



Historic Township of Yerranderie

Walk The Mines Of Yerranderie Historic Township

The tracks shown are the original paths used for access and in some areas are slightly overgrown. Please take CARE, DO NOT ENTER SHAFTS. You are warned. Anyway, they are full of snakes, bad tempered wombats and water.

The Conlon Peak Mine

Main Shaft 460ft long, 15,000ft of levels. Suction gas plant, five boilers and a concentrating mill. Approximately 45 men employed. Was practically the first to start production of payable ore; from 1898-1923. It produced £600,000 worth of bullion (1925 standard). No capitalisation was ever needed through its entire operation. The lode was the most favourable on the field; 220 tonnes or ore yielded, 11,328 ozs of silver, 25 ozs of gold and 12 tonnes of lead. Operations restarted in 1969, new plant installed, shut down before ore extracted due to collapse of market price.

Bartlett's Shaft No. 6

Main Shaft 700ft long, 11,000ft of levels. Although adjoined to above mine it had separate surface plant, consisting of a small boiler, winding engine, rock breaker and a 50 h.p. gas engine as well as high

speed compressor which supplied air to the Conlon Peak's Mine for pumps and rock drills. There mines covered an area of 235 acres. Boys were paid 10 shillings a day to chip off hard scale in the boilers during the holidays.

The Silver Peak or Bore Block Mine

Main Shaft- vertical for 564ft thence at 30° for 560ft, 9,000ft of levels. Three boilers, Robey winding machine, milling plant, 60-70 men employed, opened in 1904. It covered an area of 260 acres and the largest body of ore was discovered at this mine, in some parts the reef had the extraordinary thickness (Yerranderie standard) of 13ft, containing valuable high-grade ores. For example, a length of 135ft yielded 20 tonnes of silver, 1700 tonnes of lead and 562 ozs of gold. Prior to 1914 a concentration plant was erected to secure the recovery of the silver, lead and gold. A safety cage allows visitors to peer into the shaft. Note extensive environmental damage caused 80 years ago.

The Wollondilly, formally Starlight Yerranderie Mine.

Main Shaft 448ft, slope 30°, total length of levels 20,000ft. Connection made to Burratorang Mine. Concentrating plant, mills and boilers. This successful mine opened around 1898 and consistently gave good dividends, at the same time being the best developed mine. Locally known as

Hilders Claim, the value of ore produced paid upwards of £20,000 pe acre. It covered 117 acres. Pure (native) silver was found in the upper of 24 levels. A vast dump of second grade crushed silver ore can be found here (see map, Wollondilly left arrow).

The Wonga, formally Tonall Mine

Main Shaft 850ft long, slope 18°. Opened in 1911, it had its own winding gear, boiler and air compressor and was worked together with the Burratorang Mine. The lode on Wonga was unpromising, although some ore assayed as highly as 1500 ozs of silver per tonne and 60% lead. Quartz containing iron pyrites (fools gold), silver and lead can still be found around the entrance to the mine shaft.

The Burratorang Mine

Main Shaft 1175ft long, slope 28°, 1800ft of levels. On the same lode as Wollondilly, it yielded £100,000 worth of bullion with some very rich ore, 200 ozs pf silver per tonne, 40% lead and some gold. Stopped operating in 1922.

Piece of Pork Mine

Situated on the right-hand bank of the Tonall River, only medium grade ore was picked over this 10-acre site.