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# ORIGINAL RUTHERGLEN TOWNSHIP

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## Location

MAIN STREET AND DRUMMOND STREET RUTHERGLEN, INDIGO SHIRE

## Municipality

INDIGO SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8125-0026

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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Interpretation of Site	The early town of Barkly was established in 1860 and because secondary to the Rutherglen. And within a couple of years the businesses had shifted to the east and Barkly was non-existent.
Archaeological Significance	This site has high comparative elements (if they exist) for initial settlement patterns and it could potentially contain physical elements associated with this occupation that are not present elsewhere within Rutherglen owing to the later prosperity and subsequent investment in development. As this site is located on the edge of Rutherglen it may have been subject to less intrusive development and may contain archaeological elements.
Historical Significance	The early township site for Rutherglen as the initial commercial and residential focus of this town prior to the shift towards the east. Little is known about this site other than its location on a map but it potentially could contribute valuable information on initial construction activity, materials, trade goods and the evolution of townships as well as early trade and supply networks.
Other Names	Barkly,
Hermes Number	162348

Property  
Number

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## History

The site was part of the original town Barkley is where there is a stone cairn at the intersection of Main and Drummond Streets which commemorates the discovery of gold in 1860. The 1861 plan of Rutherglen shows building activity along the length of Main Street and the western end (at the intersection of Main (Argyle Street) and Drummond was known as Barkly, while the eastern end was Rutherglen. Drummond Street appeared to be the main road for the Barkley Settlement and there were many sizable buildings on this street frontage; some larger than those in Rutherglen itself.

Barkly was named after Governor Sir Henry Barkly and is on the former Wahgunyah Lead on former prospectors' claims and street frontage property was reportedly being sold for ?10 a foot. In October 1860 the British Hotel was established by J.A. Curtis. The second settlement (Rutherglen was established soon after). The street alignment in Barkly was also slightly different to that of today and there appear to have been road widening works and infrastructure constructed at Barkly therefore potentially impacting on the archaeological potential. Subsequent building activity includes the Seppelt Winery, two motels and residential properties.

The Victoria Hotel (located near the Elizabeth Street intersection) was first established at Barkly but business was poor once Rutherglen was expanding. The owner, Mr Robert was in debt to ?400 to Caughney and McCleery who tried to evict him but were unable to do so because of his miner's right to the land. Instead he was allowed to continue trading to pay off the debt and in 1863 the hotel was sold to Charles Schwenzel and moved to its present location.

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*