

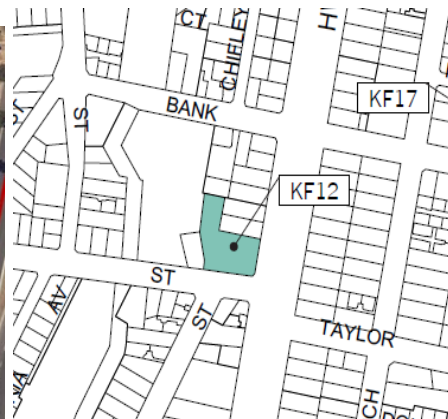
<b>Name</b>	<i>Millewa Hall</i>	<b>Reference in 1998 Marong Study</b>	KF12
<b>Address</b>	214 High Street (north-west corner of Wesley Street), Kangaroo Flat	<b>Map reference</b>	VicRoads 613 L4
<b>Building type</b>	Private residence	<b>Survey date</b>	June 2010 (external inspection only)
<b>Date of construction</b>	1872	<b>Recommendation</b>	Include in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay
<b>Significance</b>	<i>Millewa Hall</i> is of local historical and aesthetic/architectural significance.		



Left: Millewa Hall front (east) elevation, c. early 1990s (Source: Ruth Hopkins, *Looking Back, Moving Forward*, 1985, p. 38). Right: The east and south elevations of Millewa Hall.



Left: South elevation. Right: The former coach house/stables.



Left: Aerial view, 2010. Right: Proposed Heritage Overlay map, with the subject site shown as KF12.

**Intactness**      ✓ Good      Fair      Poor

## History

Millewa Hall<sup>1</sup> was built in 1872 for Irishman, James Moore, brother of the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Mandurang, Thompson Moore.<sup>2</sup> James himself was President of the Bendigo Liberal Association in the early 1870s.<sup>3</sup> In partnership with his brother and John Capper, James Moore traded as Moore Bros and Co. The partners had a store in Kangaroo Flat, later expanding to the Beehive Building in Pall Mall, Bendigo, and subsequently also to the Lyceum Store Co. Ltd in Pall Mall.<sup>4</sup> Millewa Hall was built in 1872 and was designed by noted local architectural practice Vahland and Getzschmann. It was described by James Moore as 'a bit of a place,' being a 13-room dwelling set in a 2 ha (5-acre) site at the southern entrance to Kangaroo Flat.<sup>5</sup> The property originally extended to the Bendigo Creek, to the west. James Moore died in 1881, when he was struck by a train on his way to the station at Kangaroo Flat.<sup>6</sup> Millewa Hall is presently a private residence, having previously been adapted as a nursing home and accommodation for the aged.<sup>7</sup>

## Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes

Victoria's themes and sub-themes:

- 6.5: Living in country towns

## Description & Integrity

Millewa Hall is a substantial single-storey stuccoed Italianate villa on a rectilinear plan, in a large corner allotment, with generous setbacks to the main building frontage/address to High Street in Kangaroo Flat (east side) and Wesley Street (south side). The house has hipped roof forms clad in slate tiles with galvanised steel ridge capping. Behind the main north-south transverse hip are two trailing hips with a central valley joint. There are four chimneys, set inside each trailing ridge, but each offset from the other. Each chimney has its original cornice and stacks with recessed panels, set on square bases with plain surfacing and chamfered tops. The facade (east elevation to High Street) has a set of brackets under its front eave, and a symmetrical frontage, comprising a central door with sidelights and a three-paned fanlight, and two canted bays with double-hung sash windows. The verandah shown in the early 1990s image has been removed, and in its place is a terrace with a central porch with chamfered corners and smooth fascia framing the entrance, approached via a flight of curved steps with an undulating balustrade. These splay outwards into the garden and begin at the terrace floor, swelling to balustrade height by the first steps and continuing down into two piers surmounted by urns. The recent porch is supported on modern columns. The canted bay windows have a pilastered treatment; the corners of the facade have a quoining treatment. The side windows have moulded surrounds with bracketed sills, each being a timber-framed double-hung sash.

There are a number of rear additions to the west side of the original 1870s building, including a parapet-fronted monopitch roofed wing with rendered walling and a rounded porch and lattice gable added in turn to that, probably in the 1980s. There is another outbuilding and large tank to the immediate south-west of the house, again probably later, and several more outlying structures including two rectangular buildings. The former coach house/stables, abutting Wesley Street to the south, have been converted to residential accommodation. This building has parapeted gables at its east and west ends, a rendered concrete wall divided into two with piers, with a shallow battered base plate. The building also has a lean-to addition with a monopitch roof in corrugated galvanised steel and overpainted face brick walling.

The house has spacious grounds originally dominated by two large Moreton Bay figs either side of the pathway addressing High Street. One of the Moreton Bay figs survives. A gazebo with faceted conical roof is located near the south-east corner of the garden.

## Comparative Analysis

Millewa Hall is an 1870s symmetrically fronted Italianate villa. The large scale of the sashes in each of the canted bays to the facade is unusual, even when compared with Melbourne or Geelong examples. Outside the Bendigo area, Victoria's mid-nineteenth century canted bays tended to have their windows treated as openings in an otherwise continuous masonry bay wall. However, the Millewa Hall bay window treatment recurs at Hope Park (KF16) and Myrnong (KF17) in Kangaroo Flat, although the Myrnong bays are very lightly scaled and the window frames are not made to serve as pilasters, as

they do here and at Hope Park. In the context of the work of architects Vahland and Getzchmann, Millewa Hall compares with the Colbinabbin and Stanhope homesteads of 1867. The mature garden also compares with that at Park View in Marong (M7), especially in being dominated by voluminous Moreton Bay figs and in its linkage to the main garden area by a direct pathway axis running to the front door.

### **Assessment Against Criteria**

#### *Amended Heritage Victoria Criteria*

*Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of the City of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.*

Millewa Hall (built 1872) at 214 High Street, Kangaroo Flat, is historically significant as a substantial mid-Victorian property at Kangaroo Flat. It was commissioned by James Moore, a successful businessman, local politician and prominent member of the local community. The property was also designed by the leading Bendigo architectural practice Vahland and Getzchmann, and is a significant example of their residential work.

*Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the City of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.*

N/A

*Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the City of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.*

N/A

*Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or objects.*

N/A

*Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics in the context of the municipality.*

Millewa Hall is of aesthetic/architectural significance as a large and prominent 1870s Italianate villa, which retains a comparatively high degree of external intactness, and is set in a generous landscaped garden at the southern entrance to Kangaroo Flat. The east elevation in particular is boldly expressed, with the canted bays and, albeit altered entrance arrangement with central porch and flight of curved steps with undulating balustrade. Elements of note include the symmetrical presentation, and the canted bays to the east facade with large scale window sashes to each of the bays. The presentation of the property is enhanced by its spacious landscaped garden, dominated by the mature Moreton Bay fig tree in the setback to High Street. The survival of the former coach house/stables, with the parapeted gable ends, is also of note. Millewa Hall is additionally an example of the work of prominent Bendigo architects Vahland and Getzchmann.

*Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.*

N/A

*Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of the place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.*

N/A

*Criterion H: Special association with life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the City of Greater Bendigo's history.*

Millewa Hall is significant for its association with the leading Bendigo architectural practice Vahland and Getzchmann. It is an example of their residential work in an oeuvre which included many important public, civic and commercial buildings in the municipality. The property is also significant for its association with the original owner, James Moore, who was a successful businessman, local politician and prominent member of the local community.

**Statement of Significance**

*What is significant?*

Millewa Hall at 214 High Street, Kangaroo Flat is a substantial single-storey, symmetrically fronted, stuccoed Italianate villa constructed in 1872. The building is set in a landscaped garden at the southern entrance to Kangaroo Flat, with generous setbacks to the main building frontage to High Street and also to Wesley Street. The significant components of the property include the 1870s building, the coach house/stables, and the landscaped garden including the mature Moreton Bay fig and the setbacks to High and Wesley streets.

*How is it significant?*

Millewa Hall (built 1872) at 214 High Street, Kangaroo Flat is of local historical and aesthetic/architectural significance.

*Why is it significant?*

Millewa Hall (built 1872) is historically significant (Criterion A) as a substantial mid-Victorian property at Kangaroo Flat. It is also significant for its association (Criterion H) with the original owner, James Moore, a successful businessman, local politician and prominent member of the local community; and for its association with the leading Bendigo architectural practice Vahland and Getzchmann, being a significant example of their residential work. The practice was responsible for many important public, civic and commercial buildings in the municipality. Millewa Hall is additionally of aesthetic/architectural significance (Criterion E) as a large and prominent 1870s Italianate villa, which retains a comparatively high degree of external intactness, and is set in a generous landscaped garden at the southern entrance to Kangaroo Flat. The east elevation in particular is boldly expressed, with the canted bays and, albeit altered entrance arrangement with central porch and flight of curved steps with undulating balustrade. Elements of note include the symmetrical presentation, and the canted bays to the east facade with large scale window sashes to each of the bays. The presentation of the property is enhanced by its spacious landscaped garden, dominated by the significant mature Moreton Bay fig tree in the setback to High Street. The survival of the former coach house/stables, with the parapeted gable ends, is also of note.

**Recommendations**

The property is recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Greater Bendigo Heritage Overlay. The extent of the Overlay is illustrated in the above map, with the focus of significance on the 1870s building, the coach house/stables, and the landscaped garden including the mature Moreton Bay fig and the setbacks to High and Wesley streets.

External Paint Colours	No
Internal Alterations Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes
Outbuildings and fences exemptions	Yes
Victorian Heritage Register	No
Prohibited uses may be permitted	No
Incorporated plan	No
Aboriginal heritage place	No

### Identified By

Andrew Ward, 1998.

### References

Mike Butcher and Gill Flanders, *Bendigo Historic Buildings*, National Trust of Australia (Vic), 1987.

David Horsfall, *Kangaroo Flat, A History, Gold, Goats and Peppercorns*, Back To Committee, 1993.

Andrew Ward *et al*, City of Greater Bendigo Heritage Study (Marong) Study Area, Stage 2, 1998.

#### Specific:

<sup>1</sup> The property is also spelt *Milawa Hall*, see Mike Butcher and Gill Flanders, *Bendigo Historic Buildings*, National Trust of Australia (Vic), 1987, p. 138.

<sup>2</sup> Kathleen Thomson and Geoffrey Serle, *A Biographical Register of the Victorian Parliament 1859-1900*, [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/re-member](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/re-member)

<sup>3</sup> Ruth Hopkins, *Moving Forward, Looking Back: The History of The Marong Shire*, Shire of Marong, 1985, pp. 37-38.

<sup>4</sup> Mike Butcher and Gill Flanders, *Bendigo Historic Buildings*, National Trust of Australia (Vic), 1987, p. 138.

<sup>5</sup> Mike Butcher and Gill Flanders, *Bendigo Historic Buildings*, National Trust of Australia (Vic), 1987, p. 138.

<sup>6</sup> Ruth Hopkins, *Moving Forward, Looking Back: The History of The Marong Shire*, Shire of Marong, 1985, p. 37.

<sup>7</sup> Mike Butcher and Gill Flanders, *Bendigo Historic Buildings*, National Trust of Australia (Vic), 1987, p. 139.