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# MILLEWA HALL



Millewa Hall front (east) elevation, c. early 1990s (Source: Ruth Hopkins, *Looking Back, Moving Forward*, 1985, p. 38).



The east and south elevations of Millewa Hall.



South elevation.



The former coach house/stables.

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## Location

214 HIGH STREET, KANGAROO FLAT - PROPERTY NUMBER 210042, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO516

## Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 11, 2023

### 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 Getzschmann, 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.

## Theme

### 6. Building towns cities and the garden state

Heritage Study/Consultant Greater Bendigo - Heritage Policy Citations Review, Lovell Chen P/L, 2011;

Construction dates 1872,

Architect/Designer Vahland & Getzschmann,

Other Names Milawa Hall, House,

Hermes Number 184823

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

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.

*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/>*