now working... The machinery just completed comprises a 50 horse-power engine capable of working to 80 horse-power, with 2 boilers 24 feet by 6 feet 6 inches; cylinder, 24 inch, 36 inch stroke; fly wheel, 16 feet diameter, at present driving 24 head of stamps, intended to be augmented to 50 head; self-feeding with 9 inch pumping gear.  
The amalgamating apparatus is 9 feet by 9 feet; ripples covered with copper, running thence into Meyerhoff's patent galvanic cradles, in which the oscillating action tends to bring all particles of gold into contact with the copper, and at the discharge of cradles are inclined planes with stops covered with copper.  
Two excellent dams are calculated to contain six months' supply of water.  
Not only will this mine and plant bear comparison with any in the colony for completeness and durability, but its cost (£4500) may afford a very profitable lesson to many of our public companies, the Old Quartz Hill Company being a private company, held by 14 shareholders, and having a capital of £25,000. [10]
- Sept 1860** The Old Quartz Hill Company realised, from fourteen days' work, 114 oz. 4 dwt. [10]
- Oct 1860** The Old Quartz Hill Company is continuing to extract from 60 to 70 oz. per week. [10]
- Nov 1860** The Old Quartz Hill Company are pursuing the even tenor of their way; no stoppage of any moment has occurred since they started; the mine has been thoroughly opened, and the whole of their splendid machinery works night and day without hindrance. They employ 45 men, and realise a weekly return of 55 to 60 oz. of gold. [10]
- Nov 1860** 1 puddling machine [10]

- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Old Quartz Hill.  
No. of claims: 3  
Extent of claim: 640 feet  
No. of men employed: 6  
Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Old Quartz Hill  
No. of claims: Lease  
Extent of claim: 1,800 feet  
No. of men employed: --  
Extent of Reef prospected: 2,400 feet [10]
- Dec 1860** Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include]  
Old Quartz Hill Company  
Area of Lease: 16 acres 1 rod 19 perches  
Amount of Capital: £2,500  
Machinery: Fifty horse-power engine, sixteen stamps, feed pumps, cradles, &c.  
Value of machinery: £4,550  
Cash expended: £6,800  
Miners now employed: 56  
Remarks: Four horses and men carting extra. [10]
- 8 Feb 1861** Old Quartz Hill Co. - continues to crush about 200 tons per week. [37]  
**Feb 1861** The Old Quartz Hill Company continue to employ about 30 men, and to keep their splendid machinery in motion, crushing about 200 tons per week; but as they are engaged in opening the mine by tunnels, shafts, and levels, everything goes to the mill, and the yield is not so great as otherwise would be in proportion to working expenses. [10]
- March 1861** The Old Quartz Hill Company having nearly exhausted their reservoirs are only crushing by day, but are otherwise busily employed sinking two deep shafts and driving levels...the reef [is] showing every inducement to persevere with promise of future success. [10]
- Sept 1861** Some of our older companies, as the Old Quartz Hill, Specimen Gully, Phoenix (late Eureka), and El Dorado, have been trying to let the mines and plant upon tribute, the success of the Bolivia Reef tributers inspiring great confidence in that system of working. [10]
- Nov 1861** Map shows Lease No. 17, Old Quartz Hill Mining Co. (grid ref 55HBU560941). Adjoining the N boundary of this lease are two machine sites - Davis's Quartz machine, on NW corner of lease 17 (grid ref 55HBU560941), and Old Quartz Hill Co.'s machine, on NE corner of lease 17 (grid ref 55HBU559944). Lease No. 84, the Old Quartz Hill Mining Company, is located north of lease No 17, between Scotchman's and Dirty Dick's Gullies (grid ref 55HBU560945)
- 31 Jan 1862** Vivian and Co. have struck rich mineral in their shaft at 140 ft. [37]  
**20 June 1862** Rowe and Co. - 14 tons yielded 7 oz. [37]  
**30 Oct 1863** Havilah and Co. have registered their claim for three months. [37]  
**June 1864** The Specimen Gully, the Old Quartz Hill and the Cumberland and Bolivia mines and machinery have been unworked, and several other plants only partially employed. [10]
- Sept 1864** The purchasers of the Old Hill Quartz Hill plant have commenced repairing their dams and machinery, preparatory to further operations. [10]
- March 1865** On the Old Quartz Hill, the Vulcan Company, who were just about to give up, have found payable stone. [10]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865:  
Vulcan Company, Ulster Company [10]
- March 1866** Continuations of the Nimrod and Quartz hill reefs were taken up for a long distance. [10]  
**1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
Vulcan Company, Hillman and Company [10]
- June 1867** On the Old Quartz Hill, the Ulster Company has struck the reef at 145 feet, averaging over 15dwts. to the ton. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
Ulster, Allen & Company, Vulcan and others [10]
- March 1868** The Old Quartz Hill Company's engine has been sold and removed to Ballarat. [10]  
**March 1869** On the Old Quartz Hill a fine engine, with winding and pumping gear for 300 feet in depth, is being erected; they purpose sinking to 400 feet forthwith. [10]
- June 1869** The Chewton Company, Old Quartz Hill, has their 300-foot shaft cleaned out and squared, a fine engine with pumping and winding gear completed, and sinking shaft to 400 feet. [10]
- Dec 1869** The Chewton Company has ceased sinking, and is now driving toward the reef, as also following the old workings; their "country" and prospects are improving. [10]
- June 1871** At the Old Quartz Hill, so long deserted, men are again employed, and excellent prospects obtained. Four companies of tributers have taken up the leases, and active operations have commenced. [10]
- 10 July 1871** Enterprise No. 2 - run of gold worked by No. 1 is 25 feet from boundary. [37]  
**Dec 1871** The Old Quartz Hill No. 1 Enterprise Tribute Company has come upon a gold-bearing lead of quartz; 226 tons from it has returned 244 oz. 6 dwts. of gold. Number 2 tribute are sinking to reach the same lode [10]

- March 1877** The Old Quartz Hill Tribute are sinking a winze upon the eastern face of the reef, expecting thereby to find the old runs of gold. [10]
- Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
- Sept 1881** In quartz mining, a new reef has been opened in Dogleg Gully, by O'Connor and Co. It lies east of the Sebastopol Reef, and is supposed to be upon the Old Quartz Hill line. A trial of 10 tons yielded 26 oz. of gold. [10]
- Sept 1881** The South Eureka, Kampf's, Old Quartz, and others of our old quartz reefs, are being again taken up. [10]
- March 1882** The General Garfield Company, situate upon the line, and midway between The Argus and Old Quartz Hill reefs, have a regular body of quartz. The reef cannot be followed without drainage machinery. [10] [see 9.8 for Garfield mine]
- 23 Oct 1882** A shaft is sunk 395 feet. [37]
- 19 March 1883** Old Quartz Hill - Have formed a company. Have timbered engine shaft to 175ft level. Opened out on course of lode north for Thompson's run and south for Wilson's run, with a well defined reef about 4 feet wide. [37]
- 24 April 1883** Main engine and Jollies shaft put into working order. [37]
- Sept 1885** The Old Quartz Hill Company have commenced work, and after careful survey determined to cross-cut west to intersect the gold. [10]
- 5 Oct 1885** The first general meeting of the Old Quartz Hill Mining Company, Chewton, No-liability, took place on Friday. It was resolved to form a Company under the No-Liability Clauses of the Mining Act. [37]
- 5 Dec 1885** Old Quartz Hill Co. The report stated that the operations of the present company had resulted in discovering the track of gold-bearing country above the water level, good prospects of coarse and fine gold being obtained with the dish. It was unanimously resolved that the directors should be authorised to procure machinery. [37]
- March 1886** The Old Quartz Hill Company is removing a plant to their mine. [10]
- 27 April 1886** Old Quartz Hill Company. It was determined by the directors to secure machinery... A good road has been made, and the main shaft logged up, ladders repaired, and contract entered for pulling down and re-erection of poppet heads ready for engine. An agreement has been entered into by the Board with Mr C.F. Nicholls. The cost of machinery inclusive of poppet heads now erected will be about £650.  
Mine Manager's Report. I find the shoot of gold that was so successfully worked by Messrs Thompson and Co. from the surface own to 120 ft was also taken out as might have been expected, and the mine since then enjoyed the local notoriety of being "pig-rooted" which I thoroughly agree with. Since then another party of gentlemen took up the mine, and started to work in a practical manner by cutting down and sinking the engine shaft to a depth of 396 ft from the surface...operations ceased - I believe with the distinct understanding that they should be resumed with a certain time; the said party paid a man to look after the property. Six or seven years he was so employed by them; work was not resumed and the party sold their machinery. You have a splendid poppet heads recently erected for working the deep ground. [37]
- 28 Sept 1886** Old Quartz Hill Co. - The shaft has been sunk to 394 feet. [37]
- 29 Sept 1886** Old Quartz Hill Co. - In consequence of our present crushing battery subsiding it is necessary to remove it to some more suitable position, and after careful consideration your directors came to the conclusion that it would be far cheaper to work by water instead of steam power, and have let a contract to Messrs Harkness and Co. for the manufacture of a 70ft water-wheel, and the excavations for the same are in a fair way of completion. The first work done was the fixing of the plunger, and timbering up shaft and finishing footway. [37]
- Sept 1887** Two other mines were reported to be floating in London, viz., "The Old Quartz Hill," by the Hon. Howard Spensley, and "The Railway Wattle Gully," by J. McIntyre, Esq., M.L.A. [10]
- 22 July 1892** To the Shareholders of the Old Quartz Hill Company, Chewton, Castlemaine.  
I have now succeeded in the flotation of your property, The Old Quartz Hill Mine, discovered in 1852, and you may say not only the richest mine at Chewton, but in the Colony. Below is the list of Shareholders, and I think you will agree with me that it is a good one. Applications are also invited for the purchase of a first-class Mining Plant, and when the Company's Engineer, Mr John Howell, of Ballarat, inspects and reports thereon, purchase will be completed, and tenders invited for its erection at once, you can rely on me pushing the work ahead. I don't see that we have any necessity to go to England to float our mining properties; we have plenty of money in the Australian colonies to develop all our mines, but it is not the flotation, it is the grand secret of getting the confidence of the public and retaining that throughout. I do not take up mines for the sake of shepherding. I go in wholly and solely for the gold. I manage mines. I show you as an example by being a large shareholder, as large as my circumstances will allow. How the residents of Castlemaine could have been so sleepy during this last 30 years to allow a property like that to be shepherded an unworked, I know not.

- In 1852 when the claims were only 8 x 8, thousands of ounces were obtained from the surface downwards to 30 feet by breaking it with a hammer, and afterwards abandoned. Subsequently, Fairbairn sunk it down to 50 feet, and picked it up again, and in one week obtained 60 lbs weight, and in 18 months cleared a profit of £18,000. It was again abandoned; and look at your own townsmen, with whose name you see on the list, the Messrs. Thompson Bros., Foundry of Castlemaine, from 1340 tons of quartz obtained 4166 oz of gold; and again look at McDermott Bros., Ford, Vivian and others, who obtained 20 oz to the ton. All the tailings afterwards yielding 1 oz to the ton. Every person, with the exception of the Company, who sunk their shaft to a depth of 390 feet when the water ran in, made their piles out of the claim. Does that show you that the gold has run out? No! but the Company's funds run out, so it is left for me to put you on the gold, and that I will do. Whilst the machinery is erecting I will be cutting down the shaft, as it is too small. [37]
- 29 Sept 1893** Old Quartz Hill Co. - Directors' Report: Since the last half-yearly meeting unforeseen circumstances had occurred; the closing of the banks and the stagnation of trade had been the means of 10,000 shares being placed on our hands, and out of that 3000 being from South Australia. At this time heavy bills had to be met, and if it was not for the renewed energy of your manager, assisted by my co-directors, your mine would have collapsed, but instead, it is coming to the front, and will be one of the greatest successes in the Castlemaine district... Mine Manager's Report - On taking charge of your mine on the 29th of May last I found the erection of the winding and pumping engine nearly completed, which work was pushed on and finished as soon as possible. After doing some surface work in connection with the cutting down of your shaft, such as putting up tram-road, erection of windlass and plat, &c., I started to cut down the shaft. A Wilson steam pump has been erected at the dam, which works admirably, to raise the water to the level of the tank. Tenders are being called for a set of pumps, likewise a capstan is being erected, as I don't anticipate cutting down much further without having water to contend with, therefore I will be ready to cope with it when the necessity arises. Your plant is good and efficient, second to none in the district, and will be put to work in a few days. M. Fern. [37]
- 30 Oct 1893** Old Quartz Hill Co. Yesterday a number of directors and shareholders assembled to witness the starting of the machinery, which has just been completed. This consists of a 35 horse-power engine, with a 20 in cylinder, the boiler being 28ft x 6ft 6in; this drives the winding and pumping plant. The engine and boiler were purchased from the Sebastopol Co., Ballarat. The winding and pumping is entirely new, and was procured from the Messrs Thompson, of the local foundry, and is built on brick piers. The machinery is of sufficient power to work to over 2000 ft. The drums are 8ft in diameter and are so adjusted that either can be used separately to wind at different levels; the whole is very complete, and reflects great credit on the contractors; the total cost of the plant is about £2000. The christening and starting of the machinery were entrusted to Mr Humphreys, one of the Melbourne directors, who in the orthodox manner christened the plant May, after one of Mr Price's daughters. The ponderous machinery started very smoothly amid the cheers of the spectators, and the blowing of the steam whistle. The plant is well housed in a substantial double-gabled building. [37]
- 17 Nov 1893** A Visit to the Old Quartz Hill.  
The lease is about 40 acres, traversed with reefs. The company commenced by cutting down an old shaft, and making the new one 11 ft by 4ft 6 in. It is now down about 200ft, and is, Mr Fern, the Mining Manager states, in sandstone country intermingled with quartz. At present, an old shaft is being opened up in the north end of the lease, where large results were previously obtained. The machinery includes a powerful engine, large boiler, pumping and winding gear, sufficient to sink to a depth of 2000 ft. The erection of the capstan is complete, and preparations are being made to put in lifts. Everything in connection with the mine is carried out by the company in the most substantial manner. The faith in the mine locally is very strong, owing to its former phenomenal yields. In 1854, with very rude appliances, between eleven and twelve hundred ounces were obtained; in 1855 over 3000 oz; and in the early part of 1856, enough to make up over 5000 oz, and from 700 odd tons only. New rushes at the time, and an influx of water caused the abandonment of the claim, the early debris of which is now payable. [37]
- 30 March 1894** Old Quartz Hill Co. Shaft has been cut down to 202 feet. During the past half-year I have cleaned out an old shaft 2000 feet north of your main one - this shaft was worked to 110 feet in the early days with profitable results. [37]
- 29 Oct 1894** Old Quartz Hill Co. - Main shaft cut down to 240 feet. [37]
- 12 May 1899** A prospectus was issued setting forth the yield of gold obtained by Messrs Thompson, amounting to 5063 oz. from 740 tons, procured from a 60-ft claim in 18 months. [37]
- 28 Sept 1890** The Quartz Hill Company's mine, near Castlemaine (says the 'Age') marks almost the central point in an auriferous belt of reefing country, which extends from Fryers Town on the south, to the Capper's and Specimen Reefs, about eight miles to the north... The Garfield Company's battery is only a short distance from the mine, so that the cost of carting and crushing is something less than 2dwt to the ton. [37]
- 21 Jan 1901** 66 tons yielded 41 oz 2-1/2 dwt. [37]

- Sept 1901** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: 143 ton crushed, 241oz gold [10]  
**Dec 1901** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: Thompson 10 head crushing plant [13: 164.01]  
 Thompson Cornish boiler, 22 feet by 6 feet; 120 pounds per square inch working pressure [13: 116.01]
- Jan 1902** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: Thompson 11.5 inch by 30-inch steam engine with Corliss valve gear [13: 165.01]
- March 1902** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: Thompson Seymour and Kemp's patent mining cage [13: 23.02]  
**1902** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: 10 head battery [12: p.28]  
**6 Jan 1902** South Quartz Hill - shaft is down 80 ft - it has been reported that an indicator has been struck in the shaft. [37]
- 2 April 1902** Starting the Quartz Hill Battery. The battery is...of the very latest design and is probably the best at the present in the State. The engine is a high pressure Corliss arranged so that she can be compounded when the battery is increased. She is 11 1/2-inch diameter by 30-inch stroke, running at a piston speed of 600 ft per minute. The fly-wheel is provided with a barring gear to allow of the engine being worked by hand in case of any adjustment being made to the battery. The battery had ten-head of stamps, each stamp weighing 1075 lb., and making 100 blows per minute. These stamps are far and away heavier than anything in the district the usual weight being about 700 lb. The framing is of massive iron and the boxes are of the Homesake (American) pattern. The camshaft is driven by belt gearing arranged with a lightening or jockey pulley to enable it to be stopped without stopping the engine. The tables are 5 ft 1 in. wide by 10 ft long, and are covered with 8 copper plates. Below the copper plates are two Whifley tables driven by counter shafting from the main battery...with the present 10-head it is estimated that 350 tons of stone can be crushed per fortnight. The plant is built on the model of the American and South African plants with modifications to suit colonial conditions. There is only one other battery of the same class in Australia. The house is lofty and the floor concrete with all pipes running underneath the floor, which is certainly a departure from existing methods. The retort and smelting furnaces and battery supply pump are of the latest design.  
 Mr J.S.M. Thompson, Chairman of Directors...gave a brief history of the mine, from the time it was first worked in 1856, when his brothers obtained 5800 oz. of gold from a 60 ft claim in 18 months. During the six months prior to 1st January last the present company crushed 665 tons for 945 oz. [47: p.3]
- 19 May 1902** North Quartz Hill Co. - shaft down 150 feet. [37]  
**21 July 1902** Owing partly to its proximity to the Quartz Hill mine, and partly to the merits of the property itself, a considerable amount of attention has been directed of late to the operations in the South Quartz Hill mine. The lease is an awkwardly shaped block of ground, lying due south of and adjoining the parent mine with an area of 11 acres. [37]
- 23 July 1902** Quartz Hill Co. - During the past six months the mine has been equipped with a first-class and thoroughly up-to-date crushing plant of 10 heads and Corliss engine, supplied by Messrs. Thompson & Co., of Castlemaine. The battery is giving entire satisfaction, the tonnage put through since its erection, viz., 3 months, being, we believe, a record for this State for a 10-head battery... All top works, including a first-class water supply for crushing purposes and all necessary settling pits for tailings have been completed... Since last half-yearly meeting, the engine shaft has been cut down 80ft, total from surface 315 ft. [37]
- July 1902** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: 740 ton crushed, 359oz gold [10]  
**10 Nov 1902** South Quartz Hill Co. - Started to sink a prospecting shaft 140 feet west of engine shaft, now down 10-ft. [37]
- 23 Feb 1903** North Quartz Hill Co. - work suspended. [37]  
**1903** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: First class modern 10 head battery; good winding and pumping plant [12: pp. 33,72]
- March 1903** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: 2280 ton crushed, 640oz gold [10]  
**29 June 1903** South Quartz Hill Co. - Stone in western cross-cut poor. [37]  
**23 July 1903** Quartz Hill Co. - [Directors' Report] showed a very large reduction during the past six months, both in the quantity and quality of the quartz. They had not been able to keep the battery crushing anything like full time. The falling off was equal to 1268 tons. Then again the return for the previous half-year was 7dwt 9grs per ton, and for the past half-year only 6dwt 3grs, or a falling off of 223 oz. On the other hand they had done a large amount of developmental work at considerable expense. In consequence of the decreased yield they had had to reduce the number of men in the mine. If the yield went on decreasing they would have to make still further reductions in the men, or make calls. They had tried during the past six months to keep away from calls. That was why they had not done as much developmental work as they would have liked. [37]
- Sept 1903** Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: 705 ton crushed, 113oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1903** South Quartz Hill Co.: 15 ton crushed, 1oz gold [10]



<b>Sept 1903</b>	Map shows large tailing dam in Dirty Dick's Gully; extensive open cut on the crown of the hill; at least six shafts, three of which are named (Fairbank's shaft, Quartz Hill shaft and Jolley's shaft); and a tunnel, with several branches. This tunnel is driven in from Dirty Dick's Gully. Also shown is the North Quartz Hill shaft, on the N side of Scotchman's Gully and South Quartz Hill shaft, on N side of Sailor's Gully (opposite Englishman's Gully) [75]
<b>20 Jan 1904</b>	Quartz Hill Co. - Directors' Report - Owing to the ore in sight being just below paying point the battery was run intermittently, and only 745 tons were crushed during the half-year, for a yield of 92oz 5dwts. During the half-year an air compressor and two rock drills have been added to the plant. Tenders were invited for sinking the main shaft 200ft, but your directors ultimately decided to carry out the work on wages...We started to sink the shaft with two shifts of men, and have sunk and timbered 28ft, making 456ft from surface. [37]
<b>29 Feb 1904</b>	Quartz Hill Co. - Shaft sunk total of 522 feet. [37]
<b>27 April 1904</b>	Perhaps the richest point opened was on what is now known as 'Quartz Hill'. This hill is situated at about half a mile to the north of Chewton, and its surface presents, a mass of quartz belonging to a system of wing like structure of the same, which has been exposed by the surface wear. The outcrop naturally attracted the attention of the early diggers, and it is said that mining in its shallow parts along a north and south distance of about a quarter of a mile, resulted in a yield of gold which totalled in value more than £100,000. The extraordinary richness of some of the quartz met with, caused the Quartz Hill to be known as one of the richest places in the district. Mr Jas. S. Thompson Senr. member of Thompson Bros. Firm of Foundry note, Castlemaine, relates that a party of which he was a working member, took out £18,000 worth of gold from shallow works in a length of claim that did not exceed 20 feet. If I am not mistaken, two registered Companies in succession, had a turn at deep sinking. Both appear to have taken the rich averages of yields, met with in early times, - yields from the quartz of rich patches, and sorted - as the average to be expected, and both suffered in consequence. The first venture soon retired under the shadow of a mortgage, I believe, and the second one is in possession at present. The latter is known as "The Quartz Hill Company" and it has a serviceable hauling and pumping Plant and a 10 head crushing mill, its main shaft has been sunk to a depth of 510 feet, and levels have been opened, and exploiting works conducted, at 235, 310, 41- and 510 feet from the surface. Certainly a tunnel was put into the hill from the west side as marked but the mining was also of the "gouging" class, in great masses of wing quartz of a gold bearing nature. [43: pp. 4-7]
<b>19 Sept 1904</b>	Work at Quartz Hill has been temporarily suspended. [37]
<b>1904</b>	Quartz Hill Gold Mining Co.: 10 head battery [12: p.37]
<b>21 Feb 1936</b>	Wattle Gully North Extended - the lease is situated at Chewton, on the Quartz Hill-Wattle Gully line of reef, about one mile north of the Wattle Gully mine. The lease has only been worked to a shallow depth, probably 140-ft. Mr Edwards [mining engineer]...considers that the possibilities of sluicing the surface deposits should be investigated. [37]
<b>6 March 1937</b>	In a report on the area of 120 acres comprising the Quartz Hill section of the Chewton goldfield, recently acquired by Chapman's Gold Mines N.L., Mr M.R. McKeown, mining engineer, states that the Quartz Hill is a large saddle reef... It is one of the largest reefs of the type located on the field. [37]
<b>1990</b>	Quartz Hill - lot of quartz has been taken away by Wattle Gully Company. Large open cut and shaft still visible. Tunnels driven into Quartz Hill from Dirty Dick's and Sailor's Gullies. [70]

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**9.2 SCOTCHMAN'S GULLY OR LITTLE QUARTZ HILL & REEF**

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**MINING DIVISION** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Sailor's Gully, Old Quartz Hill, Deadman's Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>c. 1856</b>	Shortly afterwards we sank two other holes; the first on the hill at the head of Scotsman's Gully, where, two years subsequently, we were informed that £1600 worth of gold had been taken out of the quartz near the surface, which we had neglected to prospect sufficiently. [19: pp. 26-27]
<b>August 1859</b>	3 registered claims. [10]

<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Little Quartz Reef No. of claims: 3 Extent of claim: 560 feet No. of men employed: 6 Extent of Reef prospected: 1,200 feet [10]
<b>June 1869</b>	In Scotchman's Gully two new lodes, from one of which quantities of specimens are obtained; but from these and several others no crushings have yet taken place. [10]
<b>June 1871</b>	The Little Quartz Hill, the Shicer Reef, the Greaterox Reef, Lady Barkly, and many other of our old reefs are again occupied, and very good prospects being obtained. [10]
<b>2 Oct 1871</b>	McClelland's Reef - in Scotchman's Gully - may be a continuation of Dead Cat Reef. [37]
<b>8 Oct 1898</b>	Little Quartz Hill. Many years ago a shaft was sunk at the head of Scotchman's Gully, or as it is now known, Little Quartz Hill (from its close contiguity to the Old Quartz Hill), situate about 3 miles east of Castlemaine, and nearly the same distance from Chewton. The shaft was sunk 60 feet and a drive put in. Good gold was then obtained by those at work, and the story told by some old identities of Chewton is that he claim was compulsorily abandoned in consequence of the underground workings collapsing. Just at about the same time, some copper plates and a billycan of rich specimens were reported as having been stolen from the Crown Nimrod mines and no trace of them could be found. It was generally stated upon the authority of Dame Rumour, that the person or persons who had abstracted the plates and specimens from the Crown Nimrod mine had 'planted' them in the drive of the shaft at Little Quartz Hill, and that it had collapsed before the 'plant' could be again secured by the guilty party. Of course, the story is given for what it is worth; but a singular feature of the present discovery is the unearthing, in the drive, of a couple of copper plates, and how they got there is not very mysterious if credence is to be attached to the foregoing. The long since abandoned drive was being cleaned out this week by two Chewton miners named Lipplegoes and Strong, when they first found the plates, and then the rich specimens. One of the specimens is believed to contain 2 oz. of gold, and the others are also very rich. It is hoped the find will prove a more permanent one, and that it will afford additional proof of the fact that the old reefs are still auriferous, and will handsomely pay re-working. [37]
<b>10 Oct 1898</b>	Little Quartz Hill. The flat leader struck by Lipplegoes and Strong is so very rich... [37]
<b>20 Oct 1898</b>	Little Quartz Hill. Lipplegoes and Strong, who are working near the Little Quartz Hill, had a crushing of 5 tons for 3 oz. 1 dwt. [37]
<b>5 Dec 1898</b>	Prince of Wales Birthday syndicate is sinking at Little Quartz Hill [37]
<b>26 Dec 1898</b>	Little Quartz Hill - Strong and party - 12 tons yielded 15-3/4 oz. [37]
<b>March 1990</b>	Driving from Welsh Village to Burns Hill line of working. Head of Scotchman's Gully - Great Ox tunnel, and a house site. [69] Scotchman's Gully - not much in this gully. It has been sluiced. There is the site of the North Quartz Hill mine...little remains here except mullock and site of shaft. Little Quartz Hill - has been pushed around by recent bulldozing. [70]

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<b>9.3</b>	<b>NO NAME REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Quartz Hill
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>24 Oct 1863</b>	New reef near Old Quartz Hill - sinking mainly through slate. [37]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Anderton [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Eisfelder [10]

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<b>9.4</b>	<b>TREWARTHA REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Sailor's Flat, Cemetery Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>October 1859</b>	New Prospecting. Trewartha Reef, Forest Creek, is crushing from 10 to 14 dwt. per ton. [10]



9.6		LITTLE SAILOR'S GULLY	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Sailor's Gully	
DATE	HISTORY		
19 Sept 1864	Hawkins and Co. (No. 1) - 26 tons yielded an average of 8 dwt. Jame and Co. (No. 1 south) - 11 ton yielded an average of 9 dwt. Badcock and Co. (No. 2 south) - 8 ton yielded an average of 4 dwt. [37]		
22 July 1886	German Gully and Little Sailor's Gully - Leases 2125, 2211, and 2187: Garfield Mining Company. Leases cross both Sailor's and Garfield Reef and the Central Reef. (mid grid ref. 562935) [30]		
1990	Ground sluicing on S slope of Little Sailors Gully. [70] Bert Archbold was a metallurgist. His eldest boy Peter worked with him...he's now dead...and his youngest boy, Harry, died last year. The Archbold workings go back a long way. Jerimah Archbold started the works and his son, Bert, took over from him... Another boy, Rex, he used to do a lot of cyaniding; he cyanided a lot over here at the Garfield. [re. cyanide tanks in tailing dam, Little Sailors Gully] - yes, that's them, on the edge of the road, that's the ones that Rex Archbold operated. My wife's brother worked for him, this is back in the 1930s. Bill Penny, with his horse and dray used to cart the stuff in. [72]		
9.7		ENGLISHMAN'S REEF AND ENGLISHMAN'S GULLY	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Sailor's Gully, Garfield and Central Reefs	
DATE	HISTORY		
29 Oct 1858	Sailor's Gully Reef (Englishman's) - Whitaker getting up to 9.5 oz per ton. [37]		
22 Dec 1858	Henry Whitaker - 7 tons yielded 14 oz - also crushed 13.5 tons for 180 oz. [37]		
July 1859	The Englishman's Reef, lately yielding such treasures, is now almost abandoned. [10]		
June 1859	A new amalgamator has been invented by a Forest Creek machinist (Whittaker). It consists of a small portable cylinder, revolving in a larger one containing mercury. The matrix is passed through the quicksilver, and discharged upwards. This amalgamator is being experimented with, and I hope soon record its efficiency. [10]		
August 1859	Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Whittaker, Forest Creek, 8 h.p. 2 pairs of Chilean rollers. [10]		
August 1859	6 claims working, 14 miners. [10]		
20 Dec 1859	Englishman's Gully 1 dam/2 puddling machines                      A'Gee    6C 1 dam/1 puddling machine                      C. King   4 Across the middle reaches of Englishman's Gully runs a lease of ten acres (aligned N-S) - the Englishman's Reef Company (mid grid ref. 564940) [31]		
end 1859	This reef was worked by a number of small claim-holders with profitable results until the end of 1859, and was then abandoned, the workings having reached water-level. [55: p.25]		
May 1860	Parties reporting quartz yield: Whittaker. [10]		
Dec 1860	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Englishman's Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 153 feet No. of men employed: 3 Extent of Reef prospected: 650 feet Two claims have been very rich. [10]		
1 Nov 1861	Walker and Co. has taken up a claim - 3 years ago, Whitaker and Co. obtained 400 oz. [37]		
26 June 1871	Englishman's Reef all taken up again. [37]		
June 1871	The Englishman's Reef is applied for under lease. [10]		
Sept 1872	On the Englishman's Reef, which, in 1859, was worked to water-level and yielded from 5 to 37 oz. to the ton, a 14 horse-power locomotive engine, for pumping and winding, has been erected; the shaft is 163 feet deep, the reef apparently thrown out of its course easterly, toward which the present owners are now driving. [10]		
June 1873	The Englishman's Company obtained from a small reef 6 oz. per ton from 6 tons, and are now sinking shaft to enable them to follow god. [10]		
Sept 1873	On the Englishman's Reef, so long idle, by the application of steam-wrought draining machinery, the ground has been drained, and a golden reef is being opened out. [10]		
Dec 1873	The deepest mines in this division are [9th] the Englishman's, fixing pumps at 280 feet, with rich quartz above. [10]		
15 May 1874	24 tons mined for yield of 41-3/4 oz. [37]		

<b>6 July 1874</b>	25 tons mined for yield of 12 oz 13 dwt [37]
<b>March 1875</b>	The Englishman's and Warren's Company's machinery have been sold and removed from the district. [10]
<b>March 1886</b>	The Garfield Company [Sailor's Gully]. In opening out at 254 feet, they drain the Central and Englishman's reefs, which are within their boundary, and now prove to be connected with the Garfield Reef. [10]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Lease 2569 is centred on Englishman's Gully, working both Sailor's and Garfield Reef and the Central Reef. (mid grid ref. 562938) [30]
<b>30 Aug 1886</b>	The Garfield Company first started with this lease, but have since greatly added to their ground by taking in 3 other leases, giving a total of over 50 acres in their present holding. On the last they took up some 20 acres, so as to include a reef known as the 'Englishman's', and which proved very rich near the surface. The Englishman's reef underlies west, and the Central underlies east. It is their intention to, as soon as possible, push on with the sinking, and at about 350 ft crosscut for the east back, and the Englishman's reef, which is underlying towards the shaft. [37]
<b>Sept 1902</b>	Map shows Englishman's Shaft, located just below V.W.S race. This race is a continuation of the race that supplied water to the Garfield water wheel. Also dam in gully upstream from the mine site. [75]
<b>1990</b>	Englishman's Gully - two lines of workings. The most easterly line contains an 'intact' mining site consisting of undisturbed mullock heap, deep shafts, stone building and possible site of chimney stack. Workings been cut by water race. On the most westerly line of workings is a disturbed site - shaft filled in, quarried mullock heap, but with the remains of one house and a blacksmith shop. [70]

<b>9.8 DEAD CAT/SAILOR'S/GARFIELD REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Sailor's Gully and Englishman's reef and gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>18 Jan 1856</b>	From Sailor's Reef, several tons, crushed and amalgamated...yielded 44 ounces to the ton. [47: p.3]
<b>21 March 1856</b>	A whim, capable of drawing up 120 gallons of water in three minutes, is now in full work at the back of the Manchester; it is the property of Mr Bickford the butcher, who, ten years ago, in England, invented a machine of the same description. It is worked by one horse. [47: p.4]
<b>28 March 1856</b>	Sailor's Reef, Back of Manchester Hotel - Mr Bickford and party have struck upon a reef 130 feet deep. [47: p.5]
<b>19 Nov 1858</b>	Near Sailor's Gully - 6-10oz per ton. [37]
<b>August 1859</b>	List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes] Mount Alexander Quartz Company, Sailor's Gully, 300 yards, working. [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	3 claims working, 14 miners, profitable. [10]
<b>20 Dec 1859</b>	7 small leases near the head of German Gully, running N-S - no names. Dead Cat Reef runs through these leases. (mid grid ref. 563937) [31]
<b>Dec. 1859</b>	In quartz crushing machinery, we have added during the month...a 10-horse power engine, with 8 head of stamps, erected on Forest Creek, in connection with the Dead Cat Reef, Sailor's Gully. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Dead Cat Reef No. of claims: 3 Extent of claim: 560 feet No. of men employed: 13 Extent of Reef prospected: 1,400 [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	In Sailors' Gully valuable specimens are found near the surface in new ground, the reef apparently being a continuation of Dead Cat Reef. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	In Sailors' Gully valuable specimens are found near the surface in new ground, the reef apparently being a continuation of Dead Cat Reef. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Companies/Parties crushing quartz & obtaining gold: Phillips - 5 ton yielded 10 dwt. of gold. [10]
<b>Oct 1861</b>	Parties crushing quartz: Marsh - 6 ton yielded 10 dwt 12 gr. [10]
<b>2 Sept 1863</b>	Bennet and Co. - 5 ton yielded average 6 dwts/ton. [37]
<b>19 Sept 1863</b>	Victoria Co. - shaft finished and driving commenced. [37]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Spencer and Company [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Spencer and Company, Gregory, James, Hocking, Smith. [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: James G. [10]

- June 1871** On a southerly continuation [from Old Quartz Hill], known as the Dead Cat Reef, 101 oz. 3 dwts. were obtained by prospectors; and other claimholders are finding good prospects. [10]
- 17 July 1871** Reef being worked by James and Co., Featherby, Williams and Co. (sinking, expects reef at 90 ft). [37]
- Sept 1871** On the Post-office, Nimrod, Argus, Dead-cat, and Burns reefs, shafts are being sunk to work the deeper leads. [10]
- 2 Oct 1871** McClelland's Reef - in Scotchman's Gully - may be a continuation of Dead Cat Reef. [37]
- 20 May 1872** Central Co. - working quartz in 150-ft level.  
South Dead Cat - 130 ft deep, soft country. [37]
- 21 May 1872** Great Extended North Deadcat Gold Mining Co. - driving being continued. [37]
- 17 June 1872** South Extended Dead Cat Co. [37]
- Sept 1872** On the North Dead-cat Reef, an 8 1/2 horse-power engine, with 6-inch pump and friction winding-gear has been erected. [10]
- Dec 1875** Many of our old lines of reef are at present unworked, as the Sebastopol, Caledonia, Volunteer, Specimen Gully, Dead Cat, Fortuna, and others. [10]
- Dec 1877** The Dead Cat is coming-to again. [10]
- Sept 1881** On the Dead Cat, Williams and Co. have found a strong body of payable auriferous stone crossing from thence to the Victoria Reef. [10]
- March 1882** The General Garfield Company, situate upon the line, and midway between The Argus and Old Quartz Hill reefs, have a regular body of quartz... The reef cannot be followed without drainage machinery. [10]
- 8 May 1882** A move is to be made in the General Garfield Mine, on the Dead Cat Reef, by some Sandhurst shareholders, who are so well satisfied...they propose putting up machinery on it. [37]
- 19 June 1882** Garfield Co. This company formed to work a reef discovered by a party of sluicers, who sank two or three shafts, one of which is down to water level at 60 feet. About 20 acres held on lease. [37]
- June 1882** The Garfield Company have been making necessary works for a reservoir, machinery, smithy, engine-shaft, &c.; and their prospects have been materially improved by Lamb and Co. - claimholders inside the company's lease - having found the reef at a depth of 40 feet, and from which splendid specimens are being obtained. [10]
- 4 Sept 1882** Garfield Co. The new shaft is near to that of the old Dead Cat Co. [37]
- Sept 1882** The Garfield Company has twenty-three men employed sinking an engine shaft and erecting machinery, &c. They purchased Archbold's crushing plant, but on testing the boiler, the tube collapsed under 41-lbs. hydraulic pressure. A new boiler and an 18-head battery, with iron frames, &c., is being fixed... [10]
- Sept 1882** The Wheal Margery Company has men employed erecting a water wheel for crushing. [10]
- 2 Oct 1882** Wheal Margery Co. hold a claim of about 10 acres between the Argus Flat and Garfield Co. Three distinct runs of quartz go through the ground, (i) South American, (ii) Dead Cat, (iii) Sheepshead. A number of shafts have been sunk on this line but none exceed 100ft. In every case quartz has been met with at intervals of 10ft to 20ft, and the whole of the claim is interlaced with flat leaders: at a depth of 80ft in the South American reef, a body of quartz 30ft thick, was worked and left, last crushing gave 3dwt to the ton. [37]
- 30 Oct 1882** The Wheal Margery is at the south, the Garfield in the centre, and the Lady Garfield that is to set in at the north. [37]
- 6 Nov 1882** Wheal Margery Co. - Receiving tenders to drive a tunnel 200ft. [37]
- Dec 1882** In mechanical appliances we have a new 18-head battery of superior description, with all necessary plant and housing, at the Garfield Quartz Mine, Chewton... Unfortunately, only four steam engines are employed in draining quartz reefs...[including]...the Sir Garnet Wolseley Company, shaft 145 feet deep, draining the Argus Reef. The Garfield Company has a Tangye pump, which serves them pending the erection of the usual pumping and winding machinery...  
The Garfield Company has proved to be the first successful new venture: - They started their machinery on the 6th December last, and on the 22nd, from 265 tons of quartz, they obtained 523 oz. of retorted gold, from which a 6d. dividend, equal to £750, was declared, and in four days of the holidays 116 tons of stone were crushed for 266 oz. of amalgam. As this company extends their workings...new bodies of auriferous quartz are discovered...and gold is showing frequently in all directions. [10]
- 8 May 1882** A move is to be made in the General Garfield Mine, on the Dead Cat Reef, by some Sandhurst shareholders, who are so well satisfied...they propose putting up machinery on it. [37]
- 4 Sept 1882** Garfield Co. The new shaft is near to that of the old Dead Cat Co. [37]
- 2 Oct 1882** Wheal Margery Co. hold a claim of about 10 acres between the Argus Flat and Garfield Co. Three distinct runs of quartz go through the ground, (i) South American, (ii) Dead Cat, (iii) Sheepshead. A number of shafts have been sunk on this line but none exceed 100ft. [37]
- 29 Jan 1883** Wheal Margery Co. - Driven tunnel 180ft. [37]

- 26 March 1884** Wheal Margery Co. - The tributers commenced work by sinking what is now called the 'central shaft' to a depth of 21ft below the level of the tunnel and then ceased work, when the directors decided to continue sinking the shaft and for that purpose accepted the tender of Williams and party at 11s per foot for 50ft. The shaft is now down 61ft. [37]
- 29 March 1883** Wheal Margery Co. - Since the registration of the company your directors have urged on the work in the mine, and have let two tributes to parties of six and our men respectively, who have met with fair success in opening up their operations, but unfortunately the water-wheel fell to pieces just as the tributers were getting into solid ground in their claims, and caused all mining operations to cease for the present. The wheel is now undergoing repair, and will be so strong as to dispense with all fear of another breakdown. Mr Yandell remarked that mechanics were very scarce in Castlemaine, and the person who erected the wheel at Fryers Creek was considered the best to employ again. Had the wheel been properly bound together it would not have fallen asunder. [37]
- March 1883** The Wheal Margery Company has two parties of tributers raising quartz for crushing... [10]
- March 1883** The Garfield Company...1,280 oz. of gold have already been obtained, out of which the company have paid for machinery, and also declared two dividends of £750 each. [10]
- 2 April 1883** Garfield Co. Mine Manager's Report. On taking charge on 3rd of June last, 1882, I found two or three small shafts had been sunk in centre of gully, varying in depth from 20 to 50 feet, and as none of these were large enough for winding, and also being so low, it was decided to sink a shaft entirely out of the gully, and of a size adequate for winding by machinery, and pumps if required; and the 1280 oz 15 dwt already taken out I think fully justifies the action of removing from the old spot to the new one. Present main shaft is 10 by 4, with two winding compartments, pumps and ladder-way. In our operations we had many drawbacks. Our first trouble was water, which was crippling us completely, but having secured a Tangye pump, and it doing its work well, we were saved from stopping; drives were then pushed on north and south, and providing it will only work to the present depth it will more than pay back the cost of it. Another trouble has been the inability to haul the dirt fast enough to grass; the horses have had just enough to do in hauling quartz to supply battery without hauling much mullock. This is being met by the erection of a double winding air-winch, and from the trials shall be able to get plenty of dirt to surface. Can now dispense with hired man and horse, which means something like £7 10s a fortnight. The No. 2 shaft has been sunk 75 feet to cut Lamb's stone, and from which payable crushings have been taken. A lot of stone is being opened up in this 400 yards of road to mine, two large dams, tailings shafts, a first class 18 head battery with iron horses, 12 horse power horizontal engine, a 28 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 6 inches best boiler, set of copper plates and blanket tables; the whole of which is covered by first rate engine house. [37]
- 23 May 1883** Madame Garfield Co. We are of the opinion that, with the payable results obtained by our neighbour, the Garfield Company, that before long we will be able to congratulate you on occupying a similar position. The work done for the half year is as follows: a shaft has been sunk 77 feet, 7 feet x 3 feet, also timbered, and ladderway put down to bottom. [37]
- June 1883** In quartz mining, the most energetic and successful companies are the Garfield... and Dyason and Co., who have again come upon gold. Both companies have Sandhurst proprietary and management, whereas the public companies subject to Castlemaine management, continue as unsuccessful as heretofore. The Garfield Company, employing 55 men. The company's Tangye pump answers very well the present depth, 130 feet; so also does their double-cylinder steam winch for winding. [10]
- 6 Sept 1883** Garfield Co. Your plant is in good working order. As the winding power is being increased by having two larger cylinders fixed to winch. [37]
- Sept 1883** The Garfield Company has obtained 556 oz. 16 dwt. of gold for the quarter, making 2,400-oz. 17 dwt. realised within ten months from 130 feet from the surface.[10]
- 26 March 1884** Garfield Co. We have also added more steam power by having our old boiler repaired and built in. Mine Manager's Report. I have the honour to report that the principal part of the work done on quartz during the past half year is south of the main shaft, thence on to the boundary of Louisa James Company - distance, 280 ft from our main shaft. As we have additional steam room in the second boiler shall be able to sink the shaft another 50 ft or 60 ft. Also we have another head heads in course of erection. Besides 5092 tons crushed from the mine 410 tons have been crushed for the Louisa James Company, making a total crushed by our 18-head battery of 5502 for the past half-year; total yield of gold 1020 oz. [37]
- March 1884** The Garfield Company...has fixed an additional boiler, and is erecting an extra battery. [10]
- 19 May 1884** A new shaft is being sunk to open out new country. [37]
- June 1884** The Garfield Company completed the erection of additional boiler and battery. They are sinking a new engine shaft. [10]
- Sept 1884** The Manchester and Wheal Margery Companies, who crush by water power, are re-forming, with the object of deeper and more systematic working. [10]

- 1 Oct 1884** Garfield Co. A quarter share on Louisa James Company has also been purchased, making half the claim our property. With the sanction of directors meeting a contract was let to sink a new shaft 70-ft to the east of one now in use. [37]
- Dec 1884** The Garfield Company...their return for the quarter was 696 1/2 oz. of gold. [10]
- Sept 1885** The Garfield Company...purposes erecting more machinery. The company in three years obtained 7,385oz. of gold at 120 feet deep, erected 23-head battery and extensive plant, and paid 4s. per share dividend on 30,000 shares. Now they have still better prospects. [10]
- Dec 1885** In quartz mining the Garfield Company takes the premier position for the past quarter, with 910oz. of gold. The Garfield Company's mine is only 120 to 170 feet in depth, where from large bodies of stone they have crushed with an 11-in. cylinder engine, and battery of 23 heads of 6 cwt. each, 13,017 tons of quartz, yielding 2,668oz. average 4dwt. 10gr. per ton, out of which they have paid £2,000 in dividends, besides adding to their mining plant...[the] company employs about 70 men and boys. [10]
- March 1886** The Garfield Company has again been the most successful mine in this division. Their returns for the quarter were 793 oz. 17 dwt., of which 254 oz. was obtained from 14 tons, an average of over 18 oz. to the ton. A dividend of £500 has been paid, and extra steam machinery for pumping and winding has been erected. In opening out at 254 feet, they drain the Central and Englishman's reefs, which are within their boundary, and now prove to be connected with the Garfield Reef.
- PARTIES REPORTING GOLD YIELDS FROM QUARTZ CRUSHING:**
- |          |                              |
|----------|------------------------------|
| Garfield | Sailor's Gully (to 170 feet) |
| Ditto    | Sailor's Gully (120 feet)    |
- NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS:**
- |                |    |      |
|----------------|----|------|
| Sailor's Gully | 92 | [10] |
|----------------|----|------|
- 17 May 1886** A Sandhurst party has secured the Manchester Reef and water wheel, and the South Garfield, lately the Wheal Margery, with a second waterwheel which they purpose having worked. The South Garfield ground is but an extension of the Garfield, having the same record of productiveness in the shallow ground. [37]
- 22 July 1886** Leases 2908 (head of gully), 1465, 2682, and 1116 are all associated with Sheepshead Gully, working the southern ends of Sailors or Garfield and Central Reefs, as well as northern end of Chewton Reef. (mid grid ref. 561929)
- German Gully and Little Sailor's Gully - Leases 2125, 2211, and 2187: Garfield Mining Company. Leases cross both Sailor's and Garfield Reef and the Central Reef. (mid grid ref. 562935)
- Lease 2569 is centred on Englishmen's Gully, working both Sailor's and Garfield and Central Reefs. (mid grid ref 562938) [30]
- 30 Aug 1886** The Garfield, which is at the present time most prominent, has now been in existence some four years. The original lease was for about ten acres, and was first held by a small co-operative party, who worked some spurs and small bodies of stone to shallow depths with highly remunerative results. The Garfield Company first started with this lease, but have since greatly added to their ground by taking in 3 other leases, giving a total of over 50 acres in their present holding. On the last they took up some 20 acres, so as to include a reef known as the 'Englishman's', and which proved very rich near the surface. To the west they added about ten acres, in order to secure a line known as the Energetic, and which is a continuation of the Wattle Gully line. The company's first work was a sink a new shaft, and secure of handy winding plant and crushing battery. The Englishman's reef underlies west, and the Central underlies east. It is their intention to, as soon as possible, push on with the sinking, and at about 350 ft crosscut for the east back, and the Englishman's reef, which is underlying towards the shaft. Prior is pushing on with this work the battery has to be removed, as despite their having left the large block of ground standing below at 120 ft, under the works, the ground is subsiding so fast as to endanger their foundation. The directors have determined to take advantage to the removal to make an alteration in the motive power, and the present steam power is to be superseded by water. The battery (23 heads) will be removed to about 500 ft south of the present site, in the vicinity of the Government water race, and be worked by a large water wheel over 50 ft in diameter. This will be very much less expensive than steam power, and in this case will be even less than usual, as the water will be conducted from the wheel to drive two others lower down the hill, thus reducing the cost to one-third. In connection with the lease being taken up so as to include the Energetic reef, the company are now preparing to prospect from an old shaft on the ground. This shaft was sunk by the original holders of the ground to about 140 or 150 ft, and rich stone worked, but getting poor, and water becoming troublesome, was abandoned. A good portable engine has now been erected here, and everything necessary for pumping is being prepared. [37]



- 3 March 1887** Garfield Co. The work carried on at your mine during the past six months has been chiefly in removal and re-erection of crushing battery, and the erection of water wheel to work the same, the contract for the latter has been completed, and we hope to be able to resume crushing in two weeks from date. All work below the surface was stopped in January last till after machinery is completed, and in consequence of there being no returns from the mine and our heavy expenditure, we have been obliged to make a call of sixpence per share, which has been duly responded to. The necessary repairs to shaft are being made, and work will be resumed in the mine immediately. In consequence of a communication from London, your directors have decided on offering the whole of the Company's leases and property for sale to a London syndicate. About 800 yards have been excavated for wheel, and two heavy stone walls have been raised to a height of 35 feet to carry a water wheel 70 feet in diameter. In the building of these walls large blocks of solid stone have been obtained, and about 7 cwt of strong hoop iron has been used for binding purposes. The water wheel, which appears to be a splendid piece of workmanship, has been put in position with counter shaft, and cog gearing resting upon massive wooden horses, the framework of a very large and commodious battery house has been raised, and quartz shoots and falling floor will be finished in two or three days. As we were compelled to put the battery well down, large excavations followed entirely increased labour and time. The fluming, which is rather a big piece of work, will be finished this week or the beginning of next; total length, 786 feet; and the highest point from ground, 60 feet. The tramway will require about three days' work to complete and connect with battery, its length will be 501 feet. The new brace and cage catchers have been completed. Horses, boxes, and ripple tables for 15 head of stampers have been fixed in position. Shall now get on with blanket tables, etc., so that a start will be made as soon as possible. [37]
- March 1887** The Garfield Company has confined their operations to pulling down and re-erecting their crushing plant adjacent to a new water-wheel of 70 feet in diameter, in form like the large wheel of a bicycle. The water to be obtained from the V.W.S. race, carried by flume about 790 feet long, on a sapling frame from 20 to 58 feet high, is intended, after discharge from this 70-foot wheel, to be conducted by flume and race, to work the Manchester 40-foot wheel. The plan, construction, and efficiency of these extensive hydraulic works have yet to be tested. Both wheels are made to revolve backward (the reverse of the ordinary over-shot wheel), the motive power being thus limited to the gravity or weight of water in the buckets. [10]
- June 1887** The Garfield 70-foot diameter waterwheel...has been completed, and works admirably; its 220 wrought-iron buckets have on either side strong wrought-iron bands, upon which a brake is easily applied by a long lever; the supply of water is regulated or stopped by other levers, all well devised and controlled by one man in charge of the battery, who can shut off the water, apply the brake to the ponderous wheel, and stop the battery with as much ease as stopping a steam-engine. This wheel revolves (according to force of water) in 45 to 55 seconds, driving a 15-head battery from 70 to 86 falls per minute. The same water flows thence and works the Manchester (40-foot diameter) waterwheel, which drives a heavier battery of 10 stampers 64 falls per minute. This utilisation of water power for quartz crushing is an important matter, affording employment to over 60 men (in place of six or eight, at sluicing, using the same water), and by saving firewood, engine-drivers, &c., reducing the cost of crushing to about one-third, thereby allowing poorer ore to be operated upon. [10]
- Sept 1887** The extensive and valuable mines, "The Garfield" and "The Manchester," have been successfully floated in the English market, in 100,000 shares of 20s each. It is stated that the present shareholders are to receive in payment for the mines, and the newly erected plant, the sum of £12,500 and 12,500 paid-up shares, the vendors discharging all outstanding liabilities. £25,000 will be placed to the credit of the new company for developing the mines. [10]
- 21 Sept 1887** The new Company will take in the whole of this and the Manchester Company's leases adjoining. Our battery, consisting of 25 heads, and water wheel have been completed, and are now working satisfactorily. [37]
- Dec 1887** The upper portion of the Garfield mine, let on tribute, has paid as high as £30 per man per month. [10]
- Dec 1889** The Garfield crushed 245 tons for 37oz. 11dwt. 12grs. During the quarter news was received from London that this claim and the Manchester were in the market, and with favourable prospects of floating for £40,000. Tributaries are now at work. [10]
- 1 Oct 1891** Garfield Co. - Works of development have been carried on at the shallow levels and on the surface of the mine, but so far nothing of importance has been found. The work now being carried out in what is known as Ogilvie's ground, is being pushed on with as much speed as possible, and will hole through to a drive put in south some years back. [37]
- 3 June 1895** In a month a lease will be issued to J. Ebbott for the Garfield Co., a mine that should never have stopped, nor would have been, had it not been projected to launch it on the English market and pending negotiations, suspend work. [37]
- March 1898** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 2,003 ton crushed, 379oz gold [10]
- June 1898** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 2,331 ton crushed, 355oz gold [10]

- Sept 1898** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 165 ton crushed, 31oz gold [10]  
**22 Oct 1898** Forest Creek Co. (Chewton) - Garfield  
 No. 2 lease - 44 tons from south leaders at 100 feet, yielded 10 oz. 3 dwt. Expect to have to sink shaft another 20 feet to be deep enough to meet run of stone worked by tributers. [37]  
**5 Nov 1898** South lease - 76 tons yielded 24-1/4 oz. Let contract to drive 100-ft level north 30 feet more or less. [37]  
**22 Nov 1898** South lease - 85 tons yielded 13-3/4 oz. Nearly reached sandstone bar noted for carrying rich patches of gold in No. 1 lease. [37]  
**17 Jan 1899** South lease - repairing broken segment of water wheel. [37]  
**Feb 1899** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 117 tons crushed, 10oz gold [10]  
**June 1900** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 60 ton crushed, 24oz gold [10]  
**July 1902** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 281 ton crushed, 157oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1902** Map shows workings along the line of the reef, consisting of: large quarry on the S side of Englishman's Gully; Garfield shaft on S side of German Gully; a large tailing dam in German Gully downstream from the shaft; a smaller dam upstream; an open-cut near the battery (driven by water-wheel); flume coming from V.W.S Race; two large dams in Little Sailor's Gully; and Garfield No. 2 shaft and open cut on the S side of Little Sailors Gully. [75]  
**12 May 1903** There is a probability of Forest Creek Gold Reefs mine being closed down, and bulk of hands were laid off. The prospects are very encouraging. At No. 10 level, the reef is over 25 ft wide and averaged 7 dwts for a distance of 270 ft. Mining and general legislation in this State is the principal cause of the English directors' decision to reduce hands and possibly shut down the mine. [37]  
**March 1903** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 670 ton crushed, 114oz gold [10]  
**Sept 1903** Forest Creek Gold Reefs: 3,004 ton crushed, 767oz gold [10]  
**1903** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd. (formerly Garfield Co. & Forest Creek Victoria Gold Reefs Co.): Compound steam battery engine, extra 10 head battery with heavy stampers (total now 25 stampers) and high pressure boiler erected; 75 foot diameter water wheel discarded; modern double cylinder first motion steam winding engine in use with baling tanks [12: p.72]  
**Dec 1904** Forest Creek (Victoria) Gold Reefs Ltd.: 3,236 ton crushed, 852oz gold [10]  
**1904** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 25 head battery [12: p.37]  
**1904** But like all things, the wheel became old, and the strong winds interfered with its efficiency, sometimes breaking cogs, when they did not mesh correctly. The wooden spokes of the wheel became worn and then loose at the joints.  
 And so, in 1904, it gave way to a steam power plant, which drove an additional 10 head of stampers. The wheel was dismantled, and became only a memory. Nowadays, all that remains are these two great abutments in massive masonry, which formed its main supports [63]  
**March 1905** Forest Creek (Victoria) Gold Reefs Ltd.: 2,890 tons crushed, 716oz gold [10]  
**1905** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 25 head battery [12: p.44]  
 Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 10 head battery with 1000 pound stampers; discarding 15 heads of 800 pound stampers on the old pattern and replacing them with 10 heads of heavy stampers [12: p.98]  
**1906** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 20 head battery [12: p.41]  
**May 1906** Forest Creek (Victoria) Gold Reefs Ltd.: 2,060 tons crushed, 474oz gold [10]  
**June 1906** Forest Creek (Victoria) Gold Reefs Ltd.: 4,490 tons crushed, 820oz gold [10]  
**27 Aug 1906** All hands laid off pending instructions from London. [37]  
**Oct 1906** Forest Creek (Victoria) Gold Reefs Ltd.: E.J. Hartley, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]  
**1907** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 25 head battery [12: p.42]  
**1908** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 25 head battery [12: p. 39]  
**March 1908** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 449 ton crushed, 110oz gold [10]  
**1909** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 25 head battery [12: p.44]  
**June 1909** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 1517 ton crushed, 299oz gold [10]  
**Oct 1909** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: E.J. Hartley, Legal Manager [10]  
**1910** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 25-head battery [12:p.42]  
**March 1910** Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 2,247 ton crushed, 489oz gold [10]  
**3 August 1910** Next in line is the Garfield Reef. It is working on English capital under the name of the Forest Creek Gold Mines. This is the same mine that led the Dead Cat boom. Up until 1887 the Garfield had got to 250ft and crushed 52,000 tons for 11,704-oz. gold, when it was shut down. The present company (of which Mr. Hartley of Melbourne, is the legal manager, and Mr. John Ebbott mine manager) has started to sink. While no bonanza, the results down to below 1000ft. have encouraged the British directors to keep paying into it. Included in their lease is the Manchester line of reef, to the west. This is the continuation of the famous Wattle Gully line. It has never been tested in the space between the railway and the Forest Creek Co's. ground. The Manchester line was opened in 1854. The surface workings were reputedly rich, some of it going as high as 4 oz. to the ton. The open cut was worked for 80ft by 100ft, and yielded 2428 oz. from 7403 tons. From the Energetic shaft on the same lease, some good returns received down to 140ft. The registered yields are 11,015 tons for 3649 oz. [64: p 118]

<b>Sept 1910</b>	Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 3,708 ton crushed, 555oz gold [10]
<b>Oct 1910</b>	Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: J. Hartley, Legal Manager [10]
<b>1911</b>	Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 25 head battery [12: p.43]
<b>Sept 1911</b>	Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: 374 ton crushed, 70oz gold [10]
<b>1912</b>	Chewton Gold Mines Ltd.: Mine closed; machinery sold [12: p.107]
<b>4 Aug 1938</b>	New Garfield - operations still suspended owing to inability to obtain water from Government race for boiler purposes. [63: p. 144]
<b>13 March 1939</b>	New Garfield Gold. Owing to the necessity of selling the forfeited shares in the hands of the company, and the shortage of water for boiler purposes, owing to the drought, operations at the mine were suspended in July last. All forfeited shares in the hands of the company have been sold to a Western Australian group, and the total number of contributing shares is now 45,000, and the company's finances are in a satisfactory position. The recent rains have filled the company's dams, and there is sufficient water to provide three months' supply, with good prospects of future requirements being available. Mr W.J. Moore, of Bendigo, has been appointed mine manager, and operations at the mine were resumed on March 6. The unwatering of the mine will be immediately commenced, and the first objective will be to carry out development work at the 373-ft level. Mr Leo. H. Hunter, of Perth, has been appointed a director to represent West Australian interests, and Mr M. Finkelstein, of Melbourne, has been appointed alternate director to act for him. [63: p.144]
<b>25 March 1939</b>	New Garfield. Main shaft: On commencement of operations on March 16, inspection showed the main shaft repaired to 71 ft. Removed timber and mullock and repaired shaft to depth of 101ft from surface. Bailing water with both tanks. [63: p.144]
<b>19 June 1941</b>	Prospecting shaft sunk 5 ft to 45 ft. Timbered 8ft to 23 ft. Five tons of south quartz sent to Government battery. [63: p.145]
<b>6 Feb 1942</b>	Prospecting shaft. Overhead drive south off rise to 20 ft. Reef 4ft wide, showing gold. Arrangements made for crushing at Government Battery. [63: p.145]
<b>27 Feb 1942</b>	Breaking stone in overhead drive south off rise, 5ft of stone. Gold in small prospects. Cleaning out and timbering south drive in bottom level. Fine gold in dish prospects. Crushed 35 tons at Maldon State battery for a return of 4 oz 7 dwt 5 grs. retorted gold. An average of 2 dwt 11 grs. per ton. Sands assayed 18 grs. per ton, making a total value of ore crushed 3 dwt 5 grs. per ton. [63: p.145]
<b>1942</b>	Map shows the Garfield No. 1 shaft (as named in map dated 1902) as New Garfield Shaft. [76]
<b>1990</b>	Sailor's Gully. On opposite side of gully to Energetic mine. House site, consisting of stone footings and intact fireplace...the old fellow who lived here used to keep a visitor's book. Anyone who visited the place, he got them to fill in their name. He had a decent garden. Originally this may have been one of the mine manager's houses. Eastern slope of Sailor's Gully, or western slope of Manchester Hill, has been ground sluiced to bedrock, from Little Sailor's Gully to Golden Gully. The gully itself has been done over by hydraulic sluicing. Sailor's Gully, S side, from Englishman's Gully to head of gully is a section of old road (shown on 1861 map). On the side of the road are 3 house sites. This road leads to Little Quartz Hill. At the head of Sailor's Gully are 2 puddling machine sites. [70]

<b>9,9</b>	<b>SOUTH AMERICAN REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Sailor's Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 4 miners, prospecting. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: South American Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 5 Extent of Reef prospected: 2,000 [10]
<b>7 Dec 1863</b>	Dinner and Co. - abandoned reef. [37]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Hocking and Bennett's [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Bennett's [10]
<b>2 Oct 1882</b>	Wheal Margery Co. hold a claim of 10 acres between the Argus Flat and Garfield Co. Three runs of quartz go through the ground, (i) South American, (ii) Dead Cat, (iii) Sheepshad. A number of shafts have been sunk on this line but none exceed 100ft...at a depth of 80ft in the South American reef, a body of quartz 30ft thick, was worked and left. [37]

<b>9.10 SHEEPSHEAD GULLY &amp; SHEEPSHEAD REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Sailor's Gully; also called Bruce Ross's Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>May 1859</b>	Three leases adjoin the Forest Creek Diggers claim, at the junction of Argus Flat and Sheepshead Gully: Ellis & Co., Thompson & Co., and Argus & Co. (grid ref. 561926). [4]
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim, 4 miners, prospecting. [10]
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	Cutting No. 2 (to straighten course of Forest Creek) made at Sheepshead Gully. 3 puddling machines. [28]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 10 puddlers, 13 paddocking. 3 puddling machines. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Argus Flat, Sheepshead Gully - Europeans: 17 puddlers, 4 ordinary miners [10]
<b>2 May 1862</b>	Fairbairn - average 5 dwt./ton. [37]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Sheepshead: 2 claims, 4 men [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865: Ballars and Smith, Hocking and others [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Bennett [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: James [10]
<b>2 Oct 1882</b>	Wheal Margery Co. hold a claim of about 10 acres between the Argus Flat and Garfield Co. Three distinct runs of quartz go through the ground, (i) South American, (ii) Dead Cat, (iii) Sheepshead. A number of shafts have been sunk on this line but none exceed 100ft. In every case quartz has been met with at intervals of 10ft to 20ft, and the whole of the claim is interlaced with flat leaders: at a depth of 80ft in the South American reef, a body of quartz 30ft thick, was worked and left, last crushing gave 3dwt to the ton. [37]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Leases 2908 (head of gully), 1465, 2682, and 1116 are all associated with Sheepshead Gully, working the southern ends of Sailors or Garfield and Central Reefs, as well as northern end of Chewton Reef. (mid grid ref. 561929) [30]
<b>Sept 1902</b>	Map shows this gully named as Bryce Ross' Gully. There is a tunnel driven from the W side of the gully into Argus Hill. [75]

<b>9.11 GERMAN GULLY &amp; GERMAN GULLY REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Sailor's Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	4 claims working, 23 miners. [10]
<b>20 Dec 1859</b>	German Gully - 1 alluvial lease & 2 dams/puddling machines. 7 small leases near the head of this gully, running N-S - no names. Dead Cat Reef runs through these leases. (mid grid ref. 563937) [31]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Chinese: 2 tub and cradle workers. [10]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	German Gully and Little Sailor's Gully - Leases 2125, 2211, and 2187: Garfield Mining Company. Leases cross both Sailor's and Garfield Reef and the Central Reef. (mid grid ref. 562935) [30]

<b>9.12 WALKER'S REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Little Sailor's Gully, German Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 2 miners, claim 320 feet. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Companies/Parties crushing quartz & obtaining gold: Spencer - 49 ton yielded 10 dwt of gold. [10]

9.13		VALE'S REEF OR TAMBAROORA REEF
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		near Dead Cat Reef
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Sept 1872</b>	Two new reefs have been opened at Chewton... The second new reef is on the range near Sailor's Gully, east of the Dead-cat Reef. The prospector, Vale, after sinking 75 feet and driving 32, cut a leader, from which a prospect dish gave over an ounce of nuggetty gold and numerous specimens. No crushing has yet taken place. [10]	
<b>Dec 1872</b>	The prospecting claim, Tambaroora Reef, has been sold for £2000 cash and 4000 paid-up shares. Six tons crushed by the prospectors yielded 33 1/2 oz. of gold, obtained from leaders underlying east at a depth of 75 feet. [10]	
<b>June 1875</b>	On several of the lately abandoned reef leases excellent prospects have been obtained, as the Tambaroora, May, 12 1/4 oz. from 4 tons. [10]	
9.14		MANCHESTER FLAT
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Sailor's Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>16 Feb 1855</b>	The rush on Manchester Flat is extending lower down the creek, but not turning out so richly on the upper part. [47: p.2]	
<b>23 March 1855</b>	Some portions of old ground on Manchester Flat and Moonlight Gully have turned out profitably.... [47: p.2]	
<b>14 Sept 1855</b>	From Manchester Flat, on to Pennyweight Flat, water is too plentiful and gold too scarce for the former residents... [47: p.2]	
<b>5 Oct 1855</b>	Manchester Flat, Forest Creek... some parties of four and upwards are doing very well... [47: p.2]	
<b>c. mid-1850s</b>	At this time we were working at Manchester Flat, where the creek was being dammed up by puddlers, who had erected machines there, causing the water in sinking to become a nuisance; the consequence was that about 200 of us banded together and cut the dams away. We met with decided opposition by the puddlers, as we rolled some of them in the sludge, causing a great row. The flat was very rich; we were taking away all the old pillars, and now and again we would break into an old drive full of water and have to run for our lives. [22: pp.61-2]	
<b>May 1859</b>	National School (grid ref. 555928). [4]	
<b>May 1859</b>	Thompson's crushing machine (grid ref. 554929). [4]	
<b>August 1859</b>	Steam Machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Thompson and Company, Forest Creek, 12 h.p. 12 head of stamps, &c. [10]	
<b>Dec 1861</b>	Mining population: Adelaide & Manchester Flats - 84 alluvial workers [10]	
9.15		MANCHESTER REEF/HILL
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Manchester Flat, Sailor's Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1854</b>	The Manchester line was opened in 1854. The surface workings were reputedly rich, some of it going as high as 4 oz. to the ton. The open cut was worked for 80ft by 100ft. and yielded 2428 oz. from 7403 tons. From what is known as the Energetic shaft on the same lease, some good returns received down to 140ft. The total registered yields are 11,015 tons for 3649 oz. [64: 1910: p 118]	
<b>1850s</b>	This reef was worked from surface to 120 feet by a great number of small claim-holders prior to 1860; the yields, although small, being regular. [55: p.26]	
<b>August 1859</b>	5 claims working, 13 miners, Manchester Reef Company. [10]	
<b>August 1859</b>	List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes]: Manchester Reef Company, Manchester Reef, 1000 yards, partially working. [10]	
<b>Sept 1859</b>	Yield of quartz: Manchester Reef - Chinese, 20 tons yielded 19 oz. 3 dwt. [10]	
<b>Dec 1859</b>	Parties reporting yields of quartz include the following: Kewl and Co., Chinese. [10]	
<b>20 Feb 1860</b>	Manchester Reef (Lichfield and Co.) - 17 tons yielded 10 dwt/ton. [37]	
<b>May 1860</b>	Parties reporting quartz yields: Chambers, McWatton, Jamieson. [10]	
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Manchester (2) No. of claims: 3	

- Extent of claim: 365 feet  
 No. of men employed: 6  
 Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Manchester (2)  
 No. of claims: Lease  
 Extent of claim: 825 feet  
 No. of men employed: 8  
 Extent of Reef prospected: 4,000 (claims and lease combined) [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz leases applied for and surveyed, but not yet demised: [include]  
 Manchester Reef Company  
 Applicant: T. Walker and Company  
 Area: 4 acres 1 rod 10 perches  
 Feet on reef: 825  
 Machinery: Twenty horse-power engine, twenty stamps  
 Number of men employed: 8 [10]
- August 1861** Monthly quartz returns list Fairbairn as obtaining quartz from Manchester Hill and Reef [10]  
**Nov 1861** Map shows Lease No. 94, Walker and Co, working Manchester Reef (grid ref 557934), also site of one horse mill (Chilian Mill) [64]
- 14 Feb 1862** Walker and Co. - preparing to erect pumps as they have reached the water level. [37]  
**14 April 1862** King and Co. tried a spot near the old Chinese claim and got 14.5dwt. per ton. [37]  
**18 April 1862** Musset and Co. - crushing. [37]  
**27 May 1864** Walker and Co. - applied for extension of this lease on north side of hill at its base- have worked this reef successfully for nearly 8 years - new lease will allow digging of tunnel. [37]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865:  
 Walker and Company [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866  
 Walker, Walker and Company [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867  
 Walker and Co., Wilson and Co., Energetic [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868  
 Walker and Co. [10]
- Sept 1870** On the Manchester Reef the Energetic Company, having erected machinery for draining the mine, have been rewarded with 2043/4 oz. of gold from 234 tons of stone. The adjoining ground is again taken up to work below water-level. [10]
- 25 Oct 1871** The Broubadour (Patrick Furlong and John Stratford) - application for lease north of Energetic lease. [37]
- 30 Oct 1871** Walker and Co. [37]
- June 1872** On Nimrod and Manchester Reefs new plants being erected to work below water-level. [10]  
**Sept 1873** On the North Manchester Reef, a fine plant for drainage purposes has been completed and started, which will again bring this line of reef into favourable notice. [10]
- 27 April 1874** Energetic Mine - Struck very rich stone in lower level - one dish contained 1 to 2lbs gold. This company working here 12 months. Lowest level at 130 feet... [37]
- 24 Oct 1874** Energetic Mine - Meeting held to appoint a liquidator. [37]  
**1875** Walker and Co. continued to work this reef till 1875. [55: p.26]  
**8 March 1875** Energetic Mine disposed of by sheriff. [37]  
**n.d. [1875]** The old Energetic Mine on the Manchester Reef is to be worked again. [37]  
**17 May 1875** New Energetic Company - Contractors progressing with erection of machinery. [37]  
**31 May 1875** What appears to be a new reef carrying gold has been found on the company's ground. [37]  
**12 July 1875** The Energetic Co. has recommenced operations. [37]  
**30 Aug 1875** 92 oz gold from month's crushings. [37]  
**Sept 1875** The Bolivia, Nuggetty, Manchester, and Burns Reefs are again being profitably worked. [10]  
**Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
- Sept 1878** The Nuggetty Company has purchased the Energetic plant, including two engines, 12-head battery, pumping and winding gear, &c., which is being erected. [10]
- June 1879** A portion of the Manchester Reef (late Walker's) has also been let on lease. [10]  
**Dec 1879** On the Manchester Reef the lessee is erecting a water-wheel and ten-head battery. [10]  
**Sept 1880** The Manchester Reef Waterwheel Company has come upon a large body of payable stone. As they work by a tunnel and crush by water-power, they have good prospects. [10]
- Sept 1884** The Manchester and Wheal Margery Companies, who crush by water power, are re-forming, with the object of deeper and more systematic working. [10]
- June 1886** The Manchester Company Water Wheel have recommenced crushing, and machinery is being erected upon adjoining lease, the Energetic. [10]

- 30 Aug 1886** The Garfield Company first started with this lease, but have since greatly added to their ground by taking in 3 other leases, giving a total of over 50 acres in their present holding... To the west they added about ten acres, in order to secure a line known as the Energetic, and which is a continuation of the Wattle Gully line. The company's first work was to sink a new shaft, and secure of handy winding plant and crushing battery. [37]
- March 1887** The Garfield Company has...a new water-wheel of 70 feet in diameter, in form like the large wheel of a bicycle. The water to be obtained from the V.W.S. race, carried by flume about 790 feet long, on a sapling frame from 20 to 58 feet high, is intended, after discharge from this 70-foot wheel, to be conducted by flume and race, to work the Manchester 40-foot wheel... Both wheels are made to revolve backward (the reverse of the ordinary over-shot wheel), the motive power being thus limited to the gravity or weight of water in the buckets. [10]
- June 1887** The same water flows [from the Garfield wheel] and works the Manchester (40-foot diameter) waterwheel, which drives a heavier battery of 10 stampers 64 falls per minute. [10]
- Sept 1887** The extensive and valuable mines, "The Garfield" and "The Manchester," have been successfully floated in the English market, in 100,000 shares of 20s each. It is stated that the present shareholders will receive in payment for the mines, and the newly erected plant, the sum of £12,500 and 12,500 paid-up shares, the vendors discharging all outstanding liabilities. £25,000 is to be placed to the credit of the new company for developing the mines. [10]
- Dec 1889** During the quarter news was received from London that [the Garfield] and the Manchester had favourable prospects of floating for £40,000. Tributaries now working. [10]
- 20 July 1896** A start...has been made with a main shaft in the ground designated the Energetic, where so much heavy gold was realised. [37]
- 24 Aug 1896** The shaft is down 34 feet, is close timbered for 26 feet, divided into three compartments. [37]
- 26 Sept 1898** Forest Creek (Vic) Gold Reefs Ltd. - Pumping Energetic and Manchester line - water is down 95 feet in Energetic, which is now timbered to 90 feet. [37]
- 24 Feb 1899** Energetic - main shaft sunk total 189-1/2 feet. [37]
- c. 1902** The Forest Creek (Victoria) Gold Reefs Company (the amalgamated leases) started open-cut workings, operating on large spurs and irregular bodies of stone. [55: p.26]
- Sept 1902** Map shows large open cut on the crown of the hill; Battery and Energetic shaft on south side of Little Sailor's Gully, where it joins up with Sailor's Gully; and a pipe head, and flume coming from a race connected to the Forest Creek (Victoria) Gold Reefs Company's large waterwheel. [75]
- 3 Aug 1910** Next in line is the Garfield Reef. It is now working on English capital under the name of the Forest Creek Gold Mines. This is the same mine that led the regrettable Dead Cat boom. Up until 1887 the Garfield had got to 250ft and crushed 52,000 tons for 11,704-oz. gold, when it was shut down. The present company (of which Mr. Hartley of Melbourne, is the legal manager, and Mr. John Ebbott mine manager) has wisely started to sink. While they have no means struck a bonanza, the results down to below 1000ft. have been such to encourage the British directors to keep on paying into it. Included in their lease is the Manchester line of reef, to the west. This is the continuation of the famous Wattle Gully line. It has never been tested in the space between the railway and the Forest Creek Co's. ground. The Manchester line was opened in 1854. The surface workings were reputedly rich, some of it going as high as 4 oz. to the ton. The open cut was worked for 80ft by 100ft. and yielded 2428 oz. from 7403 tons. From what is known as the Energetic shaft on the same lease, some good returns received down to 140ft. The total registered yields are 11,015 tons for 3649 oz. [74: p 118]
- 1945** Map shows tunnel driven in from N side of Golden Gully, into Argus Hill [76]
- 1990** Manchester Hill/Manchester Reef - extensive open cutting, some shafts and tunnels. Very little mullock about. [70]
- 1990** On the N side of Golden Gully - tunnel driven N into Manchester Hill...at the back of Badger's Keep Nursery. The entrance to the tunnel is near a large native cherry tree, but hidden by Chinese gorse and blackberries. The head of Golden Gully has been sluiced to bedrock. [70]

<b>9.16 ARGUS HILL AND ARGUS HILL REEF/CENTRAL REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Chewton, Sailor's Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>19 Aug 1854</b>	Golden Hope, Forest Creek - James Trewartha (from Adelaide)...has opened the above-mentioned house on the Argus Hill... The house consists of fifteen rooms... There is also attached an excellent Eight-stalled Stable, and roomy yards... [47: p.5]
<b>5 Jan 1855</b>	Wrestling Match at Forest Creek - Among the pastimes by which the genial season of Christmas has just been celebrated on our goldfields, none were shared in more extensively than the wrestling match which came off on the 26th of December, and three following days, in Captain Trewartha's Amphitheatre, Forest Creek. The play was altogether in the good old Cornish and Devon styles... On the first day between 800 and 100 people attended... [47: p.2]
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	Large Store, situate on the 'Argus Hill', where the principal business is conducted on Forest Creek. a sitting room and kitchen attached. For particulars apply at the store opposite Mr Anketell's, to Mr J.W. Henry, Mountain Hut Boarding House, or at the Bar of the Golden Hope Hotel. To the Diggers of Forest Creek and Its Vicinity. J.W. Henry, late of the Mountain Hut, Adelaide...intends having A BALL, in the old style, at Captain Trewartha's Bowling Saloon, opposite the Golden Hope. [47: p.1]
<b>13 April 1855</b>	For Sale, the Amphitheatre, known as Trewartha's Wrestling Ground, is 64 feet in diameter, and contains upwards of 600 slabs, 71/2 feet high, besides a great quantity of Quartering, and is well adapted for a Timber Yard, or a place of amusement. [47: p.3]
<b>14 Dec 1855</b>	Some new ground near Old Argus Hill has been opened and turned out rich. [47: p.2]
<b>1850s/60s</b>	While the alluvial was being worked in Forest Creek, where the township of Chewton is now situated, numerous flat bodies of quartz were met with in the strata forming the bottom of the alluvium. From these bodies of quartz rich specimens of golden stone were obtained, and work was carried out on a number of them in what was known as Argus Flat. The yields obtained, being highly profitable, led various parties to prospect successfully for similar bodies on either side of the flat. From the south side of the hill a tunnel, from which splendid gold was obtained, was driven by Fairbairn and others. From the crown of the hill shafts were sunk on large veins, which yielded over an ounce to the ton, besides specimens often half-ounce in weight of almost pure gold. An engine shaft was sunk near the creek level, on the south side of the hill. [55: p.21][55: p.21]
<b>15 April 1859</b>	Captain Trewartha - has commenced opening up oblique tunnel into this hill, with the hope of cutting the continuation of the Chewton Co.'s reef. [37]
<b>August 1859</b>	List of public companies in existence, and contemplated [includes]: Little Sailor's Gully Quartz-Mining Company, Argus Hill, 600 yards, projected. [10]
<b>Sept 1859</b>	The Argus Hill Company has commenced operations. A trial of 20 tons produced nearly 1 oz. per ton. It is now about to drive a working tunnel, for the construction of which the hill is admirably adapted. It has a grant for the erection of machinery and water privileges. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Several of the residents of Chewton are combining for the purpose of prospecting the Argus Hill, which offers great inducements, three reefs running through which are proved gold bearing. [10]
<b>8 Feb 1861</b>	A tunnel already cut about 125 feet - to be extended - expect to cut lode, which already exists in tunnel on eastern side of hill (Pearce and Co.) [37]
<b>27 Sept 1861</b>	Argus Hill/Argus Flat - Walker and Co. have struck quartz at 50 ft. [37]
<b>13 Dec 1861</b>	Argus Reef - Ogilvy and Hunter - 13 ton yielded 9.5 oz. [37]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	On the Argus Hill Reef, Hunter and Company, at a depth of 70 feet, has a reef... [10]
<b>24 Jan 1862</b>	Hunter and Co. - gold is being won at depths of 40 ft and 70 ft in shaft 160 ft deep. [37]
<b>7 Feb 1862</b>	Argus Hill - Hutton and Co. - adit driven from Argus Flat - is hundreds of feet below crown of hill.
<b>28 Feb 1862</b>	Argus Reef - Pearce and Co. - 8 dwt. per ton - in tunnel. [37]
<b>14 April 1862</b>	Hunter's claim - 18 dwt. per ton. [37]
<b>18 April 1862</b>	New shaft at rear of Argus Hill. [37]
<b>5 Sept 1862</b>	Argus Hill tunnel - 15 dwt. [37]
<b>5 Sept 1862</b>	Russell and Co. paid expenses. Hunter and Co. [37]
<b>19 Sept 1862</b>	Logan and Co. [37]
<b>14 Jan 1864</b>	Logan and Co. - are opening a tunnel through the ground of Russell and Co. - total length to be 360 ft. [37]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865: Logan and Russell [10]



- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
Logan & Company, Russell [10]
- March 1867** On the Argus Reef, Russell and Co., have erected an engine for draining, the miners have been able to enter the lower workings and discover gold bearing stone. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
Russell & Co., Logan & Co. [10]
- June 1868** New Machinery -...on the Argus Reef, Jenkin and Company have just completed the removal of their engine and plant, making seven engines upon this line of reef within 1 1/2 miles. [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
Russell & Logan, Logan and others [10]
- June 1885** The Argus and Chewton reefs are being worked on tribute. [10]
- March 1886** PARTIES REPORTING GOLD YIELDS FROM QUARTZ CRUSHING:  

Logan and Co.	Argus Reef (tunnel)	
Jaynes and Co.	Argus Reef (tunnel)	
Dyasons (tributers)	Argus Reef	
Ormond	Argus Reef (to 150 feet)	[10]
- 22 July 1886** Leases 2908 (head of gully), 1465, 2682, and 1116 are all associated with Sheepshead Gully, working the southern ends of Sailor's or Garfield and Central Reefs, as well as the northern end of the Chewton Reef (mid grid ref. 561929).  
German Gully and Little Sailor's Gully - Leases 2125, 2211, and 2187: Garfield Mining Company. Leases cross both Sailor's and Garfield Reef and the Central Reef. (mid grid ref. 562935) [30]
- March 1898** Argus Hill Tribute: 16 ton crushed, 61 oz. of gold [10]
- June 1898** Argus Hill Tribute: 43 ton crushed, 92 oz. of gold. [10]
- Sept 1898** Argus Hill Tribute: 12 ton crushed, 3 oz. of gold [10]
- Jan 1899** Argus Hill Tribute: 24 ton crushed, 12 oz. of gold. [10]
- August 1899** Argus Hill Tribute: 19 ton crushed, 13 oz. of gold. [10]
- Oct 1899** Argus Hill Tribute: 38 ton crushed, 11 oz. of gold [10]
- April 1900** Argus Hill Tribute: 28 ton crushed, 8 oz. of gold [10]
- Sept 1902** Map shows tunnel driven in to Argus Hill, from the W side of Bryce Ross' Gully (known earlier as Sheepshead Gully); whip shaft on crown of hill [75]
- 1903** Almost from the time of its first discovery, this hill has been held by companies, which have let various portions of the mine on tribute; from those profitable returns have been obtained by various parties, who, however, failed to give any record of their yields. Above the tunnel the extensive and irregular workings resemble an immense ant-hill. Various parties of tributers have, since 1883, been employed fossicking about above the tunnel level, where payable results are still being obtained. [55: p.21]
- March 1903** Argus Hill Tribute: 69 ton crushed, 23 oz. of gold. [10]
- Sept 1903** Argus Hill Tribute: 48 ton crushed, 12 oz. of gold [10]
- 3 August 1910** Next to the Argus Reef is the Argus Hill mine, which is really a tunnel. The hill itself has been honeycombed by small parties, several of whom have got high averages of gold. [74]
- 31 Nov 1937** Argus Hill Gold Mining Co. has started operations on their lease north of and adjoining the Upper Barkly lease. The Argus Hill, which is part of the Chewton saddle reefs, was a wonderful producer and for 50 years was profitably worked. The hill itself was worked from the creek level to the surface and the workings were like a huge rabbit warren. The old miners were very thorough and it is not likely that much gold has been left at the shallow depths. This ground was worked also below the surface, but to no great depth. The Argus Hill Co. has installed electric machinery to cope with the water. [37]
- 1 July 1938** Argus Hill started crushing on Monday but battery is held up on account of repairs to water channel. [63: p.171]
- 18 July 1938** Argus Hill. The north level on the big formation off main west cross-cut has been driven 10ft. There is a large body of solid stone coming down into the level, very heavily mineralised. We should have all solid stone in another 20 ft of driving in the level. South level driven 4 ft. timbered and mullocked up heavy ground. this level has a full face of spurs with heavy minerals. We will get solid stone as we go further south, as we appear to be on the bottom of the formation. North level on spurry formation near shaft has been driven 10 ft. The branch crosscut off this level has been extended to 10ft. in small spurs. [63: p.170]
- 1942** Map shows Argus Hill shaft on the flat, immediately below the south slope of Argus Hill. The shaft is located in an large excavation [76]
- 13 Aug 1950** Argus Hill Chewton Gold - 455-ft. level: East crosscut of No. 1 rise at 35ft. advanced 10ft to 18ft in large quartz spurs and heavily mineralised slates [63: p364]
- 1 Sept 1950** Argus Hill No Liability - East crosscut of No. 1 rise at 35 feet advance 10ft to 28ft in faulted black slates and full face of quartz, heavily mineralised and a few fine colours of gold in dish prospects. Ventilation air and water pipes placed in rise. [63: p364]
- 19 May 1951** Argus mine - 455ft level. North intermediate level from vise extended 5ft to 32ft in well-mineralised quartz spurs, showing blackjack and one shotty colour of gold. 312ft west of shaft, south level extended to 15ft in slates and highly mineralised quartz spurs. [63: p365]

**11 Nov 1952** Result of Argus Hill Test Bore - Dr. Thomas of Mines Dept has advised Argus Hill Co. at Chewton that the core taken from No. 6 bore hole in the bottom level of the mine was assayed 5dwt. 6grn. of gold.  
Dr. Thomas stated the feature of interest is that the laminated quartz at 75 gave this result. Dr Thomas considers some prospecting to test this is justified. [63: p. 365]

<b>9.17 GOLDEN POINT</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Oct 1851</b>	In October 1851, gold was first discovered at Golden Point...and at Sailor's Gully... in each case 8 to 12 inches of black soil overlaid deposits of gold, yielding from 12 to 20oz. to the tub of washdirt. As the workings extended, similar yields were common, and many extraordinary finds were made of 200 to 2,000oz. aggregated in small hollows, or "pockets", in the bed-rock. [10: Dec 1886]
<b>Oct/Nov 1851</b>	[Referring to plan of Forest Creek produced by mining surveyor, T. L. Brown.] The plan includes the whole of Golden Point, in the parishes of Chewton and Faraday, and that has many interesting associations connected with it. The point A on the plan of Golden Point was the scene of the first diggings, early in October 1851. By the first week in November, about 50 men were fossicking with spades, half shears, picks, and tin dishes. The sinkings were in the creek, through 3 feet of rich brown soil, and from the richer deposits were obtained 20 oz. to 30 oz. to the square foot superficial. [10: Nov 1859]
<b>9/11/1851</b>	The new Golden Point, four miles below the Commissioner's, contains about 1000 persons... [83: 12/11/1851]
<b>14 Jan 1852</b>	By following the regular road from this water-hole, he will make the commencement of the diggings on Forest Creek at Golden Point, and from which point for many miles is a continued line of canvas habitations. [83: 14/1/1852: p.2]
<b>19 Aug 1854</b>	There are unmistakable signs of the return of the mining population for the summer season, in the erection of new tents in every direction, and the increasing number of diggers... Golden Point has had a large accession in its numbers, during the past fortnight, many having returned disheartened from the Avoca... Chinamen have again put us under their distinguished patronage. Their encampments at Golden Point, and just out of Castlemaine, have given a new interest to our district, during the past week. [47: p. 5]
<b>10 Nov 1854</b>	Golden Point. The population continues steadily to increase, and the district generally presents a busier appearance. Several applications for enlarged claims under the new regulations have been in most cases granted. The number of people here estimated at 1,433 men and 717 women and children. Licenses issued - miners: quarterly, 89; monthly, 46. Store: half-yearly, 1; quarterly, 1. [47: p.2]
<b>8 Dec 1854</b>	Golden Point - The old favourite spot is daily becoming more populous, the low grounds being now much preferred. Many claims are now being bottomed, which could not be last summer on account of the water. Several applications for lease to erect puddling machines have been made this week. It is understood, also, that the erection of steam machinery is also contemplated by some enterprising parties. [47]
<b>5 Jan 1855</b>	Selling off at Gaynor's Store, Golden Point, Forest Creek, the whole of the extensive Stock, on account of the proprietors retiring from the business. [47: p.1]
<b>5 Jan 1855</b>	Golden Point - Estimated population 3270. Licenses, 28. The heavy rain of the 18th has been of great benefit to those miners having puddling machines, by washing away part of the mud, which has accumulated to an inconvenient degree. [47: p.2]
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	Golden Point - The flats and low grounds, many of which were too wet to be worked last summer, continue to be selected by the miners. A few large claims, and sites for puddling machines, have been granted. [47: p.2]
<b>16 March 1855</b>	Many of the miners are taking advantage of the advanced period of summer to work the wettest portions of Golden Point flat, Adelaide flat, and other low ground impracticable at the other seasons of the year. These wet claims repay the labour bestowed upon them. [47: p.2]
<b>22 June 1855</b>	The late rains have caused many sinking on the low grounds to relinquish their claims; on the other hand, the back gullies have attracted a considerable number of miners, most of whom are engaged in working puddling machines. Sluice washing is now being carried on to some extent. [47: p. 2]
<b>16 Nov 1855</b>	The Chinese have almost entirely deserted Barker's Creek, for Golden Point and the side of New Chum Gully. [47: p.2]
<b>19/7/1857</b>	Reefs being worked: Bolivia, Town, Eureka, Lower Wattle Gully, Specimen Hill, Mt Alexander, Golden Point, Dirty Dick's, Old Specimen Hill, Sebastopol, Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. [37]

- August 1859** Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Coombs and Company, Golden Point, 12 h.p. 8 stamps, 2 tables, &c.; Hughes, Golden Point, 6 h.p., 4 stamps, &c.; Davies, Golden Point, 7 h.p., 4 stamps, &c; Williams, Golden Point, 8 h.p., 8 stamps, &c.; Lewis and Company, Golden Point, 10 h.p., 8 stamps, &c.; Davis, Golden Point, 10 h.p., 8 stamps, &c. [10]
- Nov 1859** [Referring to plan of Golden Point produced by mining surveyor, T. L. Brown.] By the plan now sent...the source of the alluvial deposits is easily traceable to the quartz reefs on the west of the main workings. The alluvial diggings begin at the Nimrod and Diamond Reefs, head of Golden Gully and the other gullies from the continuation of these reefs. The richest pockets were found in the watercourses and at narrow bends or junctions of the creek. Although the ground [in the immediate neighbourhood of Golden Point] has been constantly worked for 8 years, there are at present profitably employed in alluvial mining 123 Europeans and 882 Chinese, and in quartz mining 161. [10]
- 13 Oct 1860** Golden Point (including Tipperary Flat, etc.) - 26 puddling machines, 6 small quartz crushing machines. [28]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 79 puddlers, 21 tub and cradle workers, 40 paddocking.  
Chinese: 24 puddlers, 31 tub and cradle workers, 97 paddocking.  
21 puddling machines. [10]
- 13 Oct 1860** Golden Point (including Tipperary Flat, etc.) - 26 puddling machines, 6 small quartz crushing machines. [28]
- March 1866** Nearly all the Chinese have left Strathloddon and Guildford, and are taking up old ground at Campbell's Creek, Pennyweight Flat, and Golden Point. [10]
- Dec 1874** At Golden Point Messrs. Mackay and Co. are erecting some newly patented machinery for re-working quartz tailings. [10]
- Dec 1876** Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c.  
Golden Point 60 [10]
- March 1886** NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS:  
Golden Point 47 [10]
- 1903** Golden Point Dredging Co: Electric lighting installed [12: p.12]  
Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.52]
- 1903** Golden Point North Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
- 1903** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
- March 1903** Golden Point Dredging Co.: 333oz gold [10]
- Sept 1903** Golden Point Dredging Co.: 473oz gold [10]
- 1904** Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
- 1904** North Golden Point Junction Dredging/sluicing Co: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.54]
- 1904** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
- Dec 1904** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 218oz gold [10]
- Dec 1904** North Golden Point Junction Dredging/sluicing Co.: 232oz gold [10]
- Dec 1904** Russell's Golden Point Sluicing Co.: 29oz gold [10]
- 1905** North Golden Point Junction Dredging/sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.84-5]
- 1905** Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.82-3]
- 1905** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 82-3]
- March 1905** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 92oz gold [10]
- March 1905** Golden Point Dredging Co.: 496oz gold [10]
- March 1905** North Golden Point Junction Dredging/sluicing Co.: 270oz gold [10]
- March 1905** Russell's Golden Point Sluicing Co.: 209oz gold [10]
- 1906** North Golden Point Junction Dredging/sluicing Co.: Plant closed down [12: pp. 92-3]
- 1906** Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.92-3]
- 1906** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.94-5]
- May 1906** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 285oz gold [10]
- May 1906** Golden Point Dredging Co.: 258oz gold [10]
- May 1906** North Golden Point Junction Dredging/sluicing Co.: 155oz gold [10]
- May 1906** Russell's Golden Point Sluicing Co.: 273oz gold [10]
- June 1906** Russell's Golden Point Sluicing Co.: 103oz gold - D. Fraser, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- June 1906** North Golden Point Junction Dredging/sluicing Co.: 111oz gold - W.G. Blackham, Bendigo, Legal Manager [10]
- June 1906** Golden Point Dredging Co.: 288oz gold, D. Fraser, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- June 1906** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 300oz gold - W.M. Bull, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
- 1907** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: gravity waterfeed, 10 inch gravel pump, 20 horsepower portable engine [12: pp.112-3]
- 1907** Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 16 inch water pump, 14 inch gravel pump, 200 horsepower condensing steam engine [12: pp.112-2]
- 1908** Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]
- 1908** South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [10]

<b>March 1908</b>	South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 143oz gold [10]
<b>March 1908</b>	Golden Point Dredging Co.: 302oz gold [10]
<b>1909</b>	Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.106-7]
<b>1909</b>	J. Llewellyn: 3 head battery [12: p.45]
<b>1909</b>	South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 10 inch gravel pump, 20 horsepower noncondensing steam engine [12: pp.106-7]
<b>June 1909</b>	South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 152oz gold [10]
<b>June 1909</b>	Golden Point Dredging Co.: 215oz gold, G. Chaster, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
<b>1910</b>	Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 2 condensing steam engines (200 horsepower total) [12: pp.98-9]
<b>1910</b>	South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]
<b>March 1910</b>	South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 65oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	South Golden Point Dredging Co.: 69oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Golden Point Dredging Co.: 183oz gold [10]
<b>1911</b>	South Golden Point Dredging Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.106-7]
<b>Sept 1913</b>	J. Llewellyn: 29oz gold [10]
<b>19 Aug 1924</b>	Golden Point Gold Mining Co.: Hornsby 12 horsepower oil engine and friction clutch, 5-head battery, poppet heads [14]

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**9.18 EXPEDITION PASS OR MITCHELL'S PASS**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Another rush has occurred to Mitchell's, or Expedition Pass at the head of Golden Point, in the granite formation. Gold has frequently been found there, but was supposed to have been deposited by the earliest miners on the Forest Creek Goldfield, the locality having formed the first camping ground, and auriferous dirt having been taken there to wash at the springs. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: New workings, Mitchell's Pass - Europeans: 15 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Sept 1884</b>	<b>SITUATION AND CAPACITY OF RESERVOIRS:</b> Expedition Pass 128,000,000 gallons [10]
<b>Mar 1990</b>	Expedition Pass Reservoir - This is where the water for the Garfield water-wheel came from. The big flood of 1899 - they didn't have a bypass on this dam then - the water came straight over the bank and ripped right down Forest Creek. My wife's grandfather, William Dennis, was drowned in the Francis Ormond. [72]

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**9.19 NIMROD REEF OR DONKEY REEF**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** Diamond, Burns' Reefs

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1850s</b>	This line of reef, which consisted for the greater part of a number of spurs dipping in various directions, proved very rich in shallow workings during the time the alluvial deposits of Golden Gully and Forest Creek were being worked. [55: p.26]
<b>April 1857</b>	Our party was about the first to prospect what is now called the Nimrod reef. We saw fine gold in the leaders while sinking two holes there, the deepest of which was 70 feet, but could not find what would be called payable stone at that time. [19: p. 26]
<b>24 April 1857</b>	Nimrod - Palmer and King. New reef discovered on Good Friday 1857. At 2ft struck 16 in. wide quartz. [37]
<b>1 Oct 1858</b>	Averaging less than 1 oz per ton. [37]
<b>17 June 1859</b>	Seven steam engines. [37]
<b>August 1859</b>	9 claims working, 49 miners, 5 good claims. [10]
<b>Nov 1859</b>	[Referring to plan of Forest Creek produced by mining surveyor, T. L. Brown.] By the plan now sent, as also by the general plan of the division previously sent, the source of the alluvial deposits is easily traceable to the quartz reefs on the west of the main workings. The alluvial diggings begin at the Nimrod and Diamond Reefs, head of Golden Gully and the other gullies from the continuation of these reefs. [10]
<b>1860's ?</b>	Undated mining survey map shows a lease of 20 acres held by the Nimrod Reef Mining Co., whose northern boundary is centred on the head of Golden Gully and lease heads south towards Donkey Gully (centre grid reference 55HBU565951); adjoining the southern boundary, centred on the head of Donkey Gully, is another lease, Howell and Co. (centre grid reference 55HBU567947). [77]

- May 1860** Parties reporting quartz yield: Edwards, Lewis. [10]  
**Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Nimrod, or Donkey Reef  
 No. of claims: 8  
 Extent of claim: 960 feet  
 No. of men employed: 20  
 Extent of Reef prospected: 1,200 feet [10]
- June 1861** The Nimrod Reef, Golden Point, which for the past two years has been very dull, has again given proof of its continued richness. This reef has yielded an immense amount of gold from its surface workings, but these being exhausted the reef was partially abandoned; one party however (Williams and Company) determined to prove the quartz in depth, and having sunk their shaft 150 feet were last week well rewarded for their perseverance, the first ten tons giving 43 oz. of gold, and this week a single ton has yielded the splendid quantity of 167 oz. of gold [10]
- 23 Aug 1861** Williams and Co. - 16 ton yielded 96 oz. [37]  
**August 1861** Monthly quartz returns list Williams, and Cook and Company as obtaining quartz from Nimrod Reef [10]
- Sept 1861** Companies/parties crushing quartz and obtaining gold during past month: Williams - 12 ton yielded 6 oz 6 dwt. 16 gr. [10]
- Nov 1861** Map shows the following: in Golden Gully - quartz machine 55HBU568953, quartz machine 55HBU571954, and steam puddling machine 55HBU573953; and in Donkey Gully - quartz machine 55HBU568949, quartz machine 55HBU569949, quartz machine 55HBU570948 [64]
- 7 March 1862** Williams and Co. - 15 tons yielded 133 oz. [37]  
**16 May 1862** Morris and Co. - 25 ton yielded 25 oz. [37]  
**1 Aug 1862** Morris and Co. - 60 ton yielded 60 oz. [37]  
**22 Aug 1862** Williams and Co. - 30 tons yielded 74 oz. [37]  
**5 Oct 1862** Price and Co. - 1 oz to the ton. [37]  
**23 Oct 1862** Lewis and Co. - 24 ton yielded 25 oz.  
 Morris and Co. - 24 ton yielded 25 oz.  
 Jones and Co. - 5 tons yielded average 5 dwt/ton. [37]
- 24 Oct 1863** Jones and Co. (No. 1 claim), Powell and Co. (No. 2), Lewis and Co. (No. 4), Davis and Co. (No. 5), The Crown claim party (No. 3), Jones and Co. (No. 6), Bowen and Co. (No. 7), Morris and Co. (No. 8), Morgan and Co. (No. 9), Joseph and Co. (No. 10). [37]
- 4 Nov 1863** Sherry and Co., Powell and Co. [37]  
**29 Jan 1864** B. Jones - 30 ton yielded 20 oz.  
 Lewis and Co. - commenced crushing and opening a cutting about 60 ft wide. [37]
- March 1864** In March, 1864, Williams and Company again met with rich stone, 18 tons returning 156 oz. of gold, and the other parties treated larger quantities of stone for an average yield of over an ounce per ton, working from the surface to 160 ft in depth. [55: p.26]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Nimrod Reef: 9 claims, 42 men [10]  
**1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865:  
 Powell and Son, Lewis and Company, Jones and Company, Bowan, Evans and others [10]
- March 1866** Continuations of the Nimrod and Quartz hill reefs were taken up for a long distance. [10]  
**1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
 Lewis and Company, Jones B., Powell, Jones D.W., Williams, Jones and Company, Davies, Price, Powell and Jones [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867:  
 Sherry, Bowan or Bowin, Jones, Lewis and Company, Sherry and Jones, Jones B. and Company. [10]
- June 1868** Upon the Nimrod Reef the returns are small, in consequence of most of the claims being worked to water-level, 112 feet. The claim holders are about to amalgamate and sink a shaft 300 feet upon which to place an engine to drain and wind from all claims interested. Rich deposits are proved to exist under the water-level, above which over 12,000 oz. have been obtained, the average yield being 1 oz. to the ton. [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868:  
 Lewis and 5 others, Jones and 7 others, Ten claims [10]
- 3 July 1871** Tributes: B. Jones and Co., Crown Nimrod Co. (will sink shaft in central part of claim). [37]  
**7 July 1871** Crown Nimrod Co. - directors decide to sink new shaft to 140 ft. [37]  
**14 Aug 1871** Paull and Co. [37]  
**15 Aug 1871** Crown Nimrod, Lewis and Co. [37]  
**28 Aug 1871** Jones and Co., Crown Nimrod - shaft down 60 ft. [37]  
**18 Sept 1871** Nimrod Private Co. [37]  
**Sept 1871** On the Post-office, Nimrod, Argus, Dead-cat, and Burns reef, shafts are being sunk to work the deeper leads. [10]

- Dec 1871** Nimrod Reef - The Crown Company are working full handed, sinking shaft to 150 feet; they have erected a whim, and determined to find continuations of some of the rich leads of former years. The North Nimrod has cleaned out a 90-foot shaft, and is sinking it deeper. Upon the miners' right claims very little is being done, nor can be until the amalgamate and sink deeper. [10]
- 10 June 1872** New North Crown Nimrod - eastern shaft is down 70 ft. [37]
- June 1872** Nimrod and Manchester Reefs - new plants being erected to work below water-level. [10]
- Sept 1872** On the Nimrod Reef the Crown Company finds it necessary to increase their capital and erect proper steam machinery for draining the reef, which, above water-level, has averaged nearly 1 oz. to the ton. [10]
- 29 Jan 1873** North Nimrod Co. - have suspended operations for six months. [37]
- Sept 1873** On the Nimrod Reef a 14 horse-power engine, with drainage machinery, is nearly completed. Its efficient working will enable all the mines of this rich line of reef to carry on operations below water-level upon golden quartz followed to that depth some years ago. [10]
- March 1874** The Crown Nimrod engine-shaft is down 180 feet, and has drained the reef above that level, having struck the reef. [10]
- March 1875** The late Crown Nimrod is being worked as a co-operative company. [10]
- Sept 1878** The Nimrod Reef Company have completed erection of machinery, and now have one 16-horse power engine for pumping and winding, and one 12-horse power to drive battery, and start with good prospects. [10]
- March 1880** On the Crown Nimrod, a reef underlying west (situate west of all previous workings which underlaid east, and apparently forming the west leg of a saddle-reef) has been found in a fine slate country; a trial crushing yielded 18 oz. 8 dwts. from 16 tons taken from a large body of stone. [10]
- Sept 1881** On the Nimrod Reef, Lewis and Co. have just discovered, east of their old workings, a new make of quartz, which shows gold freely. [10]
- Sept 1884** The Crown Nimrod Company has sold out to a party of practical men. [10]
- Dec 1884** The Crown Nimrod, having effected necessary repairs and improvements to machinery and mine, have commenced driving for the several gold-bearing lodes known to exist. [10]
- Sept 1887** The Crown Nimrod mine has been purchased by a Melbourne syndicate... [10]
- March 1888** The Nimrod Reef upon which the deepest shaft is 180 feet, and from which 22,325 tons yielded 16,670oz. of gold, remained for years past unworked, and unproven below water level. The Crown claim has changed hands at a nominal price and is to be worked. [10]
- June 1888** Two other new companies have been registered during the quarter, viz., The White Horse Gold Mining Company, who have added a 10-head battery and extensive housing to their mining plant, and The Crown Nimrod Quartz Mining Company, who are sinking their engine shaft... This latter company have bought out all the claimholder, who for many years have "shepherded" this reef. [10]
- 19 April 1899** The Nimrod Reef is now about to lose its ancient cognomen for the still more ancient and probably more apropos title of the Mount Alexander Reef. Mr John Cooper, in our issue of to-day, advertises application for lease of this historical mining ground, on behalf of the Anglo Mount Alexander Company. Of all the large yields of gold from old Forest Creek, none have excelled those from Nimrod - or Donkey Reef, as it was first known by. The four claims within the present Company's area, viz., Powell's, Lewis's, Jones's, and Bowen's, returned over 150,000 oz of gold from the surface to 95 ft in depth. There is a well-defined lava dyke lode, with numerous spur leads, also strongly formed indicator, running almost parallel (strike 344) from which yields as high as 300 oz to the ton were crushed in the palmy days of Donkey Reef quartz mining. It is not at all creditable to our local mining enterprise to be informed that the greatest depth to which this future great mine has been worked is 110 ft. The line of reef is one of the best defined in the district, and has been traced for about 10 miles, where it commences its course south of the White Horse Reef in the Fryers district and butts against the granite of the Mount Alexander range, north of the old Specimen Gully mine. The late Mr T.L. Brown, mining surveyor, who was on the field in the early fifties, computed that in the two short gullies - Donkey and Golden - running eastwards into the source of Forest Creek at Golden Point - over 21/4 tons of gold were won in a few months' time. [37]
- 28 April 1900** Some of the richest surface finds, both quartz and alluvial, obtained in the early days, came from the property now held under lease by the Capper's Reef Gold Mining Company. The lease, which comprises about 41 acres, lies immediately south of the Specimen Reef mine at Barker's Creek, and although the line of reef has not been positively identified, it is generally believed to be the favourably known Nimrod line. [37]
- 19 June 1900** The Golden Point Mine - it is a new line, about 300 feet east of the Nimrod line. [37]

17 Feb 1937

Prospectus of Nimrod Developments, No Liability...

The Nimrod Mine is situated on the fourth line of reef east of the Wattle Gully line about 2 miles north from Chewton. The reef was first worked prior to 1859, and in that year it was considered exhausted. Re-opened in 1861, it had produced by the end of 1886 13,321 tons of ore which yielded 11,040 oz. of gold, from workings extending less than 150 feet from surface. The claims working on this reef were amalgamated into the Crown Company in 1871, and a main shaft was sunk to a depth of 180 feet. This shaft is considered to have been placed too far west to locate the downward trend of the auriferous formations. It was deepened to 260 feet in 1888 by a subsequent company, but due to the apparent lack of interest in the field at the time little development was carried out and the mine was closed down.

The total recorded production from the Nimrod workings was 22,325 tons of ore, which yielded 16,670 oz. of gold...

The Nimrod Reef. The reef has been extensively worked between Donkey Gully on the south and Golden Gully on the north, an apparently continuous distance of 20 chains. North of Golden Gully no gold has been found. The north end of the reef has been worked from a number of rather closely spaced, small vertical shafts, which do not seem to be deeper than about 109 feet. From the heads of the north-south gully which lies on the east side of the workings and junctions with Golden Gully, a tunnel, giving very limited backs, has been driven about 250 feet, commencing on a bearing of 225 degrees and turning to 270 degrees. Connection has been made to surface, and at 230 feet from the mouth a shallow winze has been sunk. In the tunnel a reef, apparently up to 5 feet wide and dipping east at a very flat angle, has been stoped.

The middle section of the reef has been worked by an open cut about 500 feet long, 60 feet wide and 50 feet high on the western side, from which a large tonnage has been won. Winzes have been sunk below the floor of the cut for an unknown depth. These workings have an easterly dip, and on the western side, dipping west, is a reef, which may be the western leg of a saddle.

Between the open cut and Donkey Gully are shafts, and small open cuts. On the northern side of the gully a main shaft, now collapsed at the collar, has been sunk to a depth of 260 feet. An anticlinal fold is reported to be exposed in the south end of the workings...

Detail in the [Bulletin No. 2 issued by the Department of Mines] respecting the "Burns-Nimrod" line of reef discloses that from the small amount of effectual development on this line the following results were obtained.

Burns Claim	2890 tons for 2402 oz
Little Burns Claim	165 tons for 322 oz.
Blarney Claim	1261 tons for 1111 oz.
Nimrod Claim	22325 tons for 16670 oz.
Specimen Gully	7093 tons for 2929 oz.
Total	33734 tons for 23434 oz.

The 'Nimrod' claim was worked through the open cut to a depth of approximately 140 feet. No deeper development work has been carried out on this section of the lease.

The following reports on the property are submitted for subscribers' information:

Dear Sir,

The open cut on the Nimrod mine is the largest in the Castlemaine district.

W. Baragwanath

Director of Geological Survey

WATER: This is an essential item and the leases are particularly fortunate in having a plentiful supply of water carried by a race which runs within 500 feet of the proposed position of the plant. [37]

1990

Welsh Village - top of Golden Gully. Major Mitchell is supposed to have come through Golden Gully. Ruins of at least five house sites and several outbuildings, mine workings and sections of roads. The Victorian Archaeological Survey has examined the ruins.

North of the Welsh Village, on both sides of a feeder gully, are about 25 well-formed mounds of rock. This area was once part of the Faraday Common. Some locals view the mounds as graves.

Going south from the Welsh Village, along the line of the Nimrod workings, is the site of the Nimrod mine; the East Nimrod was further down in the gully [all that remains of the East Nimrod are shafts and mullock].

Nimrod mine - On the top of the ridge separating the two gullies is a large open-cut belonging to an early phase on mining here... partly filled by mullock from later re-workings. In the open-cut is a tunnel - probably a haulage tunnel - called Jones' Adit. Jones and Lewis dug the tunnel and filled in the open-cut with the mullock. The Nimrod mine was re-worked in the 1930s. Jim Lindsay worked here then. Above the open-cut are large slate quarries, worked in the 1950s. At that time, the tunnel described above was utilised as a powder magazine. [69]

<b>9.20</b>		<b>BURNS' REEF/WELCOME REEF-BURNS HILL</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Burns Hill, Blarney Reef a southerly continuation	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1850s</b>	When first discovered, this line of reef yielded very profitable returns, and work was carried out on a number of parallel lines of reef by means of shafts and open cuts. As the gold was found to continue to a depth, a number of tunnels were driven	
<b>1854</b>	to intersect these various reefs and afford a cheaper means of working. [55: p.22] Burn's reef, which has been tapped by means of a tunnel. It was one of the earliest gold producers, being, as far back as 1854, on the list of good things. The late Sir J.B. Paterson was one of the eight who worked it for a time. Before its final abandonment, many years ago, the records show that 2800 tons were crushed from it for 2402 oz. In 1854 the Salmon party got 343 oz. from 161 tons [74]	
<b>August 1859</b>	Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Walker and Company, Forest Creek, 12 h.p. 16 head, amalgamator, &c. [10]	
<b>August 1859</b>	Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Jenkin and Company, Forest Creek, 10 h.p. 8 stamps, 2 tables, &c. [10]	
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 4 miners, has been payable. [10]	
<b>Dec 1859</b>	Parties reporting yield of quartz: Burns's - Jenkins. [10]	
<b>October 1859</b>	Yield of quartz: Welcome Reef, Jenkins's, per ton 1 oz. 3 dwt. Welcome Reef, Jenkins's No. 2, 6 ton yielding 6 oz. 12 dwt. [10]	
<b>1860</b>	In 1860 Jenkin and Co. put through 85 tons for the fine yield of 289 oz. [74]	
<b>July 1860</b>	Price of Crushing - Another reduction has been made in the price charged for crushing quartz. Opie and Co. and Jenkins and Co. have lowered to 10s. per ton, and Fairbairne to 12s. 6d. other mill owners have given up crushing for the public, averring the above prices unpayable, but the powerful machinery now being brought into use will be able to crush profitably at such prices, and will give a very great impetus to quartz-mining operations. [10]	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 6 puddlers; 24 tub and cradle workers. Chinese: 5 tub and cradle workers. 3 puddling machines. [10]	
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Burns, and Welcome (2) No. of claims: 2 Extent of claim: 240 feet No. of men employed: 4 Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Burns, and Welcome (2) No. of claims: Lease Extent of claim: 612 feet No. of men employed: 8 Extent of Reef prospected: 2,200 (claims and lease combined) [10]	
<b>Dec 1860</b>	The Golden Point Quartz Mining Company is removing a superior plant from Newstead to the site formerly occupied by the Chewton Company's machinery. [10]	
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz leases applied for and surveyed but not yet demised: [include] Golden Point Company Applicant: P. Hunter and Company Area: 4 acres 27 perches Feet on reef: 612 Machinery: Sixteen horse-power engine, twelve stamps, erecting Number of men employed: 8 [10]	
<b>Feb 1861</b>	The Golden Point Company has completed the erection of their machinery and will commence crushing next week, when further returns are expected from the Burns and Welcome Reefs. [10]	
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Companies/Parties crushing quartz & obtaining gold: Lawrie - 100 ton yielded 5 dwt of gold. [10]	
<b>Nov 1861</b>	Map shows Lease No. 90, Golden Point Quartz Mining Co., no structures shown, claim runs along the eastern side of New Chum Gully. [64]	
<b>Dec 1861</b>	On the Burns' Reef the prospectors have again found auriferous quartz, after driving a distance of 70 feet from their last payable stone. [10]	
<b>13 Oct 1863</b>	Burns reef again being taken up. [37]	
<b>30 Oct 1863</b>	Victoria Company - working 2 shafts George and Co. - working the 3rd shaft. [37]	
<b>6 Aug 1864</b>	Duckett and Co. - depth 100 ft. [37]	



<b>19 Sept 1864</b>	Featherby - 12 tons yielded 27 oz. Cutting into hill 40 ft from the surface and following the reef down. [37]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Burns (newly discovered): 3 claims, 10 men [10]
<b>23 Dec 1864</b>	Featherby and Co. - reef is 15 ft wide. Lovell and Co. - working ground adjoining Featherby and Co., working a face into hill. McWaters. [37]
<b>1860s</b>	McWalter crushed 360 tons for 224-oz. [74]
<b>Dec 1864</b>	Salmon and Company, during December, 1864, crushed 113 tons for 246 ounces... [55: p.22].
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865: Salmon and Company, McWaters and Lovel (or McWattur's and Lord). [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Featherby, McWaters and others, Salmon and Company, Bennett's [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: McWaters and others, Salmon and others [10]
<b>end 1867</b>	The reefs continued to return profitable yields to the end of 1867. [55: p.22]
<b>Sept 1868</b>	In quartz mining considerable interest is taken. A large number of applications have been made for quartz prospecting claims - the Loddon, Burns, and many other of our old reefs being retaken up; some by companies from Ballarat. [10]
<b>March 1869</b>	The Burns Reef Company has made a commencement. [10]
<b>June 1869</b>	In the Chewton locality several new reefs have been discovered. The East Burns [sic], from a conglomeration of slate, sandstone, and quartz, yields 13/4 oz. of gold to the ton... This line of reef, including the Black Monday Reef, is taken up for the length of 4,000 feet. [10]
<b>Sept 1871</b>	On the Post-office, Nimrod, Argus, Dead-cat, and Burns reefs, shafts are being sunk to work the deeper leads. [10]
<b>Sept 1874</b>	For the Burns' Reef, Chewton, a large plant has been purchased, and tenders called for its erection; the lessees intending to crush from a face, there being an immense body of quartz containing gold. [10]
<b>Dec 1874</b>	On the Burns' Reef the Bertha Company are progressing with erection of machinery and preliminary works necessary to crush on an extensive scale. [10]
<b>Sept 1875</b>	The Bolivia, Nuggetty, Manchester, and Burns Reefs are again being profitably worked. [10]
<b>Dec 1877</b>	The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
<b>March 1878</b>	The New Caledonia, Dan O'Connell, Burns, Nimrod, Sebastopol, Fortuna, and other quartz reefs are being worked with better prospects [10]
<b>Dec 1878</b>	The closing of so many of our large mines and machinery has obliged the miners to prospect for themselves; consequently the reefs are better prospected than for some time past; the best yields are McWalters, Burn's Reef, 65 oz. 6 dwts. from 20 tons, and Starkey, 23 oz. 4 dwts, from 24 tons. [10]
<b>June 1888</b>	The Burns Reef Company...have purchased a 15-head battery, which they purpose driving by water-power. The V.W.S. race runs across their leases. [10]
<b>1990</b>	Burns Hill is riddled with shafts, some tunnels and an open-cut. The water race from Expedition Pass to the Garfield water-wheel runs around the south side of Burns Hill. A small machinery site (square stone chimney stack, flue and walls of boiler house) is situated on private property (belonging to George Ralph) below the water race. A machinery site is located on the west side of New Chum Gully. [69]

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<b>9.21</b>	<b>LITTLE BURNS' HILL/LITTLE BURNS' REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Burns' Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>26 Sept 1898</b>	Little Burns Hill - A level has been put in 20 feet south from the 50 feet cross-cut along the lode; good stone has been met with, and there is now a fair prospect in the face; will continue to drive on. [37]
<b>10 Oct 1898</b>	Little Burns Reef - In driving south from 50 feet, cross-cut broke into old workings, now fallen in, but they are deeper than our present workings, and go south. Will now go into shaft to the north-west of the present and sink till we pass through the reef. [37]
<b>1910</b>	The Little Burns reef was sunk on for 20 ft., and in that distance 165 tons of stone were taken up for 322 oz. of gold [74]

<b>9.22</b>		<b>DIAMOND REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Burns, Donkey, Nimrod Reefs	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>August 1859</b>	2 claims working, 7 miners. [10]	
<b>Nov 1859</b>	[Referring to plan of Forest Creek produced by mining surveyor, T. L. Brown.] By the plan now sent, as also by the general plan of the division previously sent, the source of the alluvial deposits is easily traceable to the quartz reefs on the west of the main workings. The alluvial diggings begin at the Nimrod and Diamond Reefs, head of Golden Gully and the other gullies from the continuation of these reefs. [10]	
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Diamond Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 120 feet No. of men employed: 2 Extent of Reef prospected: 1,160 feet [10]	
<b>Sept 1864</b>	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Diamond, or Perseverance: 2 claims, 4 men [10]	
<b>9.23</b>		<b>GOLDEN GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Diamond, Nimrod Reefs	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Nov 1859</b>	[Referring to plan of Forest Creek produced by mining surveyor, T. L. Brown.] By the plan now sent, as also by the general plan of the division previously sent, the source of the alluvial deposits is easily traceable to the quartz reefs on the west of the main workings. The alluvial diggings begin at the Nimrod and Diamond Reefs, head of Golden Gully and the other gullies from the continuation of these reefs. [10]	
<b>1860's ?</b>	Undated mining survey map shows a lease of 20 acres, Nimrod Reef Mining Company, whose northern boundary is centred on the head of Golden Gully and lease heads south towards Donkey Gully (centre grid reference 55HBU565951); adjoining the southern boundary, centred on the head of Donkey Gully, is another lease, Howell and Co. (centre grid reference 55HBU567947). [77]	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 7 puddlers, 3 tub and cradle workers. 2 puddling machines [10]	
<b>Nov 1861</b>	Map shows: in Golden Gully - quartz machine 55HBU568953, quartz machine 55HBU571954, and steam puddling machine 55HBU573953. [64]	
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Long & Golden Gullies - Europeans: 4 puddlers, 8 ordinary miners [10]	
<b>1990</b>	Welsh Village - top of Golden Gully. Major Mitchell supposed to have come through Golden Gully. Ruins of at least five house sites and several outbuildings, mine workings and sections of roads. The Victorian Archaeological Survey has examined the ruins. North of the Welsh Village, on both sides of a feeder gully, are about 25 well-formed mounds of rock. This area was once part of the Faraday Common, some locals view the mounds as graves. Going S from the Welsh Village, along the line of the Nimrod workings, is the site of the Nimrod mine; the East Nimrod was further down in the gully [all that remains of the E Nimrod are shafts and mullock]. Nimrod mine - On the top of the ridge separating the two gullies is a large open-cut belonging to an early phase on mining here. It has been partly filled by mullock from later re-workings. In the open-cut is a tunnel - probably a haulage tunnel -called Jones' Adit. Jones and Lewis dug the tunnel and filled in the open-cut with the mullock. The Nimrod mine was re-worked in the 1930s. Jim Lindsay worked here then. Above the open-cut are large slate quarries, worked in the 1950s. At that time, the tunnel described above was utilised as a powder magazine. [69]	

<b>9.24 DONKEY GULLY</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Nimrod/Donkey Reef
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>15 Aug 1856</b>	A small rush to near the top of Donkey Gully - alluvial. [37]
<b>1860's ?</b>	Undated mining survey map shows a lease of 20 acres held by the Nimrod Reef Mining Company, whose northern boundary is centred on the head of Golden Gully and lease heads south towards Donkey Gully (centre grid reference 55HBU565951); adjoining the southern boundary, centred on the head of Donkey Gully, is another lease, Howell and Co. (centre grid reference 55HBU567947). [77]
<b>21 Dec 1860</b>	Golden Point Mining Co. - 6 ton yielded 4 oz/ton. [37]
<b>1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 4 puddlers, 3 tub and cradle workers. 1 puddling machine [10]
<b>Nov 1861</b>	Map shows: in Donkey Gully - quartz machine 55HBU568949, quartz machine 55HBU569949, quartz machine 55HBU570948 [64]
<b>2 May 1862</b>	Carter and Co. - 10 ton yielded 45 oz. [37]
<b>18 Jan 1864</b>	Morris and Co. taken up lease of 120 ft. [37]
<b>June 1864</b>	Donkey Gully & Poor Man's Flat - Europeans: 3 puddlers, 12 ordinary miners - Chinese: 10 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Donkey Gully & Poor Man's Flat - Europeans: 3 puddlers, 12 ordinary miners - Chinese: 10 ordinary miners Donkey Flat & Deadman's Gully - Europeans: 17 puddlers [10]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	From the head of Donkey Gully, running north towards Golden Gully, are leases 1745, 1321 and 3595, all working the West Nimrod Reef. (mid grid ref. 568949) [30]
<b>1990</b>	Donkey Gully - small machinery site consisting of round chimney stack (1.5m diameter), constructed mainly of clay and some stone. A flue leads downhill from the stack. To the east of the stack and flue is the site of the True Blue Britain Hotel and immediately opposite may be the site of the Nimrod Hotel. [69]
<b>1905</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: Constructing pumped sluicing plant [12: pp.82-3]
<b>1906</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.92-3]
<b>1907</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating: 12 inch water pump, 10 inch gravel pump, 120 horsepower noncondensing steam engine [12: pp.112-3]
<b>June 1907</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 244oz gold [10]
<b>Oct 1907</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: F.H. Carter, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
<b>1908</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.98-9]
<b>March 1908</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 115oz gold [10]
<b>1909</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.106-7]
<b>March 1910</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: 30oz gold [10]
<b>1910</b>	Donkey Gully Hydraulic Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant idle [12: pp.98-9]

<b>9.25 DEADMAN'S GULLY</b>	
<b>MINING DIVISION</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Donkey Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>11 Jan 1852</b>	A poor fellow died from dysentery on Wednesday; his remains were interred in one of the gullies. I believe this is the first man that has died of that complaint. [83: 15/1/1852: p.2]
<b>12 March 1852</b>	One adult and two children have died from dysentery, and there are now 14 graves in one gully... [83: 15/3/1852: pp.2-3]
<b>22 March 1852</b>	Dysentery...[is] now stalking abroad through the Diggings... Death follows death in quick succession, until the humble little burial place of four graves, to which one of your correspondents has alluded, has gradually assumed the appearance of a town cemetery... [83: 22/3/1852: p.2]
<b>29 March 1852</b>	I regret to state that deaths from dysentery are frequent, the gully opposite has become a grave yard, and requires fencing in, which I trust the diggers will do or have done shortly; a pennyweight of gold from each would fence in a large piece of ground to prevent horses, &c., treading over the graves of the departed. [83: 5/4/1852: p.2]

<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 8 tub and cradle workers. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Donkey Flat & Deadman's Gully - Europeans: 17 puddlers [10]
<b>1990</b>	Head of Deadman's Gully - a tunnel driven west, called the Lewis tunnel, also some mullock. There is a cemetery reserve in this gully...there are still a few mounds visible. [69]

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**9.26 SHICER GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 4 tub and cradle workers. [10]

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**9.27 COMMISSIONER'S GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>21 April 1852</b>	Six new stations are to be formed, viz. at Bendigo, at Friar's Creek, at the Loddon River, at the Adelaide Gully, at Golden Point, and at the Sawpit Gully on the Melbourne Road. [83: 21/4/1852: p.2]
<b>Sept 1884</b>	SITUATION AND CAPACITY OF RESERVOIRS: Commissioner's Gully 7,000,000 gallons [10]
<b>1990</b>	Driving from Expedition Pass Reservoir to Chewton - turning up Parsons Road. This will take you to Commissioners Dam and old police barracks. Remains of both still visible. This dam also was breached in the 1899 flood. [72]

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**9.28 TIPPERARY FLAT AND TIPPERARY GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	Golden Point (including Tipperary Flat, etc.) - 26 puddling machines, 6 small quartz crushing machines. [28]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Chinese: 5 tub and cradle workers. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Tipperary Gully - Europeans: 4 puddlers, 9 ordinary miners - Chinese: 2 ordinary miners [10]

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**9.29 TRAPP'S GULLY**

**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 6 puddlers, 4 tub and cradle workers. Chinese: 6 tub and cradle workers. 3 puddling machines. [10]
<b>Sept 1864</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Trapp's Gully - Europeans: 2 puddlers, 3 ordinary miners - Chinese: 18 ordinary miners [10]

<b>9.30</b>	<b>TRAPPS REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Trapp's Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Oct 1860</b>	From Trapps Reef, where a tunnel was driven and shafts sunk within a few inches of the gold and then abandoned, parties are now realising 2-oz. 11 dwt. per ton. [10]
<b>1990</b>	Going down Trapp's Gully (from Burns Hill to Golden Point Road) the gully has been sluiced; some quartz workings, lots of shafts, open cut and mullock dumps; battery sand and some stone walls which may be boiler house; on opposite side of gully to machinery site (on S side) is a house site, partly excavated into slope. On private land in Trapp's Gully - two fireplaces, nice stone work. [72]
<b>9.31</b>	<b>BLACK MONDAY REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>1865</b>	New Reef, Golden Point. Reported yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Babcock [10]
<b>June 1869</b>	In the Chewton locality several new reefs were discovered. The East Barns [sic], from a conglomeration of slate, sandstone, and quartz, yields 13/4 oz. of gold to the ton... This line of reef, including the Black Monday Reef, is taken up for the length of 4,000 feet. [10]
<b>1869</b>	The reef was again taken up and prospected, without payable results. [55: p.21]
<b>9.32</b>	<b>COACH FLAT</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	Coach Flat - 3 puddling machines [28]
<b>9.33</b>	<b>ESMOND'S REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Coach Flat
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Dec 1868</b>	Several new lines of reef are being prospected: [including]...Esmond's Reef, east of Coach Flat, Golden Point, running thence under the alluvium. [10]
<b>9.34</b>	<b>BRITISH AMERICAN REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	German Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Dec 1861</b>	1 claim of 320 feet worked by 2 men, 700 feet prospected. [10]

<b>9.35</b>		<b>BONNET FLAT</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Welcome Reef (south)
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	Walker's Bridge is situated on the western end of this flat (grid ref. 564927). Also Walker's quartz crushing machine. Jenkin's Bridge is on the eastern end (grid ref. 568927). To the north of Bonnet Flat are Jenkins quartz crushing machine and Butterworth's fellmongery. (grid ref 55HBU 565928) [28]	
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Bonnet Flat - Europeans: 3 puddlers, 19 ordinary miners - Chinese: 6 puddlers, 8 ordinary miners [10]	
<b>Nov 1861</b>	Map shows : Jenkin's quartz mine on Bonnet Flat and one structure (grid ref 55HBU567927). Philip's quartz mine, working Cemetery Reef, near Argus Hill and structure (grid ref 55HBU564927). Walker's quartz mine, one structure (grid ref 55HBU564927) [64]	
<b>9.36</b>		<b>SCRAMBLE GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Chinese: 2 tub and cradle workers. [10]	
<b>9.37</b>		<b>TOWN OF CHEWTON</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Sept/Oct 1851</b>	[At Chewton] near where the Mount Alexander Hotel afterwards stood, saw a shepherd's hut from which we could get plenty of mutton. I should think there were about 150 diggers there at that time, and the diggings were nearly opposite Dead Man's Gully. I saw only one store, I think it was Black's, and there was also a hawker's cart. The following week we were visited by two Aboriginal police, looking for licences. Being asked if we had any, some of our men said "Yes," and showed them a pound note, which seemed to satisfy them. I do not think many diggers had obtained licences, for I got one at that time numbered 15. People now began to arrive very fast from Melbourne, and other parts of the Colony. Those from Melbourne came down the creek, while those from Ballarat went up the creek to Golden Point. The authorities built a large place at Post Office Hill; I think it was called the "Port Phillip Gold Office and Stables," on the very ground that the Mount Alexander Hotel was subsequently built on. The whole of those premises was burned down in December, 1851. Some...may recollect a Johnny-all-Sorts shop next to the Government building, kept by a very eccentric character whose name was MacTaggart. The best-paying thing he had was his grindstone, for he charged 6d. for grinding a butcher's knife or an axe, and, if he turned the stone himself, one shilling extra. There was only one blacksmith on the diggings, and his smithy stood where Messrs Norman and James afterwards kept a store. The first bakery was put up near where Joshua Bros' store was built, afterwards the Manchester Hotel, on the same ground. [17: pp.10-11]	
<b>14 Jan 1852</b>	In every case where [Forest] creek is joined by a creek or gully a similar line of tents may be seen as far as the eye can reach, and at the junction of these creeks or gullies with the Forest Creek, a little village or kind of township is formed, consisting generally of one or two stores, a ginger beer establishment, a butcher's shop, and in some cases at the foot of a large gum tree, a solitary dealer in nuts and lollypops. The largest of these townships or villages and the principal seat of attraction is where the <i>Argus</i> and the Post-office is stationed, and it is at this spot where the greatest quantity of gold has been disembowelled. The place is called Red Hill. [83: p.2].	

- c. 1852/3 (n.d.)** The economy of a town of bark huts and tents, where 40,000 persons have been fortuitously congregated together, as at Mt Alexander, without previous concert, or the discipline of a camp, must exhibit some curious features. We learn, however, that where the Melbourne road meets the Forest Creek a large square has been formed. The Office of the Argus newspaper and the Post-Office occupy one side; opposite these are two very large stores; a third side is formed by an eating-house, two lemonade establishments, a druggist's, and a barber's.; the fourth by a green grocer's, a soda-water manufactory, and a doctor's, and three other tents not completed at the date of our information. From this spot some twenty-five conveyances start for Melbourne during the week. This is the market-place and general rendezvous of the population. It is thronged with vendors of all sorts of commodities - tools, tents, carts, horses, apples, oranges, ginger-beer, cigars, &c. [41: p. 64]
- late-1853** I found myself at the latter end of 1853 making for Forest Creek. Crossing Keilor Plains to Aitken's Gap numerous bullock-drays were encountered taking stores to the diggings - a favourite mode of locomotion in those days, when cartage was £100 per ton, or more. On arrival at Forest Creek... on old Post Office Hill, (now Chewton) I put up at a calico shanty, kept by a boniface from the old country, who was doing a little in the sly-grog trade. [16: p.3]
- 1853-4** We tried about Fryers for a week or two with very little success, so departed for Forest Creek, and on reaching there got quarters in the old original Mountain Hut, corner of Wattle Flat and Main Road, afterwards the site of the Golden Hope Hotel. My first step towards realising an independency was to call on Mr McTaggart, storekeeper, of Post Office Hill, Chewton, more generally known as "Johnny Allsorts," and enter into negotiations with him for the purchase of my surplus worldly possessions, which consisted of a pair of blankets and a licence to dig for gold, some time of which had yet to run. Licences were not transferable, yet there was a considerable trade done in them, and it was often a difficult matter for a digger to recollect his name when he showed the police his permit. The sale realised the munificent sum of 15/-. It was speedily spent, board being 40/- per week, and not wishing to incur debt which I saw no prospect of paying, I left the Mountain Hut, and for two nights camped on the mountain - Adelaide Hill. I got work at last with a party sluicing in the creek at 15/- per day, but, having been on very short commons for a few days, could not stand the work. [20: p.38]
- 3 June 1854** Tenders for the Erection of an Hotel at the Junction of the Forest Creek and Fryer's Creek roads, about midway between Elphinstone and Castlemaine, in Brick and Wood. Messrs Hooper and Sullivan, Wine Merchants, Castlemaine. [47: p.1]
- 29 Sept 1854** A boy wanted at the Panama Refreshment Tent, Forest Creek, to make himself generally useful. [47: p.5]
- 10 Nov 1854** Red Hill Hotel for sale. This Hotel is situated nearly half-way between Sawpit Gully and Castlemaine on one of the most populous parts of Forest Creek. [47: p.5]
- 19 Jan 1855** Joseph Whiting and Jesse Devenham, Blacksmiths and Farriers, Forest Creek (nearly opposite the Golden Hope). Diggers' tools repaired. Horses shod on reasonable terms. [47: p.1]
- 16 March 1855** [Auction] The Junction Inn, Situate at the Junction of the Forest and Fryer's Creek Roads. [47: p.6]
- 4 March 1856** Golden Point Toll Gate, Junction of Fryer's and Forest Creek Road. [47: p.3]
- 11 April 1856** Land Sale - Town Lots - Chewton. In the parish of Chewton, on the main road from Castlemaine to Elphinstone. Upset price £10 per acre. [47: p.2]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men:  
Chewton (new claim): 2 claims, 6 men [10]
- Dec 1876** Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c.  
Chewton 180 [10]
- March 1886** NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF MINERS:  
Chewton 165 [10]  
[Hydraulic sluicing/dredging:]
- June 1909** H. Schraeder: 24oz gold [10]
- June 1913** D.S.or J.S. Dennis: 23 oz gold [10]
- June 1913** W.E. Botten: 28oz gold [10]
- July 1913** Bentley Bros: 39oz gold [10]
- Sept 1913** D.S.or J.S. Dennis: 16oz gold [10]
- Sept 1913** Bentley Bros: 36oz gold [10]
- Sept 1913** P.H. Juniper: 52oz gold [10]
- Sept 1913** W.E. Botten: 13oz gold [10]
- July 1914** P.H. Juniper: 55oz gold [10]
- June 1914** D.S.or J.S. Dennis: 11oz gold [10]
- June 1914** J. Miller: 62oz gold [10]
- Sept 1914** J. Miller: 84oz gold [10]
- Sept 1914** D.S.or J.S. Dennis: 14oz gold [10]
- June 1914** W.E. Botten: 30oz gold [10]
- June 1914** Bentley Bros: 54oz gold [10]

<b>Sept 1914</b>	W.E. Botten: 16oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1914</b>	Bentley Bros: 23oz gold [10]
<b>Sept 1914</b>	P.H. Juniper: 6oz gold [10]
<b>Nov 1914</b>	Bentley Bros: 4oz gold [10]
<b>Dec 1914</b>	P.H. Juniper: 13oz gold [10]
<b>Dec 1914</b>	J. Miller: 78oz gold [10]
<b>June 1915</b>	J. Miller: 66oz gold [10]
<b>1990</b>	Archbold's Works, Chewton: Bert Archbold was a metallurgist. His eldest boy, Peter, worked with him (he's now dead) and his youngest boy, Harry, died last year. The Archbold workings go back a long way. Jerimah Archbold started the works and his son, Bert, took over from him. Another boy, Rex, he used to do a lot of cyaniding; he cyanided a lot over here at the Garfield. [72] Dredged section of Forest Creek at junction of Burns Hill track and Golden Point road - leased by Shire of Metcalf for acquiring gravel, will be landscaped. Travelling along Golden Point Road to Chewton - site of Catholic church, Golden Point School, all the remains is an oak tree and some stone walls. Near junction of Golden Point road and Pyrenees Highway - site of British American Hotel, they called it the Chewton Pleasure Gardens. Used to be an old fountain in there, but I think it's gone now. Site has numerous exotic trees. [66]

<b>9.38</b>		<b>BREAK-OF-DAY REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Sept 1872</b>	Two new reefs have been opened at Chewton; the first, named the "Break-of-Day", is situated easterly of any previous discoveries in the Forest Creek watershed; from it 61 tons crushed yielded 731/2 oz; two claimholders are crushing, and others are sinking on the line. [10]	
<b>9.39</b>		<b>PIONEER REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>August 1859</b>	List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes]: Pioneer Company, Forest Creek, 600 yards, projected. [10]	
<b>Sept 1859</b>	The Pioneer Company has taken no action other than applying for the lease of ground adjoining and in a line with the famous Old Post Office Hill Reefs, Forest Creek. [10]	
<b>Nov 1859</b>	Operations commenced...on the Pioneer. [10]	
<b>9.40</b>		<b>NEW CHUM GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Bonnet Flat
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 6 tub and cradle workers. [10]	
<b>March 1908</b>	New Chum Gully Sluicing Co.: 130oz gold, P.C. Baker, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]	
<b>June 1909</b>	New Chum Gully Sluicing Co.: 27oz gold [10]	
<b>March 1910</b>	New Chum Gully Sluicing Co.: 23oz gold [10]	
<b>Sept 1910</b>	New Chum Gully Sluicing Co.: 72oz gold [10]	



<b>9.41 ARGUS FLAT</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Chewton Reef/Nuggetty Reef/Little Nuggetty Reef/Argus Hill Reef
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
mid- 1852	We started sinking for water again on what is now known as "Argus Flat," and found another golden claim, taking 6 oz. of rough gold off the bottom and securing as much water as would clean up the remainder of our washdirt from our good claim on Poverty Hill. [18: p.22]
22 Feb 1856	Argus Hill Flat - Numerous diggers are at work, and in companies doing well. Paddocks are being dug, the water being pumped out day and night. [47: p.4]
Aug 1856	At W end of Argus Flat, claim of Forest Creek Diggers Gold Mining Co. granted (grid ref. 562925). [4]
May 1859	Above claim still being worked. On its S boundary & N of Red Hill Hotel is the Chewton Co.'s Argus Shaft (grid ref. 563925) [4]
May 1859	Three leases adjoin the Forest Creek Diggers claim, at the junction of Argus Flat and Sheepshead Gully: Ellis & Co., Thompson & Co., and Argus & Co. (grid ref. 561926). [4]
August 1859	Steam machinery employed in alluvial mining: Argus Flat Company, Forest Creek, 10 h.p., Hart's patent. [10]
August 1859	List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes]: Argus Flat Company, Forest Creek, 31/2 acres alluvial, worked profitably for 3 years. [10]
Sept 1859	The Argus Flat Company was one of the first and most successful in the colony, worked and managed by an association of miners, the only wages paid being for extra necessary labour. This company has again extended its claim, and evinces no sign of relaxation. [10]
1859	Argus Flat - 3 puddling machines, 3 dams, sinking 12 to 14 feet. [29]
Feb 1860	The Argus Flat Company, which has been the best company in the district, has worked out its lease, disposed of its plant, and divided the proceeds. [10]
13 Oct 1860	Argus Bridge is situated at western end of Argus Flat (grid ref. 561926). Cutting No. 1 (to straighten course of Forest Creek) was made at the eastern end of the Flat. [28]
Nov 1860	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 14 puddlers, 6 tub and cradle workers, 4 paddocking Chinese: 13 puddlers, 2 tub and cradle workers, 8 paddocking 3 puddling machines [10]
Nov 1861	Map shows Fairbairn's quartz mine, one large structure and a dam. [64]
24 May 1861	Argus Flat - Fairbairn - the reef dips towards the Argus Hill Reef at 45°. [37]
7 June 1861	It appears that three distinct reefs cross Argus Flat. [37]
April 1861	A very good prospect is being obtained from reefs in the Argus Flat, and from several of the old reefs increased returns are anticipated. [10]
Sept 1861	Argus Flat, Sheepshead Gully - Europeans: 17 puddlers, 4 ordinary miners [10]
Sept 1864	Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men: Argus: 3 claims, 12 men [10]
June 1868	New Machinery -...on the Argus Reef, Jenkin and Company have just completed the removal of their engine and plant, making seven engines upon this line of reef within 1 1/2 miles. [10]
March 1870	The only new discoveries have been...in Joynes's claim, Argus Reef, a leader giving 2 oz. 7 dwts. to the ton. [10]
June 1871	The Argus lease is taken up by a party of Sandhurst capitalists, who will erect more powerful machinery. [10]
Dec 1871	The Argus Reef Bendigo Tribute Company are deepening their engine-shaft from 130 to 190 feet, opened 130 feet of levels and a 30-foot winze, and have now a large quantity of quartz stripped for taking out. The adjoining claimholders and either side are applying to hold their ground under the leasing regulations and extend their operations. [10]
Dec 1872	The Bendigo Tribute Company, Argus Reef, have sunk a new shaft, and discovered a reef underlying west carrying gold, which appears to be a western leg of former workings, which underlie east. Another (the third) engine and plant is being erected on this reef. [10]
1873	In 1873, the William Tell Company obtained a large quantity of stone from above the 140-ft level, but soon abandoned the reef. [55: p.21]
June 1875	On several of the lately abandoned reef leases excellent prospects have been obtained, as, the Argus Reef, Joynes, 108 3/4 oz. from 38 tons. [10]
June 1876	The Magpie Tribute, Argus Reef, by cross-cutting, met with a large body of stone, easily worked. From 337 ton they obtained 150 1/2 oz. of gold. [10]
1876	In 1876 the Magpie tributers found a larger body of stone, soon worked it out, and then, like all preceding parties, ceased work. [55: p.21]
Dec 1876	Parties obtaining gold from quartz tailings, mullock, etc. Lamb and Co., Chewton [10]
Dec 1877	The Argus Reef is yielding good returns to three parties working it. [10]

- Sept 1882** The Argus United Company have been broken up, and their mine and plant have been purchased by the adjoining Perseverance Company, who purpose amalgamating the two leases.  
Lamb and Ogilvie's claim (excised from Garfield lease) has yielded 42 oz. 18 1/2 dwts. of gold from 73 tons of quartz. [10]
- March 1878** In quartz mining only one new find has been made. At the Argus Reef a western lode has been discovered, which yielded 143 oz. 12 dwts. from 141 tons, but which was then unfortunately flooded by overflow of Forest Creek. [10]
- 1878** In 1878 [the Magpie tributers] renewed operations, met with another make of stone, and obtained good yield. During that year the Argus United Company was enabled - owing to the Chewton United Company's plant, worked by the Argus tributers, draining the reef - to obtain a quantity of stone from below water-level, but the tribute party, failing to sufficiently drain their own ground, then ceased work. The Argus United Company continued to obtain payable results for some time from spurs or reefs west of all previous workings, and also obtained a tribute of the adjoining block to the north (Dyason's), and there worked a fine body of stone, which dipped south into their own ground, towards the engine-shaft originally sunk by the William Tell Company. [55: p.21]
- 8 July 1878** Argus Flat Tribute Co. - this company formed during past week to work the ground adjoining the rich ground of the Argus United Co. The shaft is already down 35 feet in a nice slate country... [37]
- 15 July 1878** The claim and plant of the late Chewton United Co. which has been purchased by the Argus Tribute Co. will be sufficiently clear of water in the workings to admit a tribute party. [37]
- 4 Aug 1879** Argus Flat Co. (Same as Argus United Co.) has had great influx of water. This came into their claim by striking the Chewton United Reef, while they were crosscutting. [37]
- March 1880** Four engines only are employed in drainage, viz., on Wattle Gully, Argus Flat, Eureka, and Nuggetty Reefs... [10]
- Dec 1882** Unfortunately, only four steam engines are employed in draining quartz reefs...[including]...the Sir Garnet Wolseley Company, shaft 145 feet deep, draining the Argus Reef. [10]
- March 1883** Dyason's tributers, Hocking and Co. and Logan and Co. are obtaining very good returns. [10]
- June 1883** Dyason's tributers, the Sir Garnet Wolseley, and other claims on Argus Flat, are still on gold, and, if amalgamated, and aided by efficient machinery, they would be a rich venture. [10]
- 1883** In 1883, the Francis Ormond Company was formed to work this line of reef at greater depths than heretofore; but, after prospecting in the shallower workings, and failing to discover there any payable bodies of stone, determined to sink a main shaft, and devote their prospecting operations to the Chewton line of reef, which lies about 300 feet to the west of the Argus Hill Reef. [55: p.21]
- June 1883** In quartz mining, the most energetic and successful companies are the Garfield...and Dyason and Co., who have again come upon gold. Both companies have Sandhurst proprietary and management, whereas the public companies subject to Castlemaine management, continue as unsuccessful as heretofore...  
Dyason's tributers, the Sir Garnet Wolseley, and other claims on Argus Flat, are still on gold, and, if amalgamated, and aided by efficient machinery, they would be a rich venture. [10]
- 5 Feb 1884** Francis Ormond Co., Chewton - A preliminary meeting of the shareholders in the Francis Ormond Company. The business of the meeting was to take steps to register the company and other business in connection with the formation of the company. Mr Ebbott should be appointed as mining manager. The ground is situated at Argus Flat, Chewton, on the part held by the Sir Garnet Wolseley Company, and comprises gold mining lease No. 1913, 2a 3r 33p, with machinery, plant and engine shaft; also a tribute right of adjoining lease, No. 1178, 5a 2r, with two shafts thereon. Upon this ground numerous formations of quartz, rich in gold, were ground under the alluvium, heavy specimens and nuggets being daily met with; but in consequence of the quartz being below the level of Forest Creek it could not be worked, and several attempts with insufficient machinery proved unsuccessful. Subsequently steam engines have been erected, and a very wide extent of quartz formations, including four distinct reefs, has been proved, and worked in shallow depths within the company's ground, and more extensively adjacent thereto, both north and south, as shown on a plan. The returns of quartz crushed and gold obtained therefrom, compiled from official records, are as follows: 1864-5, Powell and Co., South claims, 378 tons, 857 oz 2 dwt 10 gr.; 1872 to '77, Chewton United, do., 6061 tons, 2486 oz 9 dwt 6 gr.; 1866 to '71, Flint and Co., do., 1844 tons, 663 oz 2 dwt 10 gr.; 1866 to '71, Low and Co., private property, 1452 tons, 643 oz 10 dwt 20 gr.; 1873-4, William Tell, Sir Garnet's lease 1913, 5480 tons, 1447 oz 16 dwt; 1842, Perseverance, do. 1178, 178 tons, 144 oz 3 dwt 12 gr; 1882, Argus United, do., and Mr Dyason's lease 398, 14,307 tons, 5484 oz 12 dwt 14 gr; 1863 to '68, Russell and Co., Mr Dyason's lease, 4700 tons, 1817 oz 9 dwt 16 gr; 1869 to '82, Logan and Co., lease 1116, 4248 tons, 2692 oz 1 dwt 2 gr; making a total of 38,648 tons, 16,236 oz 7 dwt 18 gr; or nearly 8.5 dwt to the ton..

- There at present stands on the ground a 14-inch cylinder engine of eight horse-power, and a battery of eight head of stampers, with pumps, etc. There is not at present any winding engine, but it is proposed to erect a suitable one at once. The engine shaft is down 130 feet, and the north shaft has been sunk to a depth of 175 feet. [37]
- March 1884** On the Argus Reef, a new company, "the Francis Ormond," have taken possession of three lease areas; they are busy overhauling their machinery, to which considerable additions are necessary; they have a rich mine which, with efficient management and mechanical appliances, should prove a success. [10]
- June 1884** The Francis Ormond Company is cutting down and re-timbering their engine shaft (10 feet by 4 feet) into three partitions, preparatory to opening out underneath the old workings, from which such rich returns have been obtained. [10]
- 27 Aug 1884** Francis Ormond Co. Mining Manager's Report: I have to report that on taking charge of your mine and plant in February last, I found that before anything could be done in a regular way of work, the machinery, which was in miserable condition, had to be thoroughly put in order; to do this absorbed both time and money. After putting machinery in condition to work, a start was made to pump, the whole mine being full of water to surface. As the 7-inch pump was considered too small to get the water out with anything like the dispatch required, a large vertical Tangye pump was obtained, and placed in the north or Perseverance shaft. This greatly assisted in reducing the water. As soon as the water was got down far enough to get in upon the stone worked by J. Hocking and Co., in Dyason's lease, a start was made to break stone. [37]
- Sept 1884  
n.d.** The Francis Ormond Company...is now fixing a new 9-inch plunger pump. [10]  
Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co. has four shafts on Lease 2947, E of the junction of Argus Flat and Golden Gully II (562925), working Red Hill Reef and Golden Gully II. [9]
- Dec 1884** The Francis Ormond Company are now cross-cutting from their new engine shaft and, having three leases amalgamated, from which such large quantities of gold have been obtained to water-level, they should soon pay dividends. Logan and Co., adjoining leaseholders, obtained 103 oz. from 96 tons during the quarter. [10]
- 22 July 1886** 4 leases centred on Argus Flat - Leases 2180, 1178, 1913 and 2376, all held by Ormond and Co. (mid grid ref. 562926), and working Chewton Reef. [30]
- 26 Aug 1886** Francis Ormond Co. - We purchased the freehold property known as Musing's adjoining us; this we consider adds very much to the value of our operations. From the improved prospects obtained we found our crushing plant not equal to the amount of work required. After carefully looking at the appearance of the reef it was resolved to have an additional battery erected. Our attention was directed to a plant nearly new with all appliances for ten heads, five of which were complete; this we bought at a low price, and its now being connected; as soon as finished we hope to have an abundance of payable quartz ready to keep the machinery constantly working. [37]
- March 1887** In progressive quartz mines, the Ormond Company erected new commodious housing, added another battery, also a double-acting steam-winch for winding, buddles, &c., for saving pyrites, and are going to work with the assistance of their Prospecting grant. [10]
- 24 Aug 1887** Francis Ormond Co. Mining managers' report: in submitting my half-yearly report of the work done in your mine at the time of your last meeting, the winding plant was completed. Since then the main shaft has been skidded, a tramway put down, and all necessary preparations to haul the whole of our stuff through the main engine shaft; this work being done the expense of horse work is saved. [37]
- June 1888** The Francis Ormond Company has much improved prospects in their deeper levels. They are now engaged cutting plat, excavating for cistern, and fixing plunger at 250 feet... [10]
- Dec 1888** The Francis Ormond Company, also on the same line of reef [Shank's] northerly, was sinking their shaft; two men were down 279 feet on New Year's Day, when a terrific flood swept through Chewton, which swamped the mine and drowned the men. [10]
- 20 Feb 1889** Francis Ormond Co. Prior to this your machinery was in good working order, and in every way suitable for your requirements for many a day to come. The extra pressure put on to try and quickly get out the water and recover the bodies of the two men proved the machinery was not sufficient to go at such speed, although the water was lowered 143 ft from the surface. The Government inspector saw the risk to continue was so great, and stopped all further work until certain alterations were effected. We then gave an order to Harkness Co., ironfounders, to supply the machinery required.  
Mine Manager's Report. Your machinery, although equal to the ordinary work of the mine, was so injured by the flood that it was found incapable to do the increased work of draining the mine. Your directors have wisely determined to increase the strength of the plant by putting in a new boiler, poppet legs, bob, and winding engine. [37]
- March 1889** The Francis Ormond Company commenced pumping with their new plant on the 31st March, and are putting in large pumps and tanks, with which they anticipate reaching in two or three weeks' time the bodies of the men drowned in this mine during the recent flood.

## FLOODING OF THE FRANCIS ORMOND COMPANY'S MINE, CHEWTON

The mine is situated on the "Argus" Flat, opposite, and adjoining the principal business part of the township of Chewton. The flat where the Ormond reef crosses it is about 450 feet wide. The reef has been worked for upwards of thirty (30) years, by shafts sunk along its course across the flat. The main shaft of the Ormond mine is on the south side of the flat. It was formerly known as the "William Tell" shaft. The present channel of the Forest Creek is on the north side of the flat, about 300 feet away from the main shaft.

I infer, from the existing natural features, that the course of the old creek was about 50 feet distant from and northwards of the main shaft.

At a crossing, about 300 yards up the creek, immediately above a bend of the old creek, a bridge known as "The Mount" bridge was erected. Ten (10) years ago a straight channel for the creek, commencing just below the bridge, was made on the north side of the flat. A retaining wall 314 feet long was built up, across the old creek, and below this wall a cutting was made through a sandstone ridge. The cutting was about 40 feet wide at the bottom, battered to 50 feet wide at the top. The water carrying capacity of the Mount bridge was adopted for the cutting. The water-way in the cutting at 6 feet from the bottom - half the height of the recent flood mark - at this point, is 44 feet wide. The great volume of storm water coming down the creek was obstructed by this narrow outlet. It rose, burst over, and swept away the retaining wall. The greater portion of the water was thus directed into the old creek bed, and towards the engine and shaft of the Ormond mine. Here a tramway heap, extending from the shaft northwards, partly across the flat, acted as an embankment. One of the outlets for the checked current was through the engine-house, and thence into and over the main shaft, where the miners, O'Connor and Dennis, were at work, 250 feet below.

The water attained the height of 5 feet 3 inches above the floor of the engine-house. The fire in the boiler was extinguished, and the bridge in the fire-box washed into the flues.

The tramway heap was levelled, and the stream extended across the flat for fully 400 feet wide.

During the previous ten years, the new creek channel was found to be of ample capacity for the carrying away of all storm waters. [10]

1889

A miner and his mate were repairing the shaft at the Ormond and were trapped and drowned, when the mine was flooded from the surface. The Company decided that it was not payable to pump out the mine and decided to seal off the shaft. Local public sentiment was against this of course, and the State Member ("Jimmy Patterson") took it up, and a compromise was reached. The mine was pumped out, and the bodies of the two men were recovered and decently buried. The Ormond went back into production, and worked until 1913... [73: p28: 3rd edition 1983]

June 1889

The Francis Ormond mine has at last been cleared of water and debris accumulations. Its new machinery has been completed... [10]

21 Aug 1889

Francis Ormond mine. At our half-yearly meeting in February we had to deplore the sad loss of life and great damages done to our machinery by the disastrous floods on the 1st of previous month. Since then we have been continuously engaged in repairing the damage done, the mine being almost as badly damaged as possible. To put it in thorough order a large amount must still be expended.

Mine Manager's Report: I beg to state that the work of getting out the water, and recovering the bodies of the two men drowned, named W. Dennis and A. O'Connor, has been accompanied with the utmost difficulty. [37]

Sept 1889

The Francis Ormond mine...has been cleared out, the shafts, flats, and levels re-timbered to 276ft. 6in. deep. [10]

March 1890

The Ormond Company has been making additions to their machinery, three engines and a battery of 18 stamps being now at work. [10]

19 Feb 1890

Francis Ormond - We regret the Borough Council has not made much visible show to build the retaining wall abutting the lease, washed away by the floods last year, causing so much loss of life and property. We gave the Council notice in July last, that we would hold them responsible for any damage sustained in the future from that cause. We now congratulate you on having a compact crushing and mining plant working very satisfactorily...

Mine Manager's Report. As we had now a large quantity of what appeared to be payable and permanent character of stone it was recommended to the board to put up another engine for driving the battery, first to clear away the difficulty occasioned by the battery being attached to the pumping engine, and second, to give greater facilities for crushing, and also to relieve the great and dangerous strain on the pumping engine. A 12 horse-power engine has been purchased and put in position, and is now doing its work in a satisfactory manner. The main shaft has been sunk a further depth of 55 ft; total depth of shaft, 331 feet. Shaft is timbered to within a few feet in the bottom. [37]

Dec 1890

Only three mines are constantly at work, namely, the Francis Ormond, United Ajax, and South Wattle Gully. [10]

- 25 Feb 1891** Francis Ormond Co. During the past six months we have driven 525 ft of levels, 173-1/2 ft of cross-cuts, sunk 90-1/2 of winzes, and put up 102 ft of aise, and also cleaned out 50 ft of surface shaft, re-fixed ladders, from the surface to the bottom level, and conveyed the water in pipes from the 253 ft to the bottom level. [37]
- March 1891** The Francis Ormond Company has obtained 430oz. from between the 200-ft. and 320-ft. levels, and have paid a dividend of £1,200. [10]
- 8 July 1895** Francis Ormond Co. - We purchased the property known as the Bank of Australasia, in order to secure more surface ground for the extension of our mining plants that will be required to carry out the intended prospecting of the mine.  
Mine Manager's Report: I would recommend that we push on the shaft another 80 ft, so that we can open out another level below our present bottom level, as I consider the prospects are half-year 600 tons of quartz have been crushed for the public. We have put on a new wire rope 1400-ft long; also have had two new cages (Seymour and Kemp's). Both boilers have been cleaned and tested, and all the machinery is in good working order. [37]
- March 1898** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 140 ton crushed, 21oz gold [10]
- Feb 1899** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 370 ton crushed, 157oz gold [10]
- March 1899** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 455 ton crushed, 354oz gold [10]
- May 1899** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 555 ton crushed, 277oz gold [10]
- August 1899** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 842 ton crushed, 385oz gold [10]
- Oct 1899** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 585 ton crushed, 127oz gold [10]
- 1900** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: Harkness air brake installed on winding gear [12: p.69]
- April 1900** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 461 tons crushed, 261oz gold [10]
- June 1900** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1250 tons crushed, 832oz gold [10]
- 23 Aug 1900** Francis Ormond Co. - Shaft sunk 60 ft., making it 1055 ft from surface. [37]
- Oct 1900** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1650 ton crushed, 656oz gold [10]
- May 1901** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 745 ton crushed, 151oz gold [10]
- Sept 1901** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1280 ton crushed, 262oz gold [10]
- 1902** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p. 28]
- July 1902** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1,159 ton crushed, 227oz gold [10]
- Sept 1902** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 2,826 ton, 564oz gold [10]
- 1903** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p.32]  
modern date double cylinder, first motion steam winding plant used with baling tanks [12: p.72]
- March 1903** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 3,378 ton crushed, 678oz gold [10]
- 20 Aug 1903** Francis Ormond Co. - Chewton United shaft. - Put in new timber, centres, ladders, solars to 220ft from surface, re-erected poppet heads and air winch, and now engaged bailing. There are a number of old workings to drain. [37]
- 1903** Francis Ormond Company. This company, whose mine is adjacent to the main road, Chewton, is at present working at the deepest level on the field. After doing a considerable amount of prospecting at shallow levels in the hope of cutting similar spurs to those worked in the Argus Hill, it was decided to prospect the continuation of the Chewton line of reef at a depth.  
South of the various cross-cuts very little work has been done. The major portion of the lease lying in that direction, a start was recently made to sink a shaft about 1,050 feet south of the main shaft, but nothing is at present being done. [55]
- 1904** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p.37]
- Dec 1904** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 902 ton crushed, 255oz gold [10]
- 1905** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p.44]
- 17 Feb 1905** Francis Ormond Co. - At date of last meeting sunk to 1142 feet - sunk another 18 ft. [37]
- March 1905** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1030 ton crushed, 167oz gold [10]
- 1906** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p. 41]
- May 1906** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 777 ton crushed, 102oz gold [10]
- June 1906** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1,178 ton, 242oz gold. C. Moore, Bendigo, Legal Manager [10]
- 1907** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p. 42]
- June 1907** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 164 ton crushed, 228oz gold [10]
- 1908** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p. 39]
- March 1908** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1083 ton crushed, 208oz gold. J.G. Stanfield, Bendigo, Legal Manager [10]
- 1909** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p. 44]
- June 1909** Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 470 ton crushed, 93oz gold [10]

<b>3 Aug 1910</b>	As the Francis Ormond is just south of this country, it means that if the negotiations which are at present in motion between that company and the powerful Melbourne syndicate (which has taken up about 350 acres to the north and east of the Francis Ormond lease) come to a satisfactory issue, the same reef will be in the region to be exploited. As it was, the workings from the main shaft cut through the Chewton United reef (which is the same run as the Argus) at 300ft. As regards the Francis Ormond mine itself, most of the best gold was got from flat spurs or leaders between the surface and 900ft., at which depth they struck the first defined reef that they attempt to prospect. [64]
<b>1910</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p.42]
<b>Sept 1910</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 635 ton crushed, 65oz gold [10]
<b>1911</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p. 43]
<b>Sept 1911</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 729 ton crushed, 51 1oz gold [10]
<b>1912</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p. 38]
<b>June 1912</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 1261 ton crushed, 190oz gold [10]
<b>1913</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co.: 18 head battery [12: p.37]
<b>1913</b>	The Francis Ormond mine was...between the road and the creek. The Ormond...worked until 1913, when it closed down having produced 31,669 oz. of gold from 104,088 tons of ore (an average yield of 6.08dwts. per ton). It was down 1236 feet, and had repaid its shareholders £150,000 in dividends. [73: p28: 3rd edition 1983]

<b>9.42 CHEWTON REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Argus Flat
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Chewton Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 2 Extent of Reef prospected: 1,400 feet Average 1/2 oz. per ton. [10]
<b>1865</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865: Powell, Currie and others [10]
<b>March 1866</b>	From the Chewton Reef quantities of splendid specimens are being obtained. The reef is very peculiar for this division, being a broad sheet reef, lying very flat, and apparently going under Church street and the Episcopal Church. [10]
<b>June 1866</b>	The Chewton Reef is taken up through private property, the main road, and the Argus Flat, to the Argus Reef. [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Flint and Company, Low and Company [10]
<b>1867</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Kerryan and Company [10]
<b>June 1868</b>	New Machinery - The Hit-or-Miss Company, Wattle Gully, have nearly erected a 16 horse-power horizontal engine with two batteries of 5 stamps each; north, on the same reef, Vivian and Company have a 12 horse-power engine and pumping gear erecting on their lease. Again, north on the Chewton Reef, Powell and Company have erected an 8 horse-power locomotive with 150 feet of 6-inch pumps; and on the Argus Reef, Jenkin and Company have just completed the removal of their engine and plant, making seven engines upon this line of reef within 11/2 miles. [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Flint and Company [10]
<b>June 1871</b>	On Chewton Reef, the lease and claimholders have amalgamated, and purpose properly working their mine. [10]
<b>Dec 1871</b>	The Chewton United Company have sunk and timbered an engine shaft, 8x4, to water-level 100 feet; a 35 horse-power engine is on the ground, and tenders called for its erection, together with a battery of 10 stamps, winding and pumping gear, houses, &c., complete. The reef, immediately north, continues to be profitably worked in private property; the lode is very regular and well defined, underlying west; from it 471 tons yielded 222 oz. 1 dwt. The South Extended Chewton have accepted a tender for sinking a shaft 100 feet. [10]
<b>March 1872</b>	On the Chewton Reef, a new engine and plant is being erected, which will enable the several parties on that reef to work below water-level. [10]

- Sept 1872** The four extensive plants being erected last quarter, viz., the Warren's Reef, Devonshire, Lewis's Amalgamated, and Chewton United, have been completed, and working very satisfactorily so far as the machinery is concerned, but it will yet take some weeks before the main shafts and levels are sufficiently advanced for supplying quartz from the lodes; in each case the sinking is being pushed forward with three shifts of men. [10]
- Dec 1872** The Chewton United, the Lewis's Amalgamated, and several other companies, continue sinking. The Chewton United realised 82 oz. 15 dwts. from surface tailings. [10]
- March 1873** The Chewton United also have nearly completed erection of their machinery, including a 30 horse-power engine, with connections for winding, pumping, crushing, &c. This is the most expensive plant, being all new, and, excepting the engine made to order in the colony. A start is expected within the month. [10]
- June 1874** The Chewton United, in a new shaft, came upon gold-bearing stone at a depth of 70 feet. [10]
- Dec 1875** On the Chewton Reef the holders of adjoining private property have sunk upon gold-bearing quartz. [10]
- March 1876** The Chewton United have fixed a plunger and gear at 160-foot level, and are sinking their shaft by contract for 260 feet... and have let their old levels on tribute. [10]
- Sept 1876** The Chewton United continue sinking; now down 245 feet. In driving a cross-cut at 231 feet, at 12 feet east of shaft, they cut through what appears to be the Main Chewton Reef, 7 feet thick, underlying west, having a regular formation, and gold-bearing. This is an important discovery, as all previous workings have been on leaders lying east of their shaft. [10]
- Dec 1876** Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing:  
Chewton United, Chewton Reef [10]
- 19 Feb 1877** The Oriental Co., who occupy the ground south of the 'Chewton United', have struck the cap of the reef in their shaft at a depth of 150 feet, and from the indications expect that it is 'payable'; the reef is 2ft 6in. wide, and specks of gold were seen in breaking out. The company commences crushing today. [37]
- 9 April 1877** Oriental Co. - undaunted by a poor trial crushing, are persevering. [37]
- Dec 1877** The Chewton United, after determinedly sinking and driving in sandstone country away west of the gold, have now commenced a new shaft in the line of slate. [10]
- March 1878** The Chewton United is sinking a new shaft. Their fine plant is lying idle, and their workings are flooded. [10]
- Sept 1878** The Chewton United plant was sold under execution, and now belongs to the bank. [10]
- 2 Dec 1878** Renaissance Co., Specimen Hill - Besides its water power, the company has purchased the plant of the Chewton United Co. [37]
- March 1879** The Chewton United machinery has been removed to the Fryer's division. [10]
- June 1885** The Argus and Chewton reefs are being worked on tribute. [10]
- 22 July 1886** 4 leases centred on Argus Flat - Leases 2180, 1178, 1913 and 2376, all held by Ormond and Co. (mid grid ref. 562926), and working Chewton Reef. (see ARGUS FLAT) [30]
- 1903** No work has been done near the shaft for about 23 years, but the northern continuation of the Chewton United centre country and backs are showing in the No. 3 cross-cut west of the Francis Ormond Company. [55: p.23]
- 22 Oct 1937** In 1931 McDonald and Hooper struck rich stone in the German tunnel. Their lease and Loder and Ottery's lease adjoining were bought by the Chewton Gold Mines N.L., which was formed for that purpose. This company was definitely the pioneer of the mining revival in the Wattle Gully district.  
Chewton Gold Mines N.L. This company which is the pioneer company of the mining revival, was formed in 1932. A main shaft was sunk on the Shank's section of the Chewton reef, but like the Wattle Gully they did not go deep enough and very little gold was obtained. When the Wattle Gully bore proved gold at a depth and machinery was shifted to a point 170ft south of the Wattle Gully boundary and a main shaft sunk. At 360ft stone was passed through carrying gold, and up to 510ft various makes of stone were passed through.  
Up to June 30th the Chewton Gold Mines had spent £21,529/7/6, of which nearly £18,000 was paid in wages and working expenses of the mine. The company has 5450 shares earmarked for erecting battery and machinery and as soon as the State battery proves the values of the formation it is hoped that the erection of the new plant will be started. The manager of the mine is Mr J.S. Loder, who has been in charge since the inception of the company.[37]
- 28 Oct 1937** The chairman of North Chewton Gold Mines N.L. addressing shareholders at the half-yearly meeting today, said that excellent progress was being made with the erection of the plant and it was anticipated that active mining operations would be resumed within the next few weeks. The company's objective was the payable reef, which was exposed in the Forest Creek bed by the Chewton Co. [37]

<b>9.43</b>		<b>POVERTY GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Adelaide Flat/Poverty Flat
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1859</b>		Poverty Gully is south of Poverty Hill and east of Wattle Flat. Very rich surfaces. [29]
<b>n.d. (c.1885)</b>		An old shaft is marked at the junction of Adelaide Flat and Poverty Gully (560922), on the W edge of the town of Chewton (lot 65). [9]
<b>9.44</b>		<b>POVERTY REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>August 1859</b>		2 claims working, 6 miners [10]
<b>1866</b>		Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Powell [10]
<b>9.45</b>		<b>POVERTY HILL</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Wattle Flat
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>mid- 1852</b>		On our arrival [at Forest Creek] we commenced to sink on Poverty Hill, and bottomed a good hole but could not get water to wash the dirt with, so we "shepherded" the claim and proceeded to sink for water at the junction of Golden Point and Forest Creek. [18: p.22]
<b>May 1859</b>		Chinese encampment on W slope of Poverty Hill (grid ref. 561923). [4]
<b>August 1859</b>		List of companies in existence and contemplated [includes]: Chewton Sluicing Company, Poverty Hill, 5 acres alluvial, machinery purchased. [10]
<b>Sept 1859</b>		The Chewton Sluicing Company has its machinery erected, consisting of a steam engine, with powerful force pumps, erected on Angus's ground, for the purpose of forcing water for sluicing purposes, from the Angus shaft to the top of Poverty Hill - a distance of 1,200 feet. The company has renewed its application for a lease of 5 acres of alluvial ground on Poverty Hill. [10]
<b>October 1859</b>		Chewton Sluicing Company. The machinery of the Chewton Sluicing Company is erected. The engine, of 20-horse power, works beautifully. The pipes are laid for carrying the water to the top of the hill, a distance of 1,200 feet, and rises 60 feet, and the manager is now exercising his ingenuity in endeavouring to lower the water in the Argus Shaft sufficiently to put the force pumps in place, on the accomplishment of which working operations are expected to commence. [10]
<b>Nov 1859</b>		The Chewton cannot sluice sufficient to pay labour. [10]
<b>1859</b>		Sinkings 12 to 18 feet on eastern slope of Poverty Hill. Chinese camp on western slope, overlooking Wattle Flat. [29]
<b>Feb 1860</b>		The Chewton Sluicing Company is as unsuccessful as ever. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>		Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 12 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 4 tub and cradle workers. [10]
<b>1 July 1864</b>		Powell and Son - new reef on Poverty Hill, Wattle Flat. [37]
<b>23 Dec 1864</b>		Powell and Co., Currie and Gee (adjoining claim to Powell), Musset and Co. [37]



<b>9.46 RED HILL, RED HILL GULLY AND RED HILL REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Golden Gully, Poverty Hill
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Dec 1851</b>	At the time of my appearance on the diggings (December 1851) there were about 5000 diggers at work surfacing, principally about the rich Red Hill, Chewton, sinking having first commenced at Golden Point. I next day marked out a claim on Red Hill, and selected a spot for the tent. My mates took four days to come up, and, on viewing the claim I had marked out, pronounced it to be no good, and proceeded to another spot now known as Adelaide Hill... I must here mention that the claim I first marked out was taken up by another man...who took £1000 worth out of it. This was the next claim but one to the celebrated Chapman and Harvey's, which yielded, according to report, 250 lbs weight of gold; size of claim, 8 ft by 12 ft., being two men's ground. [18: p. 19]
<b>14 Jan 1852</b>	...in every case where [Forest] creek is joined by a creek or gully a similar line of tents may be seen as far as the eye can reach, and at the junction of these creeks or gullies with the Forest Creek, a little village or kind of township is formed, consisting generally of one or two stores, a ginger beer establishment, a butcher's shop, and in some cases at the foot of a large gum tree, a solitary dealer in nuts and lollypops. The largest of these townships or villages and the principal seat of attraction is where the <u>Argus</u> and the Post-office is stationed, and it is at this spot where the greatest quantity of gold has been disembowelled. The place is called Red Hill. I saw one young man obtain from the washing of two double handfuls of soil at least five ounces of the purest gold, and this for four or five dishes successively. The soil from whence the gold was washed, was obtained from Red Hill, at a depth of 22 feet. [83: 14/1/1852: p.2]
<b>8 March 1852</b>	The New Gully, Red and White Hills, and the Adelaide Gully Flat have had each its "rush", and many of the holes paid well for sinking, but none turned out a great prodigy. The Red Hill, in particular, was a favourite spot, and soon cut up into ribbons. A [83: 8/3/1852: p.2]
<b>8/5/1852</b>	Many tolerably large nuggets have been picked up at different places among the stuff thrown up from the holes at the Red Hill, and during part of the rain on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the hill was covered with parties prospecting for stray pieces of gold, many of whom were successful. [83: p.2]
<b>13 May 1854</b>	The new red hill has also been taken possession of, with a view of working of it during the present winter. [47: p.3]
<b>15 July 1854</b>	We would make a few remarks on the undertaking at the Red Hill, Forest Creek. There the Government appears to have departed from the rule, which limits the extent of the claim, and have leased to some half dozen men an area of five acres. This extensive claim is fenced in, and has a 'noli me tangere' aspect to all intruders. The next thing that strikes you is an enormous pile of washing-stuff, which is destined to be removed to a spot where water can be obtained. Behind the pile of soil is a tunnel from which a portion of the stuff has been procured. This tunnel appears to be forsaken, bit being full of water, and sufficiently forbidding...to render unnecessary the 'no admittance' prohibition posted at the entrance. A railway is...constructed of durable wood, and about a yard in width [and] is the medium by which, in wagons of primitive but durable construction, the auriferous soil is conveyed a distance of some five hundred yards from the summit of the hill, to the borders of the everflowing creek. The inclination being considerable, a speedy transit is obtained, and immense piles of washing stuff are ever and anon being conveyed from the summit to the water's edge. Here, the water being properly dammed up, and the necessary means being called into requisition, the important process of washing is carried on with success, varying in proportion to the quality of the auriferous deposit. [47: p.5]
<b>3 Nov 1854</b>	Public Meeting at Fryer's Creek - Leasing or Letting 'Worked Out' Lands In Forest Creek they had a company working at the Little Red Hill, which they had leased. He wished the diggers of Forest Creek were of the same mind as those here, and the injustice would not have occurred. [47: p.7]
<b>10 Nov 1854</b>	Red Hill Hotel for sale. This Hotel is situated nearly half-way between Sawpit Gully and Castlemaine on one of the most populous parts of Forest Creek... [47: p.5]
<b>c. 1854</b>	About this time a rush was made on the ground at the Red Hill, and this hill was held by four men who had purchased 30 licences between them so that they could hold 30 men's ground. These men made a considerable fortune, sold their shares, and cleared out. The ground was rushed, as it was considered that they could not legally retain it. The Commissioners (one from Golden Point) decided that they should peg out 60-ft. square and give up the rest. To show the richness of this ground my mate and I could only get about 4ft. of solid ground, but we got 17 ounces of gold. [22: p.62]

<b>4 March 1856</b>	The Red Hill Hotel, Forest Creek - many attempts have been made by diggers in the neighbourhood of this hotel, to carry on digging operations within the boundaries of the ground occupied by the landlord, Mr Low... Mr Low's hotel stands on Crown lands...the sinking is not more than 12 feet ... the surface is composed of a hard concrete crush, and the diggers are required to fill up the holes after working. [47: p.2]
<b>7 March 1856</b>	Red Hill Hotel - Mr Low has entered into an agreement with Anthony, Williams, Wm. Jas. Timmons, and Jas. Timmons to work under his stable and kitchen. [47: p.4]
<b>May 1859</b>	The Red Hill portion has yielded excellent prospects. It was lately held by the Chewton Company, and now by Thorburn and Co. Neither of the other shafts [?] have as yet proved payable. [10: May 1859]
<b>August 1859 1859</b>	1 claim, 4 miners, near Chewton Sluicing Company. [10] Golden Gully lies south of the Red Hill and forms two branches, one either side of little Red Hill. Little Red Hill is south of Red Hill and east of Poverty Hill. Rich surface workings now washed to bed rock (of fragmentary sandstone). [29]
<b>1859</b>	Red Hill - northern slope very rich, cleared to bed rock; western slope, ground surface payable; southern slope, good workings from 1 to 16 ft. deep. [29]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 5 tub and cradle workers. Chinese: 3 tub and cradle workers. [10]
<b>1868</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Price and Company [10]
<b>Sept 1884</b>	SITUATION AND CAPACITY OF RESERVOIRS: Red Hill 1,250,000 [10]
<b>n.d.</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co. has four shafts on Lease 2947, E of the junction of Argus Flat and Golden Gully II (562925), working Red Hill Reef and Golden Gully II. [9]
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Spring Flat, Aberdeen Hill/Gully, Red Hill, White Hill, Montgomery Hill - all marked 'Line of Pleistocene Deposits, principally sluiced away.' [30]

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<b>9.47</b>	<b>GOLDEN GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Red Hill Reef

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>May 1859</b>	The branches of Golden Gully [are being worked] to the Old Post Office (567920) and Hardhill (565918) Reefs. [10: 1859]
<b>May 1859</b>	Opie's quartz machinery on elevated ground on the N side of Forest Creek (grid ref. 554928) [4]
<b>May 1859</b>	Chinese encampment (grid ref. 557930). [4]
<b>June 1859</b>	My statistics show two steam-engines less than formerly employed in quartz-crushing. These were small and inefficient. They will be replaced by a 12-horse power, now being erected by Opie and Co., Forest Creek; and a beautiful engine of 40-horse power, and corresponding plant, being erected by the Specimen Gully Quartz Mining Association, Barker's Creek. [10]
<b>August 1859</b>	Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Opie and Company, Forest Creek, 12 h.p., 8 head of stamps, &c. [10]
<b>1859</b>	Golden Gully - 15 dams and 15 puddling machines on middle to upper reaches. Golden Gully lies south of the Red Hill and forms two branches, one either side of little Red Hill. Head of the gully is on western side of Hard Hill. [29]
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	Golden Gully, Chewton, is situated east of Wattle Gully and Flat, on the south side of Forest Creek. It feeds into Argus Flat, between Poverty Hill and Red Hill. Sludge channel and 14 puddling machines. [28]
<b>Oct 1860</b>	The other case on Post Office Hill, from which Messrs. Opie and others are continually excavating and crushing great quantities of yellow argillaceous sandstone, has frequently been reported in the papers. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	The Specimen Gully Quartz Mining Association has temporarily suspended operations, the cause is scarcely obtainable. In their last report they returned 906 tons crushed during the quarter, which yielded 345 1/2 oz. of gold; such a return as ought to have given a dividend, but all profits have been expended in extraneous works, and the directors attribute their tardy operations to defective machinery and the constant attention and repairs necessary. [10]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 31 puddlers, 17 tub and cradle, 6 paddocking. 11 puddling machines [10]

<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 27 puddlers, 6 tub and cradle. Chinese: 21 puddlers, 4 tub and cradle. 13 puddling machines. [10]
<b>March 1861</b>	The Old Post Office Hill Reef being exhausted to water, is now yielding but little gold; but Opie and Company, who own a large portion of the reef, purpose removing their engine to the reef to assist in deeper workings. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Golden Gully - Europeans: 32 puddlers, 8 ordinary miners - Chinese: 27 ordinary miners [10]
<b>n.d.</b>	Francis Ormond Gold Mining Co. has four shafts on Lease 2947, E of the junction of Argus Flat and Golden Gully (562925), working Red Hill Reef and Golden Gully. [9]

<b>9.48</b>		<b>CHAPEL HILL REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>12 Jan 1855</b>	A rush has taken place on some old ground under Chapel Hill, Forest Creek, and many claims have turned out profitably. [47: p.2]	
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	The rush under Chapel Hill is extending upwards, and the number working there is estimated at 400. [47: p.2]	
<b>May 1861</b>	Another new reef called the Chapel Hill Reef, yielded 7 3/4 dwt. from two tons. [10]	
<b>9.49</b>		<b>OLD POST OFFICE HILL &amp; OLD POST OFFICE HILL REEF OR POOR MAN'S REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		Golden Gully
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1851/2</b>	Sunday was the great day of gathering on old Post Office Hill. Thousands of diggers made it a practice to meet on this spot and obtain the only newspaper then known on Forest Creek, viz., the "Melbourne Argus," which arrived every Sunday morning on a packhorse. [18: p. 20]	
<b>5 Jan 1855</b>	For Sale, a Bakehouse, with good Oven, troughs, sideboard and all other necessary baking utensils, situated on Old Post Office Hill, Forest Creek. [47: p.1]	
<b>19 Jan 1855</b>	For Sale. The Old House at Home, Boarding House. There is a good two stall Stable and a fowl house, with about 80 fowls. Apply to J. Hughes, on the premises, Old Post Office Hill, Forest Creek. [47: p.1]	
<b>9 March 1855</b>	Mount Alexander Hotel, Old Post Office Hill, Forest Creek. [47: p.1]	
<b>13 April 1855</b>	Dr Hopkins, Old Post Office Hill Dispensary. [47: p.4]	
<b>4 May 1855</b>	Messrs Hassell and Parkin's Store, Post Office Hill, Forest Creek. For Sale, cheap, on Old Post Office Hill, Forest Creek, a Butcher's Shop, in a first-rate position, which, with a little alteration may be made suitable for any other business. Inquire at Messrs Treacher and Lester's Store, Old Post Office Hill. [47: p.1]	
<b>30 Nov 1855</b>	At Old Post Office Hill is a machine in full play, and it may be regarded as a very fair specimen of such works as can be accomplished by the united exertions and money of five or six spirited diggers. After being roasted in quantities of about thirty tons, laid alternately in layers of wood and burnt (sometimes for a week), until the crushing is rendered a much easier process, the quartz is poured out of a bucket into the circular trough of the machine, in which travel four roller-wheels about two feet in diameter, and from nine inches to a foot in thickness, the axles of unequal lengths, coarse and strong; the solid wheels or rollers are turned out of bush timber, after being run into the axles, and the massive wrought iron tires travel upon the iron bottom-plates, which are bedded upon wood and sand, each couple of wheels is independent of the other two, and the pressure of the whole upon the quartz is secured by bags of sand, which augment the weight to from 2 1/2 to 3 tons. A horse drawing round the pole as in a puddling machine gives motion to an upright axle, or rather to the carriage on the axle. When sufficiently crushed, the quartz is shovelled out in a heap ready for the long tom, and the trough is replenished; clean water and a small tom are enough to finish the process, and in the instance we are describing no quicksilver is made use of. This machine which is only reckoned to crush 1 ton or 1 1/2 tons, is perhaps the simplest and most easily attainable, if we except a cam and stampers, which appear to find little favour, and to be only recommended by their cheapness. [47: p.2]	
<b>5 Nov 1858</b>	Worked variously for four years. Opie and Co. claimed 50 oz per week for past month. [37]	

- 8 Feb 1859** Thompson, Hankel and Co. new shaft - struck reef at 35-40 ft - 10 tons yielded average 1 oz/ton. [37]
- May 1859** The branches of Golden Gully [are worked] to the Old Post Office and Hardhill Reefs. [10: May 1859]
- June 1859** The old Post-office and several other reefs yield 1 1/2 to 2 oz. per ton. [10]
- July 1859** A newly-discovered reef on Old Post-office hill (running thence under private property and the Government-road) is yielding well... Post Office Hill Reef...is situate a little west of the entrance to the Forest Creek diggings. In the early days of gold-mining very rich alluvium skirted its sides on the north, rising gradually from the creek, and on the east and west rich gullies and surface workings, which to the present time afford constant employment to many miners. The term "Old Post Office Hill Reef" has always been applied to the reef first opened upon that hill about five years ago.  
[series of claims being worked on the reef, including claim No. 2 Messrs Russell and Co.; claim No. 1 Messrs Phillips and Co] The old Post-office Hill Reefs called by many the Poor Man's Reef. [10]
- August 1859** [Original] Old Post Office Hill Reef - 9 claims, 31 miners, all good workings.  
Old Post Office Hill Reef No. 2 - 10 claims, 34 miners, opened, 1/2 oz. to 2 oz. per ton. [10]
- Dec. 1859** Parties reporting yield of quartz: Old Post-office Hill - Noble. [10]
- 1859** 9 leases marked on Old Post Office Hill Reef. No. 1 is Phillips', No. 2 is Russell's. [29]
- Oct 1860** The other case on Post Office Hill, from which Messrs. Opie and others are continually excavating and crushing great quantities of yellow argillaceous sandstone, has frequently been reported in the papers. [10]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners: -  
Europeans: 3 puddlers, 2 tub and cradle workers.  
1 puddling machine. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Old Post Office Hill  
No. of claims: 7  
Extent of claim: 1,125 feet  
No. of men employed: 24  
Extent of Reef prospected: 1,850 feet  
Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Post Office, No. 2  
No. of claims: 4  
Extent of claim: 480 feet  
No. of men employed: 7  
Extent of Reef prospected: 2,100 feet [10]
- March 1861** The Old Post Office Hill Reef being exhausted to water, is now yielding but little gold; but Opie and Company, who own a large portion of the reef, purpose removing their engine to the reef to assist in deeper workings. This would make eight steam engines erected upon reefs in this division for drainage of reefs and deeper workings. [10]
- 21 June 1861** Opie and Co. - over three years mined 6805 tons, for 3427 oz. - have sunk an engine shaft 100-ft. [37]
- 19 July 1861** Opie and Co. - crushed 521/3 - 26 oz. [37]
- August 1861** On Old Post Office Hill, No 2 Reef, at a depth of 71 feet, the Victoria Company has found quartz. On the same hill, reef No 1, Opie and Company, have nearly completed the erection of their machinery, the pump being now at work, so that very soon both these reefs will be workable below the water level. [10]
- Sept 1861** The Old Post Office Hill Reef is being re-worked with remunerative results, and so soon as preliminary operations are completed good yields are anticipated. [10]
- Sept 1861** Companies/parties crushing quartz and obtaining gold during past month: Bogle - 30 tons yielded 10 dwt. [10]
- Sept 1861** No./Location of Alluvial Miners:  
Charcoal Gully, Post Office Hill - Europeans: 6 puddlers, 5 ordinary miners [10]
- 21 June 1862** Victoria Co. - fair returns. [37]
- 29 Aug 1862** Lately been abandoned except for Victoria machine. [37]
- Sept 1864** Messrs. Fairbairns and Company's new plant, in Wattle Gully, is not yet completed, being delayed while sinking the engine shaft. The Perseverance and Victoria machines and plant have changed hands, and will be used for crushing from Bolivia and Wattle Gully Reefs. [10]
- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men:  
Post Office Hill: 2 claims, 5 men [10]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865:  
Opie and Prout [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
Dunn, Opie and Company, Bledges, Mallet and Company [10]



<b>9.52</b>		<b>PROSPECT HILL</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1859</b>	Sandstone quarry on southern slope of Prospect Hill. [29]	
<b>9.53</b>		<b>CHARCOAL GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Post Office Hill	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 6 puddlers, 13 tub and cradle workers. 2 puddling machines. [10]	
<b>Sept 1861</b>	No./Location of Alluvial Miners: Charcoal Gully, Post Office Hill - Europeans: 6 puddlers, 5 ordinary miners [10]	
<b>Dec 1861</b>	Mining population: Drunkard & Charcoal Flats - 74 alluvial workers [10]	
<b>9.54</b>		<b>SURVEYOR'S REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Wattle Gully Reef	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>15 Oct 1866</b>	The new reef (Surveyor's), so named because it is near to Mr Mining Surveyor Brown's residence, has given 4.5 dwt to the ton... This reef is probably a continuation of the Wattle Gully Reef. [37]	
<b>1867</b>	Surveyor's Reef - Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Duncan [10]	
<b>ADELAIDE FLAT</b>		
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Manchester Flat, Wattle Flat	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1851/2</b>	Water was very scarce. The price being 6d. per bucket. A party of Germans sank a hole about 70 feet deep at the end of Adelaide Flat, where they got a good supply, but it was very brackish. They hauled it up with a windlass from morning till night, and sold it at 6d. per bucket - a nailcan full. [18: p. 20]	
<b>8/3/1852</b>	The New Gully, Red and White Hills, and the Adelaide Gully Flat have had each its "rush", and many of the holes paid well for sinking, but none turned out a great prodigy. [83: 8/3/1852: p.2]	
<b>9 Feb 1855</b>	Adelaide Flat - New Rush - This lively scene has lasted now about ten days or a fortnight, and though originating in no splendid discovery promises to repay the labour which so large a body of men are bestowing upon it. It appears that, a short time back, two or three parties were 'taking down paddocks' near the creek; they did not do much good for themselves, but it was found that their operations lowered the water in the nearest holes; this encouraged others and more came, and the result is there is a rush of about 1000 men, who...appear to be nearly all doing well... Nearly all the holes are dry. This is the second time the flat has been attacked by a large body of men, and it is thought certain that there lies ten times more gold there than has ever been taken out. It appears to be spread pretty evenly over the flat. [47: p.2]	
<b>16 March 1855</b>	Many of the miners are taking advantage of the advanced period of summer to work the wettest portions of Golden Point flat, Adelaide flat, and other low ground impracticable at the other seasons of the year. These wet claims...repay the labour bestowed upon them. [47: p.2]	
<b>29 June 1855</b>	The population has been augmented by 400 Chinese, and the great bulk of the Celestials are at work on Wattle and Adelaide Flats and the adjacent hills. [47: p.2]	

<b>14 Sept 1855</b>	Adelaide Flat - From White Horse Gully, through the flat, down the high road and the line of the creek, matters seem very much the same as they have recently been. Old chums...can manage to pick up a living, but it seems beyond question that the cream of this valley is gone - at least for diggers on the small scale. Audible growlings against the Chinese are continual, especially from older residents, and hints are thrown out of an intention to expel them from this locality, and break up their camps. [47: p.2]
<b>21 Dec 1855</b>	Alex Eastman, Butcher, Adelaide Flat, near Golden Hope. [47: p.1]
<b>May 1859</b>	On elevated ground on the N edge of Adelaide Flat is the Sir Henry Barkley Quartz Crushing Machinery (grid ref. 559926). [4]
<b>August 1859</b>	Steam machinery employed in quartz-crushing: Fairbarn and Company, Forest Creek, 12 h.p., 16 head of stamps, &c. [10]
<b>July 1860</b>	Price of Crushing - Another reduction has been made in the price charged for crushing quartz. Opie and Co. and Jenkins and Co. have lowered to 10s. per ton, and Fairbairne to 12s. 6d.; other mill owners have given up crushing for the public, averring the above prices unpayable, but the powerful machinery now being brought into use will be able to crush profitably at such prices, and will give a very great impetus to quartz-mining operations. [10]
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	On elevated ground to the north of Adelaide Flat is Fairbairn's quartz crushing machine. Also Fairbairn's bridge. Grid ref. 559925. [28]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 25 puddlers, 3 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 14 puddlers, 5 tub and cradle workers, 38 paddocking, 4 tunnelling 110 puddling machines. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Adelaide Hill and Flat - Europeans: 28 puddlers, 8 ordinary miners - Chinese : 10 puddlers, 3 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	Mining population: Adelaide & Manchester Flats - 84 alluvial workers [10]
<b>Dec 1879</b>	In Adelaide Flat, Mr Dally, having been flooded out by underground drainage, is preparing his steam boring machine and pumping gear. [10]

9.56

**ADELAIDE HILL**

<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Adelaide Flat

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>Dec 1851</b>	At the time of my appearance on the diggings (December 1851) there were about 5000 diggers at work surfacing, principally about the rich Red Hill, Chewton, sinking having first commenced at Golden Point. I next day marked out a claim on Red Hill, and selected a spot for the tent. My mates took four days to come up, and, on viewing the claim I had marked out, pronounced it to be no good, and proceeded to another spot now known as Adelaide Hill. Here we set to work, ours being the first hole, to the best of my recollection, on the famous hill. My mates being Cornish miners, must sink a proper shaft 6 ft. by 4 ft., which we duly bottomed at 40 ft.; result about 2 oz. to the load, or, say, to every 20 buckets. This would not pay in those days, so we left it, and followed rush after rush. [18: p. 19]
<b>15 July 1854</b>	For Sale - The 'Dover Castle Boarding Establishment', Adelaide Hill, Forest Creek... [47: p.7]
<b>27 Oct 1854</b>	Manchester Hotel, Adelaide Hill... [47: p.5]
<b>3 Nov 1854</b>	Public Meeting at Fryer's Creek - Leasing or Letting 'Worked Out' Lands When Adelaide Hill was applied for to be worked by a company, one of the officials was heard to remark, 'We have done wrong; we know we have done wrong, but we must stand by it.' So much for leasing. [47: p.7]
<b>26 Jan 1855</b>	To be disposed of - A first-rate Slab Building, with two good Tents adjoining, situate on Adelaide Hill, Forest Creek, next to Collyn's store, and known as Dale's Eating House, and now doing a good business. [47: p.1]
<b>23 Feb 1855</b>	For Sale. That old established Store, situate on Adelaide Hill, Forest Creek, known as Collyns and Co.'s. [47: p.1]
<b>26 Oct 1855</b>	Chinese camp, nearly at the back of Mr [William] Culvert's [store] Adelaide Hill. [47: p. 2]
<b>May 1859</b>	Leases on the eastern slope of Adelaide Hill: Smith & Co., Odgers & Co., Trembath & Co., Fiddick & Co. (grid ref 556924). Latter 3 have tunnels into Adelaide Hill from Adelaide Flat. [4]
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 33 tub and cradle workers - Chinese: 8 tub and cradle workers. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Adelaide Hill and Flat - Europeans: 28 puddlers, 8 ordinary miners - Chinese : 10 puddlers, 3 ordinary miners [10]
<b>5 Sept 1862</b>	Baker and Co. - reef opened in Adelaide Hill. [37]

<b>9.57</b>		<b>BUTCHER'S GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Adelaide Flat	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>13 Oct 1860</b>	Butcher's Gully - sludge channel and culvert, 2 puddling machines. [28]	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 10 puddlers, 6 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 3 tub and cradle workers 3 puddling machines [10]	
<b>9.58</b>		<b>ADELAIDE GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Adelaide Flat	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>3 August 1855</b>	The Chinese population on Forest Creek has increased, especially in the neighbourhood of Adelaide Gully... [47: p.2]	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 7 puddlers 2 puddling machines [10]	
<b>Dec 1861</b>	Mining population: Wattle & Adelaide Gullies - 64 alluvial workers [10]	
<b>9.59</b>		<b>WATTLE FLAT</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Adelaide Flat, Wattle Gully	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1853-4</b>	We tried about Fryers for a week or two with very little success, so departed for Forest Creek, and on reaching there got quarters in the old original Mountain Hut, corner of Wattle Flat and Main Road, afterwards the site of the Golden Hope Hotel. [20: p.38]	
<b>26 Jan 1855</b>	The late gradual but steady increase in the population continues to be maintained, particularly in the neighbourhood of Wattle Flat, where many are now located. A large majority is doing well. [47: p.2]	
<b>22 June 1855</b>	There have been some new arrivals of Chinese during the week, and they have principally located themselves on Wattle Flat. [47: p.2]	
<b>14 Sept 1855</b>	On Tuesday a party of miners who had been exasperated by the Chinese attacked them and drove them entirely out of Wattle Gully, Forest Creek. We are informed that a bit of Chinese tyranny gave rise to the disturbance. [47: p.3]	
<b>5 Oct 1855</b>	Wattle Flat is water logged, but that does not prevent a large number of Chinese from lingering there...they rarely sink deep holes, or make a dam across a creek and wash the bed of it. [47: p.2]	
<b>9 May 1856</b>	We understand that a machine and furnace for smelting quartz are being erected on Wattle Flat. It is believed that the quartz can be converted to many useful purposes... [47: p.5]	
<b>May 1859</b>	Several leases/claims associated with dams/puddling machines on the Flat, including Stephens & Co., Richards & Co., Pascoe & Co. [4]	
<b>29 June 1855</b>	The population has been augmented by 400 Chinese, and the great bulk of the Celestials are at work on Wattle and Adelaide Flats and the adjacent hills. [47: p.2]	
<b>27 July 1855</b>	For Sale, the long established Blue Flag Store, Wattle Flat, Forest Creek... [47: p.1]	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Europeans: 12 puddlers Chinese: 24 puddlers, 14 paddocking 7 puddling machines. [10]	
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Wattle Flat and Gully - Europeans: 49 puddlers, 6 ordinary miners - Chinese: 14 puddlers [10]	
<b>Dec 1868</b>	Several new lines of reef are being prospected: [including]...In Long Gully, Wattle Flat, a continuation of Bullock Reef, a trial crushing yielded 11 oz. 3 dwts. from 16 tons. [10]	
<b>Dec 1876</b>	Parties Puddling or Sluicing: Grant and Co., Wattle Flat [10]	
<b>n.d. (c.1885)</b>	An old shaft is shown on Wattle Flat (grid ref. 558917). [9]	



**n.d. (c. 1885)** Lease No. 2673 is in Wattle Flat, S of Lease No. 2946 (Adelaide Flat). This is the lease of the Forest Creek & Wattle Gully Co. Their north engine house is adjacent to Barne's Gully (sometimes known as Poverty Gully) (grid ref. 557918). The north shaft, 153ft deep, lies immediately S of this engine house. (This company's lease extends S into Wattle Gully) [9]

9.60	WATTLE GULLY
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Shanks Reef, Phillips Reef, Callander's Reef, Wattle Gully Reef, Chewton Reef, Whitehorse Gully/Reef
DATE	HISTORY
<b>1850s</b>	Phillip's reef, first discovered under the alluvial workings near the head of Wattle Gully, has been one of the most continuous and probably the most highly auriferous in the Castlemaine district. Above water-level it yielded from 9 to 12 ounces to the ton, and to the west of the main wall, which underlies west, a mass of spurs known as the Wattle Gully Reef, had the appearance of a large solid body of white stone studded with gold. The nuggets were broken out with pick and hammer, the refuse yielding about 12 ounces to the ton. This solid body soon gave place to leaders and stringers of quartz, dipping south from 15° to 30° and intermixed with layers of slate and sandstone. Some of these leaders were exceedingly rich. [55: p.30]
<b>30 Nov 1855</b>	At the upper end of Wattle Gully a machine is going up... The horse makes one round to two or three rounds of the rollers, which are...much more heavy. Boiler plates are cut into circular sections, and when bedded on the timber work, they fit to each other, and are girded by a flange on the outer rim, the crushed quartz being in a state of wet powder, is edged off to the inner part of the bed, and falls through perforated plates, after which it is amalgamated or worked in a tom as the case may be. The machine will be constructed entirely by bush carpenters and bush smiths, that is to say, the work will be strong, rough, and answer its purpose. [47: p.2]
<b>1855-6</b>	There were several reefs being worked then, such as the Bolivia, now known as the Ajax, the Wattle Gully reef, the Eureka, the Caledonia, and many others of lesser note. [19: p. 26]
<b>13 June 1856</b>	A number of hopeful men acquainted with Wattle Gully continue to work there in spite of every discouragement; sinking is about thirty feet deep, and the shafts require to be slabbed. Floods have so frequently destroyed mining operations here, and so many holes have been partially sunk, and then left on account of water, that justice will never be done to this gully until the introduction of powerful machinery takes place, and then we can say with safety, this will be one of the very best paying spots on Forest Creek. An excellent quartz reef runs up the right hand side of this gully, towards Specimen Hill... A party of six, whose quartz claim is nearly run out, possess a machine of their own on the Chilian principle, which, by doing all the work themselves, and having two blacksmiths in the party, they managed to put up at a trifling cost, and having done so are enabled to crush their own quartz, even the poorest of it which would otherwise be thrown away. Two Spaniards and one Englishman have been working a claim for the last twelve months, and have done well; their claim is nearly worked out. Another party has been working about eleven months; they are not getting their quartz crushed, but are laying it aside for a future time. There are three machines here, viz., the before mentioned one belonging to a party of six, crushes 30 cwt. in one day with one horse; could crush double the quantity with two horses. One belonging to Mr Brown who has a quartz claim. This is a very superior machine, with improved amalgamator. One belongs to Mr Rogers, not yet in working order. [47: p. 6]
<b>20 June 1856</b>	Five hundred and thirty-three ounces of gold from two tons of quartz, at Wattle Gully, Forest Creek. [Mackin and Radford, from a depth of 40 ft.] [47: p.4]
<b>20 Oct 1856</b>	Wattle Gully Reef - Redford and party - 2 ton yielded 400oz. [37]
<b>27 March 1857</b>	Most successful reefs to date - El Dorado, Specimen Hill; Eureka, Poverty Gully; the Emu Reef near Spring Flat; the Old Specimen Hill Reef and the small reefs or leaders on Wattle Gully. [37]
<b>10 April 1857</b>	Wattle Gully - worked now for over three years - work confined to the leaders. [37]
<b>19 July 1857</b>	Reefs being worked: Bolivia, Town, Eureka, Lower Wattle Gully, Specimen Hill, Mt Alexander, Golden Point, Dirty Dick's, Old Specimen Hill, Sebastopol, Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. [37]
<b>26 Nov 1858</b>	Phillips Reef. Phillips and Co. discovered 3 or 4 weeks ago in the alluvial ground at a depth of 30 or 40 ft from the surface. [37]
<b>24 Dec 1858</b>	Howard and Co. - 9 ton yielded 100 oz. [37]
<b>30 Dec 1858</b>	Phillips Reef - Howard and Co. - 1 ton yielded 14 oz. [37]
<b>1858</b>	Gibber's, or West Wattle Gully Reef, was worked on the surface in 1858 over a length of about 1,400 feet. [55: p.31]

- 1859** The first company formed to work the [Wattle Gully] reefs, in 1859, was the first Wattle Gully Company, with a capital of £35,000. Within two months the company expended over £18,000 in machinery, surface and preparatory works. Three separate plants were erected, but after expending £28,000 the company collapsed and the lease was forfeited. The ground was then taken up by miners, who formed co-operative parties, erected small plants. [55: p.30]
- 4 Feb 1859** Wattle Gully Reef - Meldrum's claim - 1/2 oz per ton. [37]
- 25 March 1859** Phillip's Reef considered by some to be a continuation of Chewton Reef. [37]
- May 1859** Wattle Gully, Forest Creek, which is situated near the Monk, one of the district landmarks, is one of the richest localities in the colony for auriferous quartz. It may be properly termed a "bed of gold mines." Auriferous quartz may be found in the gully and adjacent ranges for a width of 1,200 feet.  
The depth of sinking in the main alluvial workings is from 25 to 30 feet, through decomposed rock and fragmentary quartz, sandstone, and shale. The drifts contained gold for a depth of 6 feet, and were exceedingly rich, lying on blue slate bedding rock. Now, after six years working, it is yielding a living to many families. This gully, like many sections of this division, supplies incontrovertible proofs that alluvial gold in the flats and gullies is derived from, and is the result of disintegration of quartz; the gold having been liberated therefrom, and deposited by natural causes. The principal run of gold in this gully is traced from the outcrop of reef No. 1, claim 1 and each of the branch gullies were supplied from the outcrop of a quartz-dyke. Where a gully continues above such outcrop of quartz, little, if any, gold is found, and neighbouring gullies running parallel and precisely similar in geological formation, but not having quartz-reefs, are also non-auriferous.  
Quartz-Mining. - Quartz-mining commenced on the outcrop of claim 1, reef 1, which was from 3 to 4 feet wide, and with the imperfect disintegration of that time, yielded 12oz. per ton. This was supposed to be a reef, but was found at the depth of a few feet to run into leaders underlying each other at irregular distances, and, at the greatest depth yet attained the leaders are found to run out and come in, as they were found near the surface... Exceedingly rich patches have been extracted from these workings. The vein, showing on the surface in claim No. 1 was struck in No. 2, at 30 feet deep extraordinarily rich, two tons yielding 402 oz; a second two tons, 533 oz.; and from half a bucket of specimens 286 oz. were obtained. Claim No. 3 struck the same vein at 80 feet, but it soon run out, and other veins came in. The last crushing from the deepest shaft (claim 6) below the water-level yielded 45 oz. per ton, the gold generally coarse - ounce nuggets, and even five ounce pieces being found, yet much of the quartz is so poor as scarcely to pay for workings.  
Workings No. 2 - Phillips' Reef (558908-559913) was discovered under the alluvial workings. Claims 1 to 6 have worked to the water level, obtaining from 9 to 12 oz. per ton; and claims from 7 to 11 inclusive have not yet reached the reef.  
No. 3. - Shank's Reef (c.559905-559909) is a continuation of Specimen Reef (El dorado), in Fryer's Division...it passes under private property...miners in sinking their shafts magnetic north in claim 2 cut the reef at 38 feet; at 3a at 60 feet; and at 3b at 95 feet. (These numbers refer to the plan.) The other parties having sunk in the line to avoid private property will have to go in deeper...before striking the reef. Claim No. 2 has just struck a second vein, in which the precious metal shows very promisingly at 84ft.  
No. 4 - The Upper Wattle Gully Reef (c. 558910)...has been prospected a length of 1,400 feet. From 8 to 10 dwt. of gold per ton of quartz was obtained, but it was abandoned for more paying workings. [10]
- May 1859** Workings No. 2 [Wattle Gully]. Phillips' Reef was discovered under the alluvial workings... Claims 1 to 6 have worked to the water level, obtaining from 9 to 12 oz. per ton; and claims from 7 to 11 inclusive have not yet reached the reef. [10]
- May 1859** The Upper Wattle Gully Reef...has been prospected a length of 1,400 feet. From 8 to 10 dwt. of gold per ton of quartz was obtained, but it was abandoned for more paying workings. [10]
- May 1859** Shank's Reef is a continuation of Specimen Reef (El dorado), in Fryer's Division...it passes under private property...miners in sinking their shafts magnetic north in claim 2 cut the reef at 38 feet; at 3a at 60 feet; and at 3b at 95 feet. (These numbers refer to the plan.) The other parties having sunk in the line to avoid private property will have to go in deeper...before striking the reef. Claim No. 2 has just struck a second vein, in which the precious metal shows very promisingly at 84ft. [10]
- July 1859** A portion of Phillips Reef, Wattle Gully. It has been payable from the surface, the main reef yielding 5oz. to 6oz. to the ton. In driving a cross adit, several lodes were cut, two of which...were afterwards cut in sinking the water shafts, and from their declination these will join the main reef. When the water-shaft struck quartz at 85ft, the rush of water was so great as to prevent further operations. [10]
- August 1859** Wattle Gully Reef: 11 claims working, 41 miners, 8 claims payable. [10]
- August 1859** 1 claim working Upper Wattle Gully Reef, 2 miners, prospecting. [10]
- August 1859** 19 claims working, 45 miners, Wattle Gully Company. [10]
- August 1859** List of public companies in existence, and contemplated [includes]: Wattle Gully Gold Mining Company, Wattle Gully, 545 yards, commenced working. [10]

- August 1859** In alluvial, the best yields have been from Wattle Gully, now purchased by the Wattle Gully Company. Martin and Co., 60 loads yielded 11 oz. 18 dwt.; Tyrrell, 12 loads yielded 15 oz.; Tyrrell, 12 loads yielded 7 oz. 16 dwt.; Brown, 25 loads yielded 17oz. 3 dwt; Grebble, 28 loads yielded 11 oz. 10 dwt; Trewartha, 55 loads yielded 19 oz. 2 dwt. [10]
- August 1859** Shanks Reef - 8 claims working, 19 miners, 3 profitable. [10]
- Sept 1859** Yield of quartz: Wattle Gully - Meldrum and Co., 4 ton yielded 63 oz.; Phillips and Co., 60 tons yielded 90 oz.; Brown and Co., 1 ton yielded 1 oz. 15 dwt.; Dennis and Co., 5 ton yielded 15 oz. [10]
- Sept 1859** Wattle Gully Company. This company has purchased 11 claims, of the aggregate of 1,603 feet, of the reef known as Phillips, running under the alluvial in Wattle Gully. There are 3 steam engines and 4 boilers on the ground with all necessary gear, intended for the pumping and working the mine, quartz crushing, and alluvial washing. The company is in active operation. [10]
- Dec 1859** In quartz crushing machinery, we have added during the month...the Wattle Gully Company's machinery of 40-horse power. [10]
- Dec 1859** Parties reporting yields of quartz include the following: Osborne, Nicholls and Co., Lloyd, Fairbairn, Loddington. [10]
- 14 Feb 1860** Wattle Gully Reef - Fairbairn - 1 oz per ton. [37]
- May 1860** Parties reporting quartz yield - Shank's Reef: Kenny. [10]
- May 1860** Parties reporting quartz yield [include]: Nicholls, Lloyd, Fairbairne, Smith. [10]
- July 1860** A new matrix of the precious metal has been discovered situate...in Wattle Gully, Forest Creek. It was originally discovered by Pryor's digging in his garden. He was led to sink deeper, and from his first prospect of 2 tons, crushed by Chilean rollers, 11 1/2 oz. 2 dwt. was obtained; and his last crushing by the stamping process 9 tons yielded 31 oz 16 dwt., but it was believed much of the gold was lost, the stone being so easily disintegrated as to render it almost impossible to bring the fine gold in contact with the mercury by the process of stamps and tables, therefore the Chilean basin would be far preferable, but no such apparatus remains in the division. [10]
- August 1860** The Wattle Gully Company are again in active operation, employing 17 men, and keeping the machinery working night and day crushing top stuff, ie., refuse quartz, and also the debris thrown out of the old puddling machines, which pays better than the quartz at present obtainable from the reef.  
The company's lease includes several acres of alluvial workings, from which the original claimholders were extracting heavy gold just previous to the formation of the company; it is now contemplated to construct several puddling machines on the old principle, and to work them by steam and wash the alluvial, which would enable them afterwards more easily to develop and work the quartz underneath. [10]
- 24 Sept 1860** Wattle Gully Co. - 280 tons yielded 49 oz - working reefs and alluvium. [37]
- 13 Oct 1860** Wattle Flat and Gully - sludge channel and culvert, 27 puddling machines, 2 quartz crushing machines. [28]
- Oct 1860** The Wattle Gully Company having expended their capital is at present in a somewhat lifeless position. [10]
- Oct 1860** One claim in Wattle Gully 3oz. 4dwt.per ton, other claims on those workings yielding their usual average of 18 to 22dwt. per ton....One puddling machine, too, in alluvial workings, Wattle Gully, has for several weeks past averaged for four men £100 per week [10]
- Nov 1860** The Wattle Gully Company are preparing for more extensive operations, proposing to work the alluvium, much of which, inside claims adjoining the company's lease is yielding good wages to individual miners, whose success has inspired new confidence in the company. [10]
- Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners:  
Europeans: 10 puddlers  
3 puddling machines [10]
- 7 Dec 1860** Wattle Gully Reef - Lloyd's claim - 11 ton yielded 22 oz.  
Oswald's claim - 22 ton yielded 33 oz. [37]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Old Wattle Gully Reef  
No. of claims: 11  
Extent of claims: 1,345 feet  
No. of miners employed: 40  
Extent of reef prospected: 2,000 feet  
Very good, has yielded from 1/2 oz. to 200 oz. per ton. [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Phillips', Wattle Gully Company Lease  
Extent of claim: 1,602  
No of men employed: 70  
Extent of reef prospected: 2,600 feet  
Worked to water level - reef below alluvial. [10]

- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proven to be auriferous: Upper Wattle Gully  
No. of Claims: 1  
Extent of claim: 320 feet  
No. of men employed: 2  
Extent of reef prospected: 2,700 feet [10]
- Dec 1860** Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Shanks' Reef  
No. of claims: 2  
Extent of claim: 236 feet  
No. of men employed: 4  
Extent of reef prospected: 1,320  
Dip north-easterly; gold patchy; continuation of El Dorado, Fryer's Creek [10]
- Dec 1860** Leases Demised to Public Companies: [include]  
Wattle Gully Company  
Area of Lease: 12 acres 2 perches  
Amount of Capital: £25,000  
Machinery: Two steam-engines, each twenty horse-power, pump and winding gear  
Value of machinery: £6,000  
Cash expended: £23,000  
Miners now employed:  
Men lately employed: 60  
Remarks: Being re-constituted. [10]
- Jan 1861** A very large machine [Vivian & Co.'s puddling machine - see Appendix A] is being completed for the Wattle Gully Company, so that we shall soon have a chance of watching its capabilities. [10]
- March 1861** The Wattle Gully Company commenced operations with their new machinery, which is stated to have answered admirably. [10]
- April 1861** The Wattle Gully Company, in order to avert the forfeiture of their lease, has let portions of the ground on tribute, and, at the present time sixteen tributers and two wages men are engaged upon the leasehold. [10]
- July 1861** The Capper's Reef and Wattle Gully Companies...[public quartz companies]...are quietly disappearing, but little remains of the companies' property which is dwindling away and dissolution is inevitable. [10]
- August 1861** Monthly quartz returns list - Nightingale, Oswald, Lloyd as obtaining quartz from Wattle Gully; and Bower from Wattle Gully Company's ground, Phillip's Reef [10]
- Sept 1861** A new reef or leader has been found in Wattle Gully, westerly from the old workings, which promises well. [10]
- Sept 1861** Wattle Flat and Gully - Europeans: 49 puddlers, 6 ordinary miners - Chinese: 14 puddlers [10]
- Sept 1861** Companies/parties crushing quartz and obtaining gold during past month: Tyrrell, T. Pryor, Claim Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5 - 273 ton yielded 4 oz. [10]
- 18 Oct 1861** Callander's Reef - Ward and Marr - 3 ton yielded 13 oz. [37]
- 25 Oct 1861** Callander's Reef - J. Callander and Co. - 28 ton yielded av. 4 dwt/ton [37]
- Oct 1861** Parties crushing quartz: Lloyd and Company - 40 tons yielded 13 dwt 10 gr. [10]
- Oct 1861** Quartz crushed during the month, and the Gold obtained therefrom:  
Ward and Company, 3 ton yielded 3 oz 9 dwt 18 gr  
J. Callander, 14 ton yielded 14 dwt 13 gr  
A. Callander, 4 ton yielded 4 oz 5 dwt.  
New Reef [10]
- Oct 1861** Of the new reefs reported in my last, the one in Wattle Gully [Callander's] as yet proves the best. Already three claims are yielding rich stone, and two other claims prospects. [10]
- Dec 1861** Mining population: Wattle & Adelaide Gullies - 64 alluvial workers [10]
- 7 Feb 1862** Wattle Gully Reef - Taylor and Co. - 27 ton yielded 20 oz. [37]
- 8 Aug 1862** Shanks Reef has again been occupied. [37]
- 14 Nov 1862** Callander's Reef - Neihoff and Co. - 5 ton yielded av. 12 dwt/ton [37]
- 28 Sept 1863** Wattle Gully Co. - 5 ton yielded 4 oz. [37]
- 18 Jan 1864** Lorrington and Co. - taken up lease of 240 ft.  
Wattle Gully Hill - Main and Co. - taken up lease of 240 feet. [37]
- June 1864** An engine of 18 horse-power, with 12 stamps, pumping and winding gear, is being erected upon Fairbairn's lease, Wattle Gully, which has been brought by Mr Scotson from Mopoke Gully, Fryer's Creek division. [10]
- Sept 1864** Messrs. Fairbairns and Company's new plant, in Wattle Gully, is not yet completed, being delayed while sinking the engine shaft. The Perseverance and Victoria machines and plant have changed hands, and will be used for crushing from Bolivia and Wattle Gully Reefs. [10]

- Sept 1864** Quartz Reefs, and no. of claims and men:  
Wattle Gully: 3 claims, 26 men  
Callanders, 3 claims, 6 men  
Shanks: 1 claim, 2 men [10]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1865:  
Walker and Company, Lloyd, Fairbairn, Martin and Company [10]
- 1865** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushing during 1865: Shank's Reef  
Meir and Company [10]
- June 1866** The old Wattle Gully Reef, formerly so rich, is again in full work. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866:  
Walker, Fairbairn, Lloyd, Martin and Company, Woolcock, Paull and Company, Marsh,  
Searle. [10]
- 1866** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: Shank's Reef  
Myer (or Meyer) and Company, Anderson and Company [10]
- March 1867** In quartz mining, The Old Wattle Gully continues to improve and yield, and considerable interest is evinced therein. Upon this reef - south end - is Teague's Twenty-acre lease: thence going north, Fairbairn's lease, Lloyd's and Walker's claims, Terrell's lease; then Martin's, Paul's, and other claims, just now striking the new lode; the best yield for the quarter being 970 oz. 12 dwts. from 390 tons. Considerable water is met with at 120 to 140 feet deep. Three new whims have been erected, and a good number of men employed [10]
- 20 May 1867** In Wattle Gully Messrs Walker and Co. are erecting a machine on the claim of Martin and Co. [37]
- 3 June 1867** The claim next to Martin's will be worked by a party of Chinese, a Chinese company having been formed to do so. [37]
- 10 June 1867** Chinese - a party of 15 men. [37]
- 11 June 1867** The Chinese party is still proceeding with their shaft - executing the work very well. [37]
- June 1867** On the Wattle Gully Reef an engine has been erected for drainage to supersede the use of whims. Another claim, Martin and Company, have struck the reef, which is drained by their engine; and several other claims south have been taken up. [10]
- Sept 1867** In quartz mining, however, we report progress. In Wattle Gully all unoccupied ground below the eight paying claims has been taken up by Vivian and Co., who purpose, forthwith, to erect powerful machinery.  
Terrill Bros' machinery is being erected on their lease, and as soon as the pumps work will enable all the claim holders to sink deeper. Two thousand two hundred and forty three tons raised during the quarter gave 1,157 oz. 12 dwts. 8 grs.[10]
- Dec 1867** Terril and Company, Wattle Gully, has completed the erection of their very complete plant for pumping, winding, and stamping, and received from their first crushing 82 oz. 18 dwts. from 60 tons. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867  
T. Walker and Company, Fairbairn, Terrill Brothers, Lloyd, Martin and Co., Paull and Co., Mier and Co. [10]
- 1867** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1867: Shank's Reef [10]
- March 1868** On Wattle Gully Reef, now worked by seventy-five men, several new shafts are being sunk. Walker and Co. purpose going 200 feet. In addition to the seven parties now working payable claims, Fairbairn's tributers (south end) have just found what they believe to be the main reef; and Vivian and Co. (on the northern end) have struck quartz, and a large body of water, in a level driven from their 100-foot engine shaft. [10]
- 11 May 1868** In Wattle Gully the Chinese party are down 200 ft. [37]
- June 1868** New Machinery - The Hit-or-Miss Company, Wattle Gully, have nearly erected a 16 horse-power horizontal engine with two batteries of 5 stamps each; north, on the same reef, Vivian and Company have a 12 horse-power engine and pumping gear erecting on their lease. Again, north on the Chewton Reef, Powell and Company have erected an 8 horse-power locomotive with 150 feet of 6-inch pumps; and on the Argus Reef, Jenkin and Company have just completed the removal of their engine and plant, making seven engines upon this line of reef within 1 1/2 miles.  
In Wattle Gully, Walker and Company has struck rich gold at the south end of the reef, and the North Abutment Company at the north end of the reef, as at present working [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Wattle Gully  
Walker and Co., Lloyd, Martin and others, Tyrrell or Terrill, Myers, Fairbairn and others, Hit-or-Miss, Scotson's (late Fairbairn's), Meyer [10]
- 1868** Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1868: Shank's Reef  
Myers and Company [10]
- March 1870** No new discoveries in quartz have been made except in the Old Wattle Gully Reef, where Walker and Co. are driving across the reefs, 100 feet on each side of the main body... [10]

- Dec 1870** The Wattle Gully line of reefs are somewhat quiet, several of the claims being held under protective registration. This line runs through the private property of Mr. Law and others, whose allotments appear nearly all quartz reefs. From the surface of Mr. Law's ground 253 tons yielded 89 oz. 6 dwts. Crossing the Melbourne road the same line is known as the Argus Reef. Through Dyason's, Hawkins', and other claims the lode continues of irregular size and easterly underlay, and is worked into water. From Dyason and Co's ground the late tributers obtained £5173 15s. value of gold from 2437 tons; and previous miners obtained £9025 13s. from 4927 tons. On this and parallel lines in Chewton, and through northerly to Barker's Creek, a large number of prospecting claims have been taken up. [10]
- 1871** In 1871, Wattle Gully Reef was again taken up by registered companies, among which were the South Wattle Gully, the Central Wattle Gully and the Wattle Gully companies. The South Wattle Gully Company's ground included Captain Teague's lease, upon which two shafts were equipped with plants and sunk to work the reefs below water-level. The Wattle Gully, which included eight of the richest claims at and near surface, erected a complete plant and sunk shaft to a depth of 334 feet, but below 200 feet, no payable results were obtained, and the company did not prospect in a southerly direction. [55: p.30]
- 27 March 1871** Walker Tribute Co. [37]
- 1 May 1871** New Victoria Co. - lots of mundic with quartz. [37]
- 8 May 1871** Tyrells, Walker Tribute. [37]
- Sept 1871** The small claims in Wattle Gully have been purchased, and this line of reef is now held by four companies, each having machinery erected thereon, and main shafts to water, 200 feet below which mining operations must now be prosecuted. [10]
- 2 Oct 1871** Walker and Co. has bought out last of undercapitalised claims - ie. Martin and Co. The whole of Wattle Gully line held by registered companies - ie. the Old Wattle Gully, North Walker and Co., the Wheal Terrell, the ground held by Mr Spargo, and New Pioneer Co. [37]
- 8 Dec 1871** North Specimen Hill Co. - will sink 70 ft at south end of lease. [37]
- Dec 1871** Wattle Gully Reef - On the Wattle Reef, southern lease, Teague's machinery is delivered, and a number of men employed erecting, &c. The Old Wattle Gully Company, formerly Fairbairn's, have overhauled their machinery preparatory to extensive operations. In Walker and Co.'s new shaft, at 60 feet, a leader has been struck, 11 tons from it yielding 34 oz. 15 dwts.; and from their central claim, late Martin's, a reef underlying east has been found, 30 tons from it yielding 15 oz. 13 dwts. 15 grs. The Wheal Terrill Company are about erecting poppet, tramway, and additional machinery, to facilitate working, which will enable the company to raise at about one-half their present cost; a trial crushing of 25 tons yielded 18 1/2 oz. of gold. They are sinking a new shaft upon the rich leader being worked by Walker and Co. The United Wattle Gully have repaired their machinery, drained the mine, cleaned up and prepared for a good start with the new year. [10]
- March 1872** The Old Wattle Gully are down 263 feet, and purpose sinking to 400 feet, and then cross-cutting for the numerous very rich leaders which have been worked to surface to the north, and which underlie west and strike south. The Wheal Terrell have nearly completed erection of poppet-heads, and other additional appliances, the more economically and efficiently to work their mine. They purpose sinking to 400 feet. The United Wattle Gully are sinking their new 400-foot engine-shaft; at 105 and 126 feet they struck quartz leaders carrying gold, and the country looks very promising. Messrs. Walker and Co. are working both their leases with satisfactory results. [10]
- June 1872** The Old Wattle Gully are cross-cutting at 330 feet, and erecting superior pumping and winding gear. [10]
- Sept 1872** The Wheal Terrill and Old Wattle Gully Companies, after uselessly expending much time and capital on the old workings above 200 feet, have decided to sink deeper. [10]
- Dec 1872** The Wattle Gully United Company has added winding gear to their machinery, sunk main shaft, and fixed pumps at 310 feet. In sinking shaft numerous leaders of gold-bearing quarts were cut through underlying east towards the main reef. At 235 a crosscut is put upon some leaders of a very crystalline character, impregnated with gold, and with the adjacent slate heavily charged with pyrites; 40 tons, principally slate, just crushed, yielded 40 oz. of gold, in addition to cleaning-ups to come in. Another crosscut has commenced at the 300-foot level. On the same reef, the Old Wattle Gully Company have sunk their engine-shaft to 340 feet, and commenced a plat and crosscutting at that depth. Teague and Co. is still engaged erecting machinery. Walker and Co. has averaged nearly dwts. to the ton. [10]
- March 1873** The Wheal Terrell, having completed erection of poppet-heads, trams, &c., are crushing from the 200 and 250 foot levels, 920 tons yielding 322 oz. [10]

- June 1873** In Wattle Gully, the United Company, in addition to the leaders previously reported, found a western reef before unknown...Another engine and additional plant is erecting to crush the large body of stone available.  
In the adjoining claim, south, Walker and Co. obtained 108 oz. from 98 tons of stone.  
The Wheal Terril Company continues sinking their main shaft, now down 302 feet.  
The Old Wattle Gully Company is cross-cutting at 334 feet deep. [10]
- Dec 1873** The deepest mines in this division are [4th] the Old Wattle Gully, driving at 339 feet ...[7th] the Wheal Terrill, crosscutting from eastern reef at 250 feet; and [8th] the United Wattle Gully, sinking from 300 to 400 feet.  
On the...Wattle Gully...reef, more powerful machinery is being erected. [10]
- June 1874** The Wattle Gully United, at 410 feet, cut a large reef carrying a fine drift-sand on its face and gold in the stone. They are sinking with the reef to open out at 460 feet.  
The Wattle Gully Tributers' shaft is 318 feet. On a lode 3 feet 6 inches wide a trial crushing from the cap yielded 19 dwts. to the ton, and gold is seen as the lode is worked. [10]
- Sept 1874** The prospects on Wattle Gully reefs have improved. Mr Teague's machinery has commenced working, and he is cross-cutting for the reef.  
The Central Company, the New Wheal Terrill, and the United Wattle Gully, are all on payable stone, and likely so to continue. [10]
- 1 Dec 1874** It was rumoured in Castlemaine yesterday that the Central Wattle Gully Co. had struck some exceedingly rich quartz, specimens worth £500 or £600 being exhibited in Chewton. [37]
- Dec 1874** The Wattle Gully United, whose shaft is now 460 feet, have recommenced sinking for 560 feet, and the Wattle Gully No. 1 Tribute, now 327 feet, are again sinking for the rich lode being worked in Walker's Central Claim adjoining. [10]
- March 1875** Walker's Central Company...have purchased and commenced erecting the late Wheal Terrill machinery. [10]
- Sept 1875** The Central Wattle Gully Company continues upon payable stone, and has their machinery nearly re-erected. The Wattle Gully Company has driven their 450-foot level into a fine country. These are the deepest workings in the Castlemaine division. [10]
- Dec 1875** The Wattle Gully Company continues driving in quartz at their 450-foot level, but as yet has not discovered payable gold. [10]
- March 1876** The Wheal Terrill tributers have failed to find gold, and have abandoned their tributers. The Wattle Gully United, after sinking their shaft to 470 feet, and driving expensive levels at 450 feet, have been obliged to give in, and prospect shallow leaders. [10]
- 31 Aug 1876** Wattle Gully Co. - Result of fortnight's crushing: 136 oz. At a meeting of directors, it was resolved to donate the proceeds towards the liquidation of the purchase of the Old Wattle Gully Co.'s mine and plant. [37]
- Dec 1876** The Wattle Gully continues the premier reef in this division, McGregor and Co. having obtained 1,048 3/4 oz. of gold from 568 tons quartz, and 21 1/2 ozs. from 7 tons of pyrites. The adjoining claim, Walker and Co., yielded 438 oz. from 741 tons of quartz...  
The ground so long held by the Old Wattle Gully Company is in the hands of fifty shareholders, who are prospecting for the lost secrets.  
Number and Distribution of Miners on the Goldfields, &c.  
Wattle Gully 103  
Parties obtaining gold from pyrites and blanketing:  
Wattle Gully, No. 1, Chewton  
Parties obtaining gold from quartz tailings, mullock, etc.:  
Wattle Tribute, Wattle Gully  
Parties obtaining gold from quartz crushing:  
Wattle Gully, No. 1, Wattle Gully Reef  
Walker and Co., Wattle Gully Reef [10]
- 21 April 1877** The tribute party formed to work the Old Wattle Gully Co.'s ground threw up their agreement and yesterday handed over to the parent company all right and title to the claim. [37]
- 16 May 1877** Lease of Old Wattle Gully Co. declared void. [37]
- Sept 1877** The Central Company have erected a new 15-head battery of revolving stamps, and made other improvements. [10]
- 23 Aug 1878** New ground opened up by Woolcock & party in Wattle Gully - the new reef being a short distance to the west of the old Wattle Gully and running parallel with it. [37]
- 4 Nov 1878** Wattle Gully Co. - Let the mine to a party of 10 tributers. [37]
- 10 Feb 1879** The Wattle Gully Co. at the 270-ft level, 80 feet west of the shaft, have struck a reef 9 feet wide after driving through sandstone. It is auriferous - specimens up to 1/2 oz. This is about 700' south of those old workings, which were previously so profitable to the company.  
Walker and Co. in the adjoining claim has struck the same run of stone. [37]
- 31 March 1879** Wattle Gully Co. Doing dead work, laying tramways and repairing machinery - will begin crushing during the week. [37]

- June 1879** In Wattle Gully considerable activity prevails. McGregor and Co. have now the same runs of stone as the Central Company. Durant and Co., also Teague and Co., are cross-cutting west to find the same run of country. Walker and Co. has cross-cut 240 feet east. [10]
- 4 Aug 1879** After one month a lease will be issued to W.R. McGregor for the Wattle Gully Co. [37]
- 25 Aug 1879** The Wattle Gully Co. had 4.5 dwts. a ton from new ground opening on Shanks Reef. [37]
- 13 Oct 1879** A party of miners has taken up a tribute on the Wheal Terrill from the surface to 60-ft. [37]
- March 1880** Four engines only are employed in drainage, viz., on Wattle Gully, Argus Flat, Eureka, and Nuggetty Reefs.  
The Wattle Gully Company has prepared plans, estimates, &c., which have been fully approved of, for sinking their shaft to 1,000 feet. [10]
- 5 April 1880** The Wattle Gully Co. shareholders intend to form a company in order to deepen shaft from present 470 feet to 1000 feet on the underlay of the lode. [37]
- 13 Sept 1880** The directors completed the registration of the company - Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. [37]
- 2 Nov 1880** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. - New machinery arrived. [37]
- Dec 1880** The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company has purchased better machinery for pumping and winding purposes. [10]
- 7 Feb 1881** The Wheal Terrill which lies between the Crown Claim and that of Walker's, is about to be taken up by tribute by the shareholders in Walker's... [37]
- March 1881** The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company is making progress in the erection of new machinery for pumping and winding, the most approved appliances for the safety of the mine and men being obtained. The pumps and gear are undergoing thorough overhaul and improvement, in order to enable them to cope with the drainage from the whole line of reef.  
The Central Wattle Gully Company continues to employ a good number of men. They have now taken the Wheal Terrill ground on tribute; this they can work by their own shafts and machinery.  
The Crown Tributers (five men) have obtained 1041/2 oz. of gold from 120 tons of quartz, and are now crushing.  
Teague and Co. is working on the Western Wattle Gully Reef, which underlays east towards the main lead, and has proved rich near surface.  
On the Wattle Gully line, northerly, Kemp and Co. have opened upon a small leader, and obtained 14 oz. 12 dwts of gold from 9 tons of quartz. [10]
- 13 Sept 1881** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. - half-yearly meeting - Erection of machinery completed, machinery formally started on 3rd June last... new pumping and winding machinery with a new poppet head, legs 56 feet long... the water in the mine is very light, our average burning of firewood is about 15 tons per week... [37]
- 9 Jan 1882** Wattle Gully Co. is sinking the shaft, and its tributers who are sinking the winze and those in the Chinamen's Shaft, are continuing the work they have set themselves to before reaching the lode. [37]
- March 1882** The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Quartz Mining Company have, by an expenditure of £3,500, erected efficient machinery for pumping and winding, and have sunk their engine shaft from 450 to 560 feet...through very hard country, which has now changed to blue slate and quartz, carrying quantities of pyrites, blende, and galena, with a little gold. (This is the deepest shaft and find of auriferous quartz in the Castlemaine Division.)  
The Wheal Terrill Tribute...a large quantity of rich pyrites sent to Sandhurst and other places for treatment.  
At the Old Wattle Gully mine, the shafts and levels have been repaired, and men are now breaking stone for crushing. [10]
- June 1882** In quartz mining the most important discovery was that by the Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company of gold-bearing quartz in their shaft at 600 feet. This has caused excitement, especially amongst those who doubted the existence of gold in depth in this locality. [10]
- 26 June 1882** A project is underfoot for making one company out of Central, Wheal Terril and Crown claims [37]
- 10 July 1882** After a month's search, the tributers [Old Wattle Gully] have come across a run they were looking for... [37]
- Sept 1882** The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company...have substituted for that formerly in use a "Seymore's patent" safety cage, which gives satisfaction.  
The Central Wattle Gully Company have refitted their machinery and added a "Morton's Condenser", which is stated to both save firewood and increase steam power.  
The Argus United Company have been broken up, and their mine and plant have been purchased by the adjoining Perseverance Company, who purpose amalgamating the two leases. [10]
- Oct 1882** At Wattle Gully there are two strong veins, Phillips Reef on the east and Jebars (Gibbers) on the west. At the surface the lodes are about 350 feet apart and between them are largely unconnected bodies of stone where nearly all the gold in the Wattle Gully was derived. [37]
- Dec 1882** Unfortunately, only four steam engines are employed in draining quartz reefs, these [include]:- The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company, whose shaft is now 632 feet deep... [10]



- June 1883** The Central (private company) Wattle Gully, obtained 463 oz. from their own leased ground, and 109 1/2 oz. from their Wheal Terrill Tribute. They employ 40 men, and hold one of the best mines in the division. [10]
- Sept 1883** In quartz, the grandest mining development - so far as the future prospects of this division are concerned - has occurred during the quarter in the success of the Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company... In opening out at the 600-foot level a slide was met with, carrying a gold-bearing lode. At the 650-foot level, 200 feet north, the lode was again met with...and gold was seen in the solid white quartz of a heavier character. This bottom level is 467 feet above "low-water mark, Hobson's Bay", and 650 feet below the surface, and proves that gold exists in depth at Castlemaine as well as on other goldfields, which should induce deep sinking. [10]
- 1 Oct 1883** An agreement has been reached for amalgamation of Central Wattle Gully with Crown and Wheal Terril claims to form a public company. [37]
- 15 Oct 1883** Old Wattle Gully - Will form public company. [37]
- 19 Nov 1883** Central Wattle Gully Mining Co.- is projected to supersede three private co-operative mining companies, known as the 'Central Wattle Gully', 'Wheal Terrill', and the 'Crown Claim,' for the purpose of more efficiently and economically working these mines. This valuable property comprises a total area of 14 acres 2 roods 3 perches, held under Gold Mining Leases, adjoining each other, and including the 'Old Wattle Gully', 'Phillips', also the 'Western' or 'Jibbers' Quartz Reefs, for over one thousand feet in length. Also a superior Mining Plant and Machinery, complete and in full and profitable workings. There is at present at work on the Central mine the following machinery, all in good working order. A substantial crushing plant, comprising first-class 15-head battery, with copperplates, blanketing, &c., complete. One 15 inch cylinder engine (by Tennant) with condenser attached, surface pumps and all suitable appliances; about 410 feet of 7 inch pumps, (Plunger and Drawing Lift) driven by said engine. One 10 inch cylinder winding engine, with friction gear, together with wire ropes, safety cages, &c. One Cornish-flue boiler 24 feet by 6 feet 6 inches. Three blacksmith's shops with tool, &c. The whole plant is in first-class order. [37]
- Dec 1883** In quartz mining, of our numerous reefs only six are being properly worked, the Forest Creek Wattle Gully taking the lead...£1,800 has been paid in dividends and £1,250 reserved toward erecting a new 20-head battery with engine, &c., additional machinery being necessary to work the great deposit of golden quartz proved 112 feet in advance of the stopes. Both the "Central" and the "Old Wattle Gully" companies will henceforth be public or registered mining companies, and as they hold the richest portions of the Wattle Gully reefs, so far as worked, they should become very profitable ventures for the public. The Railway Wattle Gully Company is sinking an engine shaft 10 x 4 feet, which is now down 47 feet. [10]
- March 1884** The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company is erecting a new crushing plant. 16in. cylinder engine, boiler, 28ft. 6in. x 6ft. 6in.; 20-head battery of heavy revolving stamps, with the most approved plant and gear. [10]
- 21 April 1884** Shareholders will meet this week to decided upon working of [Old Wattle Gully] mine. Included in the lease are Jibbers, Wattle Gully and Shanks Reefs. This mine has only been worked to 210 feet deep although engine shaft is 334 feet deep. [37]
- 28 April 1884** New Wattle Gully mine - Cleaning out the mine below and the drive in the upper reef. Will sink the shaft 200 feet below present workings. [37]
- 12 May 1884** New Wattle Gully mine - Pumps being repaired. [37]
- 14 June 1884** Starting of new machinery at Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. [37]
- 17 June 1884** New Wattle Gully mine - Machinery has been overhauled and water pumped from shaft. [37]
- June 1884** The Central Wattle Gully Company continues to extend their 250 and 350 foot levels south through the Old Wheal Terrell, towards the Crown claim. This once rich claim was formerly worked only by windlass and whim to 180 feet in depth. The new Wattle Gully Company have renewed and repaired their machinery, and invited tenders for sinking their engine shaft. [10]
- 5 Sept 1884** Railway Wattle Gully - The full-sized shaft on this company's ground is now down 60 feet. Claim adjoins north boundary of Forest Creek Wattle Gully down to within a few feet of Chewton main road. The railway runs through the lease. [37]
- 10 Sept 1884** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. - half-yearly meeting. At your last meeting you were informed that a crushing plant had been purchased and the contractors were progressing with its removal, &c. Your Directors are happy to inform you that the erection was completed and the battery started to work on 13th June last. We have constructed a dam and connected it with the Government race, so that the Coliban water is now used for the batteries. Your Directors have purchased and erected a new 16 inch Cylinder Engine made by Messrs Thompson & Co., a new Boiler 28 ft, 6 in. x 6ft. 6in. fitted with 6 Galloway tubes made by Messrs. Horwood & Son, Sandhurst, also a first-class revolving 20-head Battery, with a complete outfit of all requirements, enclosed with substantial housing covered with corrugated iron. New plunger workings have also been put in the shaft. [37]



- 22 July 1886** Lease 2673, of the Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company, is situated at the point where Deadman's Gully joins Wattle Gully. (mid grid ref. 559917). Immediately south of the above lease are those of the Wattle Gully quartz mines - Leases 2673 (most northerly), 1739 and 2175 (Central Wattle Gully Mine), the South Wattle Gully Mining Company, and Leases 2212 and 2358 - all working Wattle Gully Reef, Old Specimen or Shanks Reef (mid grid ref. 559905). [30]
- July 1886** Central Wattle Gully - The main shaft is at 234 ft - sinking ceased due to decrease of call paying shares. The winding engine is pulling two important tributes in the old shaft. The tributes are worked by 24 men. 948 tons have yielded 275oz 2dwt. [37]
- 3 Sept 1886** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. A lawsuit was instituted against the Company by one Dittmer, who was injured in May, 1885, through a truck of stones falling and striking him. Full wages of two guineas per week were paid him for nearly five months, until he had apparently quite recovered, and nothing more was heard of or from him until March last, when a solicitor's letter demanding five hundred pounds was received. Your Directors thereupon took legal advice, and decided to defend the suit, which was subsequently brought for one thousand pounds. The result was a verdict in favour of the Company. The sum of thirty pounds, voted at last half-yearly meeting, has been paid to Mr Burgdorf. [37]
- Dec 1886** The Eastern or Shank's Reef, in Wattle Gully, not proving payably auriferous in present cross-cuts, the Central Company purposes cross-cutting to the Western Reef... [10]
- Feb 1887** Central Wattle Gully Co. Beck and party, after considerable amount of labour, having abandoned operations at the 80ft level, it being too poor. Jenkins and party, when last reported, possessed an excellent prospect at the 300ft level. Nicholson and party have a good show of stone in Crown claim, it being 8ft in thickness, from which good prospects are obtained. Kidd and party working leader country west of lode. We have 6 tribute paries in full work in different portions of your mine, in all 13 men, all doing goo prospecting work. Machinery in good order; boiler tested; mundic appliances approved and extended. [37]
- 9 March 1887** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. - Your Directors are now erecting a winding plant on the ground, having put the old engine and boiler, &c. in good order for the purpose. They have let a contract to cut down and timber the old 'Welcome' shaft... [37]
- March 1887** The Forest Creek W.G. Company...are now sinking another shaft, and erecting a pumping and winding plant near north end of their lease. [10]
- April 1887** South Wattle Gully Co. - Davies started fresh shaft south of engine house and is down 16ft... Mussett is in heavy ground. Mason crushed 9 tons for 1oz 7dwt. Trevena cleaned out shaft, and crosscut. [37]
- June 1887** The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company have completed the erection of their fourth steam engine, intended for pumping and winding from shaft No. 3, which is situate 1,429 feet north of the main shaft No. 1. [10]
- 15 Sept 1887** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. - We have put our small engine in first order, and erected the same with a new engine house, at your north shaft. This shaft has been enlarged, timbered and divided to a depth of 107 feet from the surface. A tribute has been let to Bennett and party at North and Buttman's shaft. [37]
- Sept 1887** Two other mines were reported in progress of floating in London, viz., "The Old Quartz Hill," by the Hon. Howard Spensley, and "The Railway Wattle Gully," by J. McIntyre, Esq., M.L.A.; but unfortunately the latter leasehold has been "jumped" by a man who has neither capital nor friends to work it. [10]
- 31 Oct 1887** Welcome shaft - No. 3, Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. Have sunk 12 feet. [37]
- 1 Nov 1887** South Wattle Gully Co. Gorman's shaft on Shanks reef let on tribute to McDonald and party. [37]
- 23 Jan 1888** South Wattle Gully Co. Shanks Reef is 420 feet east of the Wattle Gully Reef. [37]
- 5 March 1888** South Wattle Gully Co. - The company is sinking a new shaft near the boundary of the tribute claim to strike the same profitable run as McDonald party. [37]
- March 1888** The South Wattle Gully Company...obtained 1,252 oz. 6dwt. for the quarter. Of this 1,212oz. 8dwt. was from 571 tons from Shanks' Reef by McDonald and Sons, a party of six tributers, who receive 50 per cent. or about £2,400 for their three months' work. The adjoining company is the Central Wattle Gully, of whose shares 20,000 had become forfeited and were purchased at 1s. per share; the full number (25,000) being subject to calls. This leasehold is 1,010 feet long; the workings since 1866 have been from 60 to 80 feet in width. [10]
- March 1888** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. Your Directors found it advisable to take up an additional block of ground, which includes a portion of Shanks' reef, that is now yielding so well in an adjacent lease. We have received £420 of the grant from the Prospecting Vote. Welcome shaft. Drove north...striking a run of quartz, supposed to be the continuation of the stone successfully worked by Odgers and party at one time. We expect soon to be on a...body of quartz on the south, worked by Cooper and party many years ago. [37]
- 18 June 1888** Southern Cross Co. - shaft at 40ft. [37]

- June 1888** The South Wattle Gully Company have added to their old plant, and also erected a new double-cylinder engine, with vertical steel boiler and double-winding gear, upon Shanks' Reef, where their shaft is now in all quartz.  
A newly registered company, the Southern Cross Gold Mining Company, on Shanks' Reef, have commenced work, erected smithy and shop, and are timbering up a shaft from which payable gold was obtained by Prior Brothers some twenty-five years ago. [10]
- 11 June 1888** Forest Creek Wattle Gully - A tribute party has started a shaft south of the Welcome and at 12 ft came on a large colour of quartz, considered to be Cooper's run. [37]
- Sept 1888** Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. - Much dissatisfaction was expressed regarding the inability to procure prop timber through the scarcity of trucks on the railway... Timber has been lying at Lyonville and Trentham for four months and four weeks respectively, no trucks being available for bringing it away, and work at the mine will have to be suspended in a few days if timber be not procured. [37]
- Sept 1888** The South Wattle Gully Company have been unfortunate with their machinery, as, after making several additions and improvements to the old battery, the foundations have given way, the bedding logs having apparently been laid upon an old shaft or other excavation. [10]
- 29 Oct 1888** A tribute let in Welcome shaft. [37]
- n.d.** On the E boundary of the lease, working Shanks Reef, are the South Gully Winding Engine and Shaft No. 2 (10831 tons 2432? oz) (560905). No. 1 shaft is S of this, and a further six shafts and one open cut are all situated N of the S boundary of the lease.[9]
- n.d.** S of the mouth of Wattle Gully is Forest Creek & Wattle Gully Co. (FCWG Co.) machinery, dam, tank and 800ft-shaft (558912). A race leads from the dam down Wattle Gully, then heads W across the head of Long Gully (a non-auriferous branch of Deadman's Gully), and joins into the VWS main race. Still on the company's lease, are 3 shafts to the N of the 800ft shaft, and 2 shafts to the S - named Kitto's shaft and FCWG Co. south shaft. [9]
- n.d.** Adjoining the S boundary of the FCWG Co. lease, is the lease of the Central Wattle Gully Co., with machinery, dam, 400ft shaft and a new shaft (558909). A race runs from the dam, S along the lease's W boundary, and connects into the main VWS supply. Another race leads from the dam to a surface sluicing claim, W of the lease's W boundary and E of Long Gully. Four shafts on the W boundary of the Central Wattle Gully Co. lease, and three shafts on the E. [9]
- n.d.** Lease No. 3010 is E of Central Wattle Gully Co. On it is marked a new shaft (561908). [9]
- n.d.** Southern Cross Company lease (probably No. 2869) is N of Lease 3010 and E. of FCWG Co. lease. Shaft (251 tons, 57 oz, 15 dwt) associated with smithy (561910). (Working Prior's Reef?) [9]
- n.d.** Adjoining the S boundary of the Central Wattle Co. lease, is that of the South Wattle Gully Co., with machinery and 334ft No. 2 shaft (558905). A race for VWS runs SW from machinery site and joins into main race that continues down Wattle Gully.  
Five shafts are situated on the W boundary of the lease, and two more lie S of the machinery site. The most southerly is Teague's shaft, 220ft (558904).  
On the E boundary of the lease, working Shanks Reef, are the South Gully Winding Engine and Shaft No. 2 (10831 tons 2432? oz) (560905). No. 1 shaft is S of this, and a further six shafts and one open cut are all situated N of the S boundary of the lease.[9]
- n.d.** On the W boundary of the South Wattle Gully Co.'s lease, just N of machinery site, is a junction of the main VWS race and races from Northern and Central Wattle Gully Co.'s (558905). [9]
- n.d.** Lease 2856 adjoins the E boundary of the South Wattle Gully Co. [9]
- 5 Feb 1889** Southern Cross Co. - Sunk Priors shaft just below 50ft and opened out east in good slate. [37]
- 4 March 1889** Prospectors sinking 300 feet south of Welcome shaft. [37]
- June 1889** The South Wattle Gully, the Central, the Southern Cross, and Carbarns and Company are sinking shafts. The Southern Cross, at 100 feet, has a reef 3 feet thick, from which 244 tons yielded 41/2 dwt. to the ton. The gold from this line of reef sells at £4 1s 6d. per ounce. [10]
- Sept 1889** In the South Wattle Gully, the rich run of stone worked by the McDonalds and Sons' tribute party has run out.  
On the same reef, the Central Wattle Gully has sunk a new shaft.  
The Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company has stopped work...the reef proved broken and non-payable.  
South of their engine they hold 700 feet in length of reef to and adjoining the Central Wattle mine.  
During the time that the company has been at work, namely nine years, they obtained gold to the value of £40,348 10s., and paid £3,000 in dividends. Calls to the amount of £14,229 10s. were made by the shareholders during the above period, and the expenses of the company for that time amounted to nearly £58,000. [10]
- Nov 1889** Forest Creek Wattle Gully - selling plant to South Cross Co. [37]
- 23 Dec 1889** Forest Creek Wattle Gully - machinery still for sale. [37]
- 17 Feb 1890** The Southern Cross (having purchased Forest Creek Wattle Gully plant) is pumping water from Forest Creek Wattle Gully shaft. [37]

- 24 Feb 1890** The Southern Cross tributers who have been working west of Forest Creek Wattle Gully shaft got 13oz from 50 tons crushed. [37]
- 15 Sept 1890** Southern Cross Co. Have decided to sink a new shaft to south west of present one (ie. Welcome shaft). [37]
- Dec 1890** Only three mines are constantly at work, namely, the Francis Ormond, United Ajax, and South Wattle Gully. [10]
- 1 June 1891** South Wattle Gully Co. - Trevena's tribute or No. 2 party, raising stone from northern boundary, on the Wattle Gully line of reef, will crush during the fortnight. [37]
- Sept 1891** After cross-cutting 161 feet from the shaft the Central Wattle Gully Company cut Gibber's Reef, which is well mineralised and gold bearing. [10]
- 1 July 1897** Southern Cross Co. - Decided to sink a new shaft to 200 feet - now down 45 feet. [37]
- 11 Oct 1897** Southern Cross Co. - Erecting poppet heads at Welcome Shaft. [37]
- 19 Oct 1897** Southern Cross Co. - Dismantling poppet heads from old shaft for removal to new shaft. [37]
- Oct 1899** Southern Cross and Central Wattle Gully Co.: 102 ton crushed, 25oz gold [10]
- 22 Dec 1900** Southern Cross Co. - 44.25oz. from 160 tons [37]
- Feb 1901** South Wattle Gully Co.: 59 ton crushed, 81oz gold [10]
- Oct 1901** Southern Cross and Central Wattle Gully Co.: 358 ton crushed, 234oz gold [10]
- 1902** South Wattle Gully Co.: 12 head battery [12: p.28]
- 1903** South Wattle Gully Company. This company's mine is near the head of Wattle Gully, which yielded in the early digging days a large quantity of alluvial gold. Very little work has been done for some years past, except by tributers at shallow levels. Through the eastern portion of the lease the Shank's or Specimen Hill line of centre country passes, and in this the engine shaft is sunk. A peculiar feature of this reef was its great width, upwards of 200 feet, across the saddle. On the western portion of the lease the continuation of Phillips' and West Wattle Gully Reef has been worked, but only to a depth of 300 feet. [55]
- 1904** Wattle Gully Dredging/Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: p.53]
- Dec 1904** Wattle Gully Dredging/Sluicing Co.: 291oz gold [10]
- 1905** Wattle Gully Dredging/Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp.82-3]
- March 1905** Wattle Gully Dredging/Sluicing Co.: 381oz gold [10]
- 1906** Wattle Gully Dredging/Sluicing Co.: Pumped sluicing plant operating [12: pp. 94-5]
- June 1906** Wattle Gully Dredging/Sluicing Co.: 113oz gold - J. Mackay, Legal Manager [10]
- June 1912** South Wattle Gully Co.: 95 ton crushed, 86oz gold [10]
- 1913** South Wattle Gully Co.: Erecting 10 head battery [12: p.104]
- Sept 1913** South Wattle Gully Co.: 132 ton crushed, 44oz gold [10]
- 1914** South Wattle Gully Co.: 10 head battery [12: p.93]
- June 1914** South Wattle Gully Co.: 2055 ton crushed, 582oz gold [10]
- Sept 1914** South Wattle Gully Co.: 291 ton crushed, 176oz gold [10]
- Dec 1914** South Wattle Gully Co.: 589 ton crushed, 217oz gold [10]
- June 1915** South Wattle Gully Co.: 163 ton crushed, 62oz gold [10]
- 21 Feb 1936** Wattle Gully North Extended - [see Quartz Hill - 8.1] [37]
- 22 Oct 1937** The Wattle Gully zone in which the Wattle Gully, Chewton Gold, South Wattle Gully, Wattle Gully Extended, North Wattle Gully and North Chewton mines are operating has had a great history and apparently history will repeat itself. In the early fifties the alluvial deposits were very rich even for those hectic days. While taking out the alluvial wash the miners opened up quartz, which was studded with gold. This was treated per hammer or dolly pots. Later on Chilian mills and square stampers were installed. Later still, mining companies were formed and worked with varying success down to 300 feet. The Forest Creek Wattle Gully worked very successfully for 20 years and sank their shaft to 840 feet. Unfortunately the shaft was sunk on the underlay for a good distance and this and the difficulty of dealing with the water eventually caused cessation of operations. The South Wattle Gully Co. in their Shanks shaft on the Chewton reef, on the eastern saddle formation of the Wattle Gully system, sank to 360 ft, and got a fair amount of gold. On this lease McDonald and party had a tribute on the "German" saddle which yielded £4800 in three months. In 1931 McDonald and Hooper struck rich stone in the German tunnel. Their lease and Loder and Ottery's lease adjoining were bought by the Chewton Gold Mines N.L., which was formed for that purpose. This company was definitely the pioneer of the mining revival in the Wattle Gully district. The Wattle Gully did not peg out their lease until later on. The Wattle Gully Gold Mining Co. - This company was formed with the intention of cleaning out and repairing the old Central shaft (which had been sunk to 200 feet in the early days), and then to sink a further 400 ft to test the deeper ground previously worked profitably by the Forest Creek Wattle Gully Co. to 840 ft.

If this program had been adhered to, the Wattle Gully Co. would have cut the gold within a few months of starting sinking. Unfortunately they spent a lot of time and a lot of money working at the 200ft level. When things were looking desperate, the Government diamond drill was obtained and the last borehole went through 11ft of stone assaying 5oz to the ton. On the strength of this the company started to sink and at 500ft from the surface cut into payable stone. All the material from the shaft was put through the State battery for an average of about 10 dwt. A 20-head battery with stone cracker and Wilfley tables was installed and 700 tons fortnightly have been crushed for an average of about 13 dwt of smelted gold, not including minerals, which are of good content. From January 1 to September, 1937, 8464 oz gold was obtained.

Chewton Gold Mines N.L. This company which is the pioneer company of the mining revival, was formed in 1932. A main shaft was sunk on the Shank's section of the Chewton reef, but like the Wattle Gully they did not go deep enough and very little gold was obtained. When the Wattle Gully bore proved gold at a depth and machinery was shifted to a point 170ft south of the Wattle Gully boundary and a main shaft sunk. At 360ft stone was passed through carrying gold, and up to 510ft various makes of stone were passed through.

Up to June 30th the Chewton Gold Mines had spent £21,529/7/6, of which nearly £18,000 was paid in wages and working expenses of the mine. The company has 5450 shares earmarked for erecting battery and machinery and as soon as the State battery proves the values of the formation it is hoped that the erection of the new plant will be started. The manager of the mine is Mr J.S. Loder, who has been in charge since the inception of the company. [37]

**28 Oct 1937**

South Wattle Gully Co. This company is operating on leases south of and adjoining Chewton Gold Mines. The leases enclose the Chewton lease, the Wattle Gully reef, and the western leg of the West Wattle Gully saddle reef. Operations underground are from the main shaft, which is only 194ft from the surface.

Wattle Gully Extended - (south of Wattle Gully Gold Mining and west of Chewton Gold Mines, and also west of South Wattle Gully G.M.) has sunk its main shaft close to the Chewton and South Wattle Gully boundaries.

North Wattle Gully. This company's lease is north of and adjoining Wattle Gully lease, and extends north to the railway line. Operations were started in the Welcome shaft on the eastern portion of the lease. The Welcome shaft had been sunk to 280ft, and had worked a reef from the surface to the 280ft level. [37]

**30 Nov 1937**

Central Wattle Gully mine is situated south of South Wattle gully and is prospecting in the same belt of country. Their shaft is down about 150 ft and sinking is being continued...

North Chewton mine is north of and adjoining North Wattle Gully gold mine... The erection of machinery and buildings are practically completed and shaft sinking should shortly be resumed. [37]

**21 July 1938**

Wattle Gully Extended - Main shaft 550-ft level, completed plat and installed air winch. Removed penthouse from 426ft level. Timbered shaft, connected air pipes, preparing to resume sinking. 220 ft level: West drive off No. 2 rise driven 15 ft on 4ft of stone carrying mineral and a few colours of gold in dish prospects. Work at this level stopped. [63: p.170]

**Mar 1990**

Wattle Gully mine - where the air ventilator is positioned is the old Chewton Company's shaft. On the ridge above is the site of the Wattle Gully South mine.

Travelling on Chewton-Fryerstown road - a shaft on the eastern side of road, that was opened up by the Chewton Company (the Chewton Prospecting Co.). They had a whip shaft there with a horse. I was still going to school then, about 60 years ago (1930s).

Hotel site, on west side of the road. Last person to live there was Bill Sayers. He lived there while he was sluicing up Golden Gully. [68]

<b>9.61</b>		<b>DEADMAN'S GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Wattle Flat, Mona Reef, Monk's Hill Reef	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>May 1859</b>	The Deadman's Gully is worked up to Monk's Hill Reef. (548909) [10]	
<b>n.d.</b>	Mona Reef being worked on N side of Deadman's Gully (555912). East loader[?] 85 tons, 155 oz. [9]	
<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: Europeans: 7 tub and cradle workers 2 puddling machines. [10]	
<b>22 July 1886</b>	Lease 2673, held by the Forest Creek Wattle Gully Company, is situated at the point where Deadman's Gully joins Wattle Gully. (mid grid ref. 559917). [30]	
<b>9.62</b>		<b>DEADMAN'S REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Deadman's Gully, Wattle Flat	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>20 Aug 1858</b>	Romano - new reef discovered, has been worked quietly for a few months. [37]	
<b>17 Sept 1858</b>	1 ton yielded 4.25 oz. [37]	
<b>29 Oct 1858</b>	Deadman's, lately christened the Mona Reef[?], is still spoken favourably of. [37]	
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim working, 2 miners, 320 feet claim. [10]	
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Deadman's Reef No. of claims: 1 Extent of claim: 320 feet No. of men employed: 2 Extent of Reef prospected: 750 feet Has yielded 21/2 oz. per ton. [10]	
<b>30 Nov 1863</b>	McWaters and Co. - have taken up abandoned ground. [37]	
<b>9.63</b>		<b>LONG GULLY</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Deadman's Gully, Mona Reef	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>n.d. [1880s]</b>	Tunnel into reef from W side of Long Gully (555906). At least 3 shafts also shown on this section of the reef. [9]	
<b>9.64</b>		<b>MONA REEF</b>
<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	Deadman's Gully, Long Gully, Barne's Gully, Wattle Gully	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	
<b>1850s</b>	A great number of shafts were sunk on this line of reef during the fifties... [55: p.26]	
<b>29 Oct 1858</b>	Deadman's, lately christened the Mona Reef[?], is still spoken favourably of. [37]	
<b>May 1859</b>	The Mona Reef, has an immense outcrop or overflow of white quartz, almost devoid of foreign substance. Shafts have been sunk along this reef, and at a depth of - 21/2 oz. per ton were obtained, but the general yield was so low that the whole is now abandoned. [10: May 1859]	
<b>1859</b>	Work on this reef in 1859 yielded 12 to 18 dwt per ton. [9]	
<b>August 1859</b>	5 claims, 11 miners. [10]	
<b>n.d.</b>	Mona Reef being worked on N side of Deadman's Gully (555912). East leader, 85 tons, 155 oz. [9]	
<b>n.d.</b>	Tunnel into reef from W side of Long Gully (S of Deadman's Gully) (555906). At least 3 shafts also shown on this section of the reef. [9]	

<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: Mona Reef No. of claims: Extent of claim: No. of men employed: Extent of Reef prospected: 2,000 feet [10]
<b>31 May 1861</b>	Oliver and Co. are working on eastern side of the reef (formerly worked on the west), Previously worked two years ago. [37]
<b>May 1861</b>	On the Mona Reef, where formerly much labour was fruitlessly expended sinking on the eastern side of an immensely thick capping and reef, and which has been repeatedly abandoned as non-productive, Stewart and Company have been occupied lately in quarrying quartz for the railway, and have discovered an auriferous vein to the east of original workings, which is yielding 2 oz. 41/2 dwt. per ton, leaving us to suppose that considerable gold has been carted away as ballast for the railway line. [10]
<b>20 Dec 1861</b>	Myers and Co. - 16 ton yielded average 1.5 oz. [37]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	On the Mona Reef, from which thousands of tons of stone have been quarried as metal for the railway, men formerly employed as quarry-men are realising 1 oz. 10 dwt. per ton. Parties crushing quartz: Tilley, Myers. [10]
<b>28 Feb 1862</b>	Mona Reef - yields have lately declined to a few dwts. per ton. [37]
<b>7 May 1863</b>	A party of miners is again trying the Mona Reef. Gold is said to be very fine - will float on water. [37]
<b>26 Aug 1872</b>	Mona Reef being worked by Martin and Co. [37]
<b>1903</b>	No work has been carried out on this reef for a great number of years. [55: p.26]

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**9.65 THREE SPECK GULLY**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs** White Horse Gully

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**DATE HISTORY**

**n.d.** At the head of Three Speck Gully is a junction of the water race that runs through the South Wattle Gully Co.'s lease, the V.W. Supply race and the race to Fryer's Creek. (560900) [9]

**Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners:  
Europeans: 4 tub and cradle workers  
1 puddling machine. [10]

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**9.66 WHITE HORSE GULLY/FLAT/REEF OR RESERVOIR REEF & DINAH FLAT**


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**Mining Division** Castlemaine  
**Associated Fields/Reefs**

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**DATE HISTORY**

**23 March 1855** Wattle and Dinah Flats and White Horse Gully have now a considerable fixed population. [47: p.2]

**14 Sept 1855** Adelaide Flat. From White Horse Gully, through the flat, down the high road and the line of the creek, matters seem very much the same as they have recently been. Old chums...can manage to pick up a living, but it seems beyond question that the cream of this valley is gone - at least for diggers on the small scale. Audible growlings against the Chinese are continual, especially from older residents, and hints are thrown out of an intention to expel them from this locality, and break up their camps. [47: p.2]

**5 Oct 1855** White Horse Gully looks like the joint patrimony of a small number of parties. The working population is thought not to exceed 70. Their way of speaking of their gettings is also very modest, but people do not make a drive 35 feet long from one hole for nothing... [47: p.2]

**21 Aug 1857** Launcelist, Hartley, Woess and Gooch - discoverers of new reef - 25 ft deep shaft. [37]

**August 1859** 1 claim working, 2 miners, claim of 320 feet, abandoned reef. [10]

**1859** Dinah Flat - Good workings and 3 dams and 3 puddling machines, at northern end of flat. Sinking 30 ft. in middle of flat - very rich. Sinking 25 ft., towards southern end of flat - very rich.  
White Horse Flat - surface workings at northern end - very good. [29]

**Nov 1860** Numbers & Occupations of Miners - White Horse Gully:  
Europeans: 6 puddlers, 10 tub and cradle workers  
Chinese: 7 tub and cradle workers [10]



<b>Nov 1860</b>	Numbers & Occupations of Miners: - Dinah Flat Europeans: 8 puddlers, 3 tub and cradle workers Chinese: 12 tub and cradle workers 5 puddling machines. [10]
<b>Dec 1860</b>	Quartz Reefs actually proved to be auriferous: White Horse Reef No. of claims: Extent of claim: No. of men employed: Extent of Reef prospected: 4,500 feet [10]
<b>Feb 1861</b>	Within the ground now being excavated to form the Dinah Flat Reservoir, heavy gold has been obtained, but like other finds on these old diggings is the result of luck, (colonially speaking) as many miners who have been working the site for years, and who still reside in the immediate neighbourhood long since considered the ground non-payable. [10]
<b>April 1861</b>	In quartz mining, a considerable impetus has been given by the accidental discovery of a rich quartz reef under the alluvium in the basin of the Dinah Flat reservoir. A miner casually picked up a specimen, and sinking 12 feet on the larger portion of the reservoir before unworked, came upon a wide reef; a rush was the result, there are now 20 claims working, 4 of them having struck gold; Smith and Company having obtained a few oz.; Campbell and Company, 182 oz. in 9 days; Coffee and Company, 111 oz. in 10 days; Skipper and Company, first crushing, 4 oz. from 5 tons, and others are getting good prospects. The quartz is...very loose and mullocky, having every appearance of a floating reef. [10]
<b>April 1861</b>	The Dinah Flat reservoir is shown [on surveyor's plan] with water line after the late flood. The reservoir being filled, the nine-inch pipe remaining open, in about four hours the puddling and pumping machine houses, tents and gardens being almost completely under water, and of course all claims swamped. [10]
<b>31 May 1861</b>	Musset and Co. - 20 tons yielded 40 oz. [37]
<b>May 1861</b>	The Whitehorse or Reservoir Reef maintains its position as the best at present working in the district. Coffee and Hall (2) have obtained 115 oz. 41/2 dwt. during the month. Campbell and Company (4) have obtained during the month, 309 oz. 14 dwt. Musset and Company, (4) from 189 tons including 40 tons of refuse, 1351/2 oz. None other of the workers on the reef have as yet struck the main lead of gold. [10]
<b>July 1861</b>	Quartz crushed for last month lists Musset and Company, Tyrrell and Company, Coffee and Company, and Campbell and Company as working Whitehorse Reef. [10]
<b>16 Aug 1861</b>	Morris and Co. - 10 ton yielded 1/2 oz/ton. Coffee and Hall - 50 oz. [37]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Companies/Parties crushing quartz & obtaining gold - Dinah Flat: Campbell, Dale, Morrison, Tyrrell. 155 tons yielded 4 oz. [10]
<b>Sept 1861</b>	Dinah Flat and White Horse Gully - Europeans: 11 puddlers, 6 ordinary miners [10]
<b>Oct 1861</b>	Quartz crushed during the month, and gold obtained therefrom - Dinah Flat: Neate, Tyrrell, Campbell, Morrison, Langley, Graves - 171 tons crushed... [10]
<b>Dec 1861</b>	The White Horse Reef has not yielded nearly so much gold lately. This is partially accounted for, as several claims are worked to water level. The miners contemplate amalgamating their interests, for the purpose of obtaining steam-pumping apparatus. [10]
<b>1861-4</b>	The alluvial gold in Milkman's Gully and White Horse Gully near the outcrop of [White Horse] reef was of a heavy nature, pieces from 2 to 14 dwts. found as late as 1864. [55: p.32]
<b>2 May 1862</b>	Coffee and Hall have got a pick prospect in their new shaft. Musset and Co. - average 8 dwts. [37]
<b>5 Sept 1862</b>	Arrangements made to pump water - Campbell and Co. have struck a rich surface leader. [37]
<b>12 Sept 1862</b>	Pumping arrangements fell through. [37]
<b>19 Sept 1862</b>	Not being worked - water-logged. [37]
<b>26 Sept 1862</b>	Erecting a pump. [37]
<b>20 Nov 1862</b>	Campbell and Co. - mining has resumed after draining of claims - mining has been suspended for six months. [37]
<b>22 April 1863</b>	Musset and Co. - pumps stopped. [37]
<b>13 May 1863</b>	Work has nearly ceased - engine being removed - deepest shaft 50 to 60 feet. [37]
<b>20 Oct 1863</b>	New reef called Post-hole Reef. [37]
<b>Dec 1864</b>	The machinery of the Alexandra Company, Blacksmith's Gully, has been sold to a party who intend working the White Horse Reef, Forest Creek. [10]
<b>March 1866</b>	The company holding the White Horse or Reservoir lease have just struck good stone, having drained the reef to the depth at which former claimholders were flooded out. [10]
<b>1866</b>	Parties reporting yields from quartz crushings in 1866: White Horse Reef [10]
<b>Sept 1867</b>	Above the White Horse Reservoir (now full of water) several claims have been taken up with good prospects. [10]

- March 1869** At the White-horse reservoir a 15 horse-power engine, with winding gear, has been erected, and an engine-shaft is being sunk. [10]
- June 1869** The Forest Creek Company, Whitehorse reef, have their engine-shaft down 100 feet, with regular formation of reef, and their machinery in efficient working. [10]
- Dec 1869** Odger's company of 52 Chinese, on Dinah Flat, work very harmoniously; they have opened one paddock, from which a little over 100 oz. of gold was washed. They find a great quantity of old props, &c. [10]
- March 1870** The only new discoveries have been by Odger's Chinese party, in Dinah Flat, of a quartz leader under the alluvium, 16 tons from which returned 25 oz. 7 dwts... [10]
- Sept 1870** In paddocking the Chinese party working Dinah Flat were getting better paid just before being flooded out: their weekly returns were 201/2 oz., 171/2 oz., 20 oz., 181/2 oz., and 11 oz. respectively. [10]
- March 1871** The Forest Creek Company's machinery has been sold and removed to Sandhurst; some parties have been crushing quartz raised and discarded by this company, which yields 7 dwts. to the ton. [10]
- June 1871** The whole of the White Horse line, including the Reservoir, is again occupied. [10]
- Sept 1872** On the White-horse Reef, a 12 horse-power engine, 8-inch pumps and winding gear, has been erected; their shaft is down 100 feet, and it is intended to drain this reef, which, in 1861, above water-level, yielded 3264 oz. from 2264 tons of quartz. [10]
- Dec 1872** The White-Horse Company have driven along a fine reef averaging 5 feet thick; a trial crushing of 61 tons, taken from several portions of the mine, yielded 13 1/2 dwts per ton, the prospects improving as the mine is developed. Another steam engine, to drive a 12-head battery, will be erected. [10]
- June 1873** The White-Horse Company have deepened their shafts, extended their levels, raised a quantity of quartz ready for crushing, and nearly completed the erection of a second engine with 12-head battery. [10]
- Dec 1877** The Ajax, Devonshire, White Horse, Manchester, Nuggetty, Cumberland, Burns, Caledonia, Old Quartz Hill, Sebastopol, and other noted reefs, continue unworked. [10]
- March 1882** The once famous White Horse or Reservoir Reef...[is]...likely again to be worked. Companies are being formed, and machinery enquired for. [10]
- Dec 1882** Several improvement and additions have been made to ...the Dinah Flat Pyrites Works, which are again in operation. [10]
- 5 Jan 1883** White Horse Co. - active operations are about being commenced. [37]
- March 1883** The White Horse Company has contracted for the erection of machinery, a portion of which is delivered on the lease block. [10]
- June 1883** The White Horse Company is progressing with the erection of machinery and housing, and should be ready for work in a fortnight. Their first and heaviest operation will be draining the mine, which has remained full of water for many years. [10]
- 16 Aug 1883** White Horse Quartz Gold Mining Co. - Melbourne directors of company paid a visit to their property with a view to inspecting the new pumping and winding plant. This they found in a very satisfactory state, the engine being in motion and the pumps going well. The engine, which is 15-horse power with four feet stroke, went smoothly, and there is a large boiler capable of supplying steam for another engine of the same size. These are covered in by a well-built roomy weatherboard engine-house. The stack, which is substantially built, is 46 feet high, and the draught is excellent. The poppet heads are 46 feet high, the brace strong and wide, and the whole of the works are done with a view to strength and durability. The plant is erected on the site where a former one stood, when the same area the company now holds was occupied by a former company, who sank an engine shaft 113 feet, but collapsed when little work was done, like many other companies at that time of over-speculation. The water, which was within about 12 feet of the surface, is now down to 52 feet, and is being gradually lowered. Meantime a new shaft is being sunk at a little distance upon ground near to where Mussett and Co. got 510 oz gold from 528 tons quartz. A supply of water for the engine is obtained from a dam previously formed, water can be easily obtained from the Government race, that passes at a short distance. The alluvial workings of White Horse Gully were amongst the richest on Forest Creek, and the gold heavier than elsewhere. [37]
- Sept 1883** The White Horse Company have erected machinery, drained the old engine shaft to 100 feet deep, sunk another shaft to the south-west... [10]
- 14 July 1884** A new party is being formed to buy the Whitehorse lease and plant. [37]
- Sept 1887** The Crown Nimrod mine has been purchased by a Melbourne syndicate, who also are in treaty for the White Horse mine. [10]
- March 1888** The White Horse Reef proved rich in 1861-2, when 2,761 tons yielded 3,641oz. of gold. It has recently been purchased with a view to working it. [10]
- 9 April 1888** The new company that purchased the Whitehorse has been registered, and Mr Spargo, who has been looking for machinery to erect upon it, has purchased the pumping and winding engine of the Cranky Ned, with battery and appliances. [37]

<b>June 1888</b>	Two other new companies have been registered during the quarter, viz., The White Horse Gold Mining Company, who have added a 10-head battery and extensive housing to their mining plant, and The Crown Nimrod Quartz Mining Company. [10]
<b>Sept 1888</b>	Eighty tons of black sand, brought from Stawell, were treated at Mr Yeats' Pyrites Works, and yielded 105oz. 6dwt. of gold. [10]
<b>Dec 1890</b>	At White Horse a new find has been made of a reef 1 foot thick. [10]
<b>6 May 1889</b>	A prospectus is issued by the Chewton Consols Co. for working the leasehold, formerly held by the Whitehorse. [37]
<b>21 May 1892</b>	Chewton Consols. An additional lease of 20 acres on the south end of the claim has been taken up by the Company. Application has been made to the local Prospecting Board for participation in the grant for 1892-3, and we have reason for believing that a good sum will be allocated to this company, seeing that it is our intention to sink our shaft deeper. [37]
<b>30 Nov 1892</b>	Chewton Consols - Mr Williams stated that at last meeting the directors were empowered to purchase additional stamps, but as there was a debt, it was not considered advisable to purchase a plant. They had, however, paid off £550, leaving only the balance of £150. [37]
<b>1892</b>	Chewton Consols: Using improved safety cage designed by J. J. Noland of Castlemaine [12: p.54]
<b>1 June 1893</b>	Chewton Consols - Mine and machinery in good working order. On 26th December, I cleaned out the boiler and flues, fixed up the battery boxes and tables, and did other necessary repairs. Crushed 1889 tons stone for a yield of 439.5oz smelted gold. [37]
<b>1 Dec 1893</b>	Chewton Consols - During the past half-year the total yield from the mine has been 359 oz 9 dwts of gold. We have laid down 400 ft of tram lines, and erected an embankment for dam in the eastern gully. On October 23rd, cleaned out boiler and flues, made new joints, and tested the boiler to 70lbs to the square inch. The mine and machinery are now in good order. [37]
<b>30 April 1895</b>	Chewton Consols - Special meeting - The operations stopped on 10 August 1894 because shareholders were not responding to calls. [37]
<b>28 May 1895</b>	Chewton Consols - Will dispose of lease and plant. [37]
<b>March 1898</b>	Chewton Consols: 635 ton crushed, 171oz gold [10]
<b>June 1898</b>	Chewton Consols: 195 ton crushed, 50 oz. gold [10]
<b>Sept 1898</b>	Chewton Consols: 120 ton crushed, 15 oz. gold [10]
<b>31 May 1899</b>	Chewton Consols...after a long and tedious term of call-paying the prospects at the mine have now considerably improved, and that, instead of paying calls, they hoped that the shareholders will soon be rewarded for their long patience by the receipt of dividends. The battery has been repaired; also the winding and crushing engine. Have made new road for carting quartz from the south shaft to the engine shaft, which is 405ft. The total number of tons raised and crushed is 35, for the yield of 9oz gold. have also crushed for the public 12 tons. [37]
<b>March 1905</b>	United Dinah Flat Dredging Co.: 120oz gold [10]
<b>June 1906</b>	United Dinah Flat Dredging Co.: 259oz gold - W.M. Bull, Castlemaine, Legal Manager [10]
<b>March 1908</b>	United Dinah Flat Dredging Co.: 26oz gold [10]
<b>1911</b>	White Horse Gully /Bendigonina United Co.: Good winding plant erected; old shaft unwatered [12: p.131]
<b>17 Oct 1937</b>	White Horse mine is about 1 mile to the east and north of the Wattle Gully mine, and is on the eastern fold of the Chewton saddle reef. White Horse reef was very rich in the early days, but sinking at depths was not gone on with. The present company have erected machinery and necessary buildings, and plant to work the mine and have repaired the shaft. [37]

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**9.67 CROCODILE REEF**


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<b>Mining Division</b>	Castlemaine
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>	White Horse Gully

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>
<b>August 1859</b>	1 claim, 2 miners, claim 320 feet, abandoned. [10]
<b>5 June 1871</b>	Morrison and Co., Raisbach brothers. [37]
<b>7 Aug 1871</b>	Raisbach and Co., J. Morrison and Co. [37]
<b>25 Sept 1871</b>	Morrisea and Co. [37]

<b>9.68</b>		<b>BLARNEY REEF</b>	
<b>Mining Division</b>		Castlemaine	
<b>Associated Fields/Reefs</b>		White Horse Flat	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>		
<b>Dec 1870</b>	In quartz mining the most noteworthy is the discovery of Blarney Reef. This reef was found by following surface deposits to near a top of a sandstone range, and between the sandstone outcrop was found the reef, which underlays east at an angle of 44 to 55 degree. When first opened it was a thin lead, but increases in depth, carrying regular walls - 88 tons (including surface, &c.) crushed yielded 148 1/2 oz. of gold...In running the base line, I found Blarney Reef to be a continuation southerly of Burns' Reef. [10]		
<b>March 1871</b>	The "Blarney," continues to yield well; during the quarter the prospectors obtained 176 oz. from 64 tons, and from four other claims 314 tons yielded 132 oz. 6 dwts. [10]		
<b>17 April 1871</b>	Anderson and Co. [37]		
<b>8 May 1871</b>	Harvey and Co. [37]		
<b>22 May 1871</b>	Musset and Co., Anderson and Co. [37]		
<b>12 June 1871</b>	Musset and Co., Anderson and Co. [37]		
<b>17 July 1871</b>	Anderson and Co. [37]		
<b>14 Aug 1871</b>	Anderson and Co. [37]		
<b>1871-2</b>	Throughout 1871 this reef maintained an average of over an ounce to the ton, being worked only to a depth of 50 feet. During the earlier portion of 1872 it cut out and further prospecting failing to discover any payable stone, work stopped. [55: p.22]		