

<b>Name</b>	<i>Byronsvale</i> (formerly <i>Turand</i> )	<b>Reference in 1998 Marong Study</b>	MG5
<b>Address</b>	51 Andrews Road, Maiden Gully	<b>Map reference</b>	VicRoads 606 D7
<b>Building type</b>	Bed and breakfast accommodation, including stables	<b>Survey date</b>	July 2010 (external inspection only)
<b>Date of construction</b>	Built from 1872	<b>Recommendation</b>	Include in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay
<b>Significance</b>	Byronsvale is of local historical and aesthetic/architectural significance.		



Left: Byronsvale (then *Turand*), c. 1950s, following renovations (Source: Private collection, Pat and David Andrew). Right: North elevation, note recent verandah.



Left: Byronsvale looking west, note new entrance porch to 1872 wing (left), and additions to the west elevation. Right: Former stables, converted to accommodation.



Left: Aerial view, 2010, with the house at top and the stables at bottom right. Right: Proposed Heritage Overlay map, with the indicative location of the subject site highlighted green (MG5).

**Intactness**      ✓ Good      Fair      Poor

### History

David Chaplin Sterry (1832-1904) was born in Suffolk, England, and arrived in Bendigo in 1853, where he prospected at the Epsom and Huntly diggings before focussing his attention on deep lead mining, which made him a very rich man.<sup>1</sup> Sterry worked on the Victoria Reef, at Ironbark, had interests in the Catherine Reef at Eaglehawk, formed the New Victoria Gold Mining Company, was a major shareholder in the Catherine Reef United and a local director in the Bendigo Goldfields Company.<sup>2</sup> In March 1867 Sterry took up land at Myers Creek, later known as Maiden Gully, acquiring additional land over the years. By 1868, he had 4ha (10 acres) under cultivation. He erected a hut there in 1868, and built the first stage of the present house in 1872.<sup>3</sup> As with the adjacent stables complex, the house was built of hand made bricks and local sandstone. The property had a net asset value of £60 in 1872.<sup>4</sup> Also in 1872, Sterry commissioned the construction of the Goldmines Hotel on the Marong Road, Ironbark, near the Victoria Reef.

Sterry took a strong interest in local government, being elected president of the Marong Shire on four occasions, and holding his seat until 1903. He served concurrently on the Sandhurst City Council and was Mayor of the City in 1878-79. He was elected to the Legislative Council for the Northern Province in 1882, retiring in 1889 to take up a seat in the Assembly representing the newly formed electorate of South Sandhurst. He held his seat until 1904 when failing health caused his retirement from public life. He died shortly afterwards.<sup>5</sup>

### Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes

Victoria's themes and sub-themes:

- 4.5: Gold mining
- 6.8: Living on the fringes

### Description & Integrity

Byronsvale (previously Turand) is located on Andrews Road at the south of Maiden Gully. Access is via a driveway from Andrews Road. The property includes the main north-facing house, two-storey sandstone stables, a former dairy and modern outbuildings, and vineyards which provide a fine northern aspect from the house.

#### House

The house was built in two principal stages, 1872 and c. 1880s. Additions and alterations were carried out in the early 2000s. The 1872 component at the south of the house is a narrow gable roofed bay composed of random (irregular) coursed rubble stone. The larger 1880s addition to the north is built of red brick on sandstone footings and plinth with a hipped roof of painted, corrugated galvanised steel. Given the material homogeneity of the southern 1872 stone component with the

stables (see description below) it is assumed that the brick component was a 'frontispiece' or improvement to the original house.<sup>6</sup> The narrow link element between the 1872 and c. 1880s components was previously weatherboard. The present stone infill is recent.<sup>7</sup> The south elevation of the 1872 wing is symmetrical, with a central faceted porch (built early 2000s) flanked by a double hung sash window to each side. The windows have red brick dressings. The gable ends are parapeted, with a simple brick chimney to the east. The north elevation of the c. 1880s brick wing, also symmetrical, is distinguished by a central gabled pediment. A frieze below the eaves line is of ornamental brickwork, comprising a bracketed string course returning to the east and west elevations. On the north elevation the string course is surmounted by a course of brick angled outwards in a dog-tooth pattern. Below the bracketed course line a new verandah (also built in the early 2000s) is anchored, its outer frame being in crisp-cut timber with an 'X'-patterned timber balustrade. The verandah replaced a 1950s two column porch; it returns to both the east and west elevations. To the west, it continues to a pergola, accessed from a new door opening to the west elevation. Other than those noted above, recent works include an addition to the east elevation, with an outsized chamfered bay with over-scaled windows at the north end.

### *Stables*

The former stables (now accommodation), to the south-east of the house, is a long-standing (c. 1872) two-storey gable-roofed sandstone building, with a timber roof frame clad in painted corrugated galvanised steel. The gable ends have parapets with quoins formed from multiple brick courses at each corner. The cambered window heads and the architraves are also framed in brick. The stable windows are generally two-paned double-hung timber sashes. With the exception of the timber door to the former hay loft all of these are recent replacements. The stone is in random (irregular) courses nearer the ground and gradually loses course definition higher up, much like the 1872 component of the house. The building has been extended to the east and south. The skillion roofed south lean-to has stone side walls and a weatherboard south wall. The east lean-to has a Castlemaine-stone plinth, weatherboard walling and modern double-hung sash windows.

A mud brick former dairy is located to the west of the stables. It has a new roof, door, fascia, roof posts, render and over painting.

Byronsvale is set in an extensive open landscape, with associated vineyards to the north and woodland to the south.

### **Comparative Analysis**

The house and stables, in combination, are distinctive; the stables also rival the house in size. This is true of some large working farm compounds, such as Iandra (c. 1910) at Greenthorpe in Central New South Wales.<sup>8</sup> The use of projecting brick courses, dentils and angled brick parallels examples in Kangaroo Flat shopfronts and former hotels, and appears to be common Bendigo detailing. The stables are imposing in their mass, and in this regard compare with the two-storey bluestone barn/store at the farm complex at 550 McKenzie Road, south-east of Marong. In terms of the application of sandstone, Byronsvale compares with two Maiden Gully properties, Rocky Vale Villa (early 1870s to 1891) and Pratty's Patch. Pratty's Patch, located close by, shares several other details with Byronsvale, including the parapet gabling with stepped-section coping terminated by corner piers, the variation between coursed and completely random (irregular) rubble stone, and brick architraves in rubble stonework.

### **Assessment Against Criteria**

#### *Amended Heritage Victoria Criteria*

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

Byronsvale (built from 1872) on Andrews Road to the south of Maiden Gully is of historical significance as an early surviving farm house complex in the district, recalling the area's long history of agricultural production supplying the Bendigo market. The property, including its evolved form and substantial stables complex, helps demonstrate aspects of the lifestyle that could be attained with wealth founded on gold. Byronsvale is also significant for its association with the first owner, successful miner, entrepreneur, local politician and State parliamentarian of some standing, David Chaplin Sterry (1832-

1904). Sterry acquired land at Myers Creek (Maiden Gully) in 1867 and also commissioned the Goldmines Hotel at the Marong Road, Ironbark, near the Victoria Reef.

*Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the City the 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.*

Byronsvale, built from 1872, is of aesthetic/architectural significance. The earliest components, being the south wing of the house and the stables, are elegant stone structures which form a distinctive combination; the stables also rival the house in size. The c. 1880s addition to the house transformed it into a villa of some substance and included some architectural flourishes such as the central gabled pediment and frieze of ornamental brickwork. The house and stables are substantially intact to their periods of construction, while the various additions do not significantly detract from an appreciation of the original building forms. The relationship between the house and stables is also important and helps demonstrate the earliest layout and function of the property. The current, largely informal setting, with vineyards to the north and woodland to the south, additionally enhances the presentation of the property.

*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.*

Byronsvale is significant for its association with David Chaplin Sterry, the first owner, who was a successful miner, entrepreneur, local politician and State parliamentarian of some standing.

## **Statement of Significance**

*What is significant?*

Byronsvale (previously Turand) is located on Andrews Road to the south of Maiden Gully, and is accessed via a driveway from Andrews Road. The property includes the main north-facing house, two-storey sandstone stables, a former dairy and modern outbuildings, and vineyards which provide a fine northern aspect from the house. The house was built in two principal stages, 1872 and c. 1880s, with additions and alterations in the early 2000s. The 1872 component at the south of the house is a narrow gable roofed bay composed of random (irregular) coursed rubble stone. The larger 1880s addition to the north is of red brick on sandstone footings and plinth with a hipped roof of painted, corrugated galvanised steel. The south elevation of the 1872 wing is symmetrical, with a central faceted porch (built early 2000s) and parapeted gable ends with a simple brick chimney to the east. The north elevation of the 1880s brick wing, also symmetrical, has a central gabled pediment and a frieze below the eaves line of ornamental brickwork. Below this again is a new verandah (early 2000s) which returns to the east and west elevations, and an 'X'-patterned timber balustrade. The c.

1872 former stables (now accommodation) to the south-east of the house is a two-storey gable-roofed sandstone building; the gable ends have parapets with quoins formed from multiple brick courses. The stone is in random (irregular) courses nearer the ground and gradually loses course definition higher up, much like the 1872 component of the house. The building has been extended to the east and south. A mud brick former dairy is located to the west of the stables. It has a new roof, door, fascia, roof posts, render and over painting.

Byronsvale is set in an extensive open landscape, with associated vineyards to the north and woodland to the south.

*How is it significant?*

Byronsvale on Andrews Road to the south of Maiden Gully is of local historical and aesthetic/architectural significance.

*Why is it significant?*

Byronsvale, the original and early components of which date to the 1870s and 1880s, is historically significant (Criterion A) as an early surviving farm house complex in the district, recalling the area's long history of agricultural production supplying the Bendigo market. The property, including its evolved form and substantial stables complex, helps demonstrate aspects of the lifestyle that could be attained with wealth founded on gold. Byronsvale is also significant for its association with the first owner, successful miner, entrepreneur, local politician and State parliamentarian of some standing, David Chaplin Sterry (1832-1904) (Criterion G). Sterry acquired land at Myers Creek (Maiden Gully) in 1867 and also commissioned the Goldmines Hotel at the Marong Road, Ironbark, near the Victoria Reef. Architecturally (Criterion E), the earliest components, being the south wing of the house and the stables, are elegant stone structures which form a distinctive combination; the stables also rival the house in size. The c. 1880s addition to the house transformed it into a villa of some substance and included some architectural flourishes such as the central gabled pediment and frieze of ornamental brickwork. The house and stables are substantially intact to their periods of construction, while the various additions do not significantly detract from an appreciation of the original building forms. The relationship between the house and stables is also important and helps demonstrate the earliest layout and function of the property. The current setting, with vineyards to the north and woodland to the south, additionally enhances the presentation of the property.

### Recommendations

The property is recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Greater Bendigo Heritage Overlay, to the extent of the area indicated in the above map. The focus of significance is on the house, built in 1872/1880s; the stables (c. 1872); and the informal landscape setting to these historic structures. The additions of the 2000s and other modifications to the buildings are not significant elements. If the additions were to be removed, consideration could be given to reinstating the original form of the buildings. The original unpainted exteriors of the house and stables should remain unpainted.

External Paint Colours	No
Internal Alterations Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
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

Ken Arnold, *Bendigo its Environs, The Way it Was*, Volume 1, Crown Castleton Publishers, 2003.

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

Ruth Hopkins, *Moving Forward, Looking Back*, Shire of Marong, 1985.

David Horsfall (ed), *Shire of Marong 1864-1964*, Shire of Marong.

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

### Specific:

<sup>1</sup> Ken Arnold, *Bendigo its Environs, The Way it Was*, Volume 1, Crown Castleton Publishers, 2003, pp. 170-71.

<sup>2</sup> 'Turand' citation, Andrew Ward *et al*, City of Greater Bendigo Heritage Study (Marong) Study Area, Stage 2, 1998, and Ken Arnold, *Bendigo its Environs, The Way it Was*, Volume 1, Crown Castleton Publishers, 2003, pp. 170-71.

<sup>3</sup> Ken Arnold suggests that the first stage of the present house was built in 1862. He does not cite sources, see *Bendigo its Environs, The Way it Was*, Volume 1, Crown Castleton Publishers, 2003, pp. 170-71.

<sup>4</sup> Shire of Marong rate books 1867-1873.

<sup>5</sup> K Thomson and G and Serle, *A Biographical Register of the Victorian Parliament 1859-1900*, ANUP, 1972, p.201. See also, 'Turand' citation, Andrew Ward *et al*, City of Greater Bendigo Heritage Study (Marong) Study Area, Stage 2, 1998, and Ken Arnold, *Bendigo its Environs, The Way it Was*, Volume 1, Crown Castleton Publishers, 2003, pp. 170-71.

<sup>6</sup> The 'frontispiece' was well established as an additive and visual amplification in a series of Tasmanian homesteads (*Woolmers, Panshanger, Clarendon, Killymoon, Mona Vale*) and in Victoria as well (Mandeville Hall, Toorak). See Conrad Hamann, 'Australian Architecture: Themes in a Diverse Culture,' in Neil Durbach and others, *Abundant Australia*, exhibition catalogue, XI International Architecture Exhibition, Biennale, Venice, 2008, pp. 16-17. More specific dating of the brick component as opposed to the stone is difficult: by the 1860s both materials were widely available locally in the forms seen here, and the detailing was also well established (cf. Kangaroo Flat).

<sup>7</sup> Pers comm, Pat Andrews, property owners, and Adam Mornement, Lovell chen, July 2010.

<sup>8</sup> *The Heritage of Australia*, Macmillan, Melbourne, 1981, p. 2/278, items 5, 6 and 9.