
ASCOT PARK

Location

66 TAYLOR STREET, ASCOT - PROPERTY NUMBER 188454, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO51

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 17, 2024

What is significant?

The Ascot Park building and cellar at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, are significant.

How is it significant?

The Ascot Park building and cellar at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, are of historical, rarity, aesthetic, scientific (technical) and associative significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

Why is it significant?

The Ascot Park building, originally named Taxonia, at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, is historically significant as a substantial brick residence built circa 1872 in a rural area of Bendigo for well-known Bendigo chemist and druggist, John Holdsworth. It is a reminder of the wealth brought to the Bendigo area from the early 1850s by gold mining and the subsequent development of business activity. Holdsworth lived at Taxonia until his death in 1887. (Criterion A)

The cellar at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, built in the period 1888-1898, is of historical significance as a rare example of a nineteenth century beehive cellar constructed in a remote rural location to store fruit, vegetables and other food items before the advent of modern refrigeration. The prominent air ventilation shafts are rare. (Criterion B)

The Ascot Park building at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, is of architectural significance as an unusual and largely intact example of a mid-Victorian residence in the Bendigo area constructed c1872 in a restrained Gothic style. The cellar at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, has aesthetic value as an unusual example of utilitarian design and functionality. The use of Gothic motifs in the free-standing ventilation chimneys of the cellar is rare. (Criterion B and Criterion E)

The cellar at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, is of scientific (technical) significance for its demonstration of nineteenth century cellar design and form, construction materials, and techniques. The use of cavity walling and introduction of air flow vents are unusual and reflect the use of cavity wall construction of the main house. (Criterion F)

The Ascot Park complex at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, is significant for its association with John Holdsworth. Holdsworth was instrumental in forming the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria in Melbourne in 1857, and after setting up his chemist business in Sandhurst in 1856, manufactured patent medicines which he supplied to Bendigo, Swan Hill and Echuca. Holdsworth served as a member of the Bendigo City Council over the years 1862-63 and 1867-69, was a Justice of the Peace, and fulfilled a number of community roles. (Criterion H)

The cellar is associated with Henry Mould, a Melbourne iron founder who purchased Taxonia in 1888 and who became the general manager of the Bendigo Tramway Company. Mould likely had the cellar constructed to store the produce grown in the extensive vegetable gardens and orchards he established at Taxonia.

The Ascot Park complex at 66 Taylor Street, Ascot, is significant for its association with lawyer Barkly Hyett, who practised in partnership with J P Motteram, and from 1893, with Dr John Quick (later Sir John Quick) for 20 years. Hyett was also solicitor to the Bendigo City council for 45 years and held a number of community roles in clubs, associations and institutions in Bendigo until his death in 1935. Hyett owned and lived with his wife, Elizabeth (nee Newcombe) and children at Ascot Park from 1901 to 1921.

The property is also significant for its association with Ernest Cahill, barrister and solicitor, who owned and occupied the subject property in the period 1921-1942. Cahill was one of Bendigo's leading barristers who practised in Bendigo for more than 40 years. He was prominently associated with a number of Bendigo organisations until his death in 1942.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Heritage Advisor report, City of Greater Bendigo, 2016;
Construction dates	1872,
Other Names	'Taxonia',
Hermes Number	164201
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/>