
FORMER TIMES BUILDINGS

Location

72-78 BRIDGE MALL BALLARAT CENTRAL, BALLARAT CITY

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7622-0484

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 24, 2024

What is significant?

The site is first mapped as allotment 22a, 23, 24 and 25 of Section D in detail in the 1857 Revised Town Plan of Block A.B. C. D. The site was likely occupied prior as part of the first phase of the Ballarat Main Street development, due to its proximity to Ballarat West and the Gravel Pit alluvial fields. The site was listed as the 'Ballarat Times Office' but the 'Times office' only occupied the space for a few years. The premises likely went through two stages of development beginning as a timber structure and developing into a bricked 'fireproof structure in the 1860s. The later nineteenth century appears to be a generally high turn-over commercial occupation; however, features are still present on the 1923 Ballarat Sewerage Plan showing smaller outbuildings and a cesspit to the south of the site. The site is covered with 3m-4m of fill, indicating that early deposits are likely to be intact.

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 an early residence and commercial precinct during the years of the Victorian gold rush – one of the most significant rushes in world history. The site is of regional significance as one of the few properties to be purchased by a female 'Mrs. Lockman' and Madame C De Ruyter, and also to contain the office of early news establishments. The site's later occupation as the Cumberland and Durham hotel and the Royal Charter Hotel is also significant. The site is of archaeological significance due to its potential to contain artefacts, deposits and features that relate to the establishment of commercial operations in

the gold rush and other later 19th-century activities

Hermes Number 212211

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/>