
FORMER CHARLES NAPIER HOTEL AND THEATRE SITE

Location

220, 222, 224 MAIN ROAD GOLDEN POINT, BALLARAT CITY

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0525

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 7, 2024

What is significant?

The site is first mapped as 24, 25 and 26 of Section R on the 1857 Revised Town Plan of Main Street. The Charles Napier Hotel and Theatre and is one of the most well-known establishments in the Ballarat Gold Rush and is associated with the Ballarat Reform League and to have been a place where monster meetings occurred. The Hotel was established in 1854 and was destroyed in 1861 and was quickly rebuilt in brick and stone was a popular cultural institution of Ballarat. The Hotel was demolished in 1880 and the land was taken up by the Town Mission. Chinese classrooms and a Chinese Sunday School are known to have occupied the site until it was demolished in the 1950s. The place now contains residential housing.

How is it significant?

The site is of historical and archaeological significance.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historical significance as the location of the Charlie Napier Hotel and its early association with the Ballarat Reform League. The site is known to have burnt completely in a fire of 1861, capping archaeological deposits. The site is historically significant as a late-nineteenth century hotel, theatre and brewery and later for its association with the Town Hall Mission and Chinese School. The site is of archaeological significance due to its potential to contain artefacts, deposits and features that relate to the establishment of Charles Napier hotel and theatre in the early gold rush, and later 19th-century hotel and mission activities.

Hermes Number 212236

Property Number

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/>