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## Potter's Arms



48-56 Taylor Street, chimney detail



48-56 Taylor Street, Potter's Arms



48-56 Taylor Street, front elevation showing projecting gable addition



48-56 Taylor Street, detail of window added c.1920

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### Location

48-56 TAYLOR STREET, ASCOT, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO898

### Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 3, 2023

### What is significant?

The property at 48-65 Taylors Road Ascot, known as Potter's Arms is significant. The house, built for Scottish Bendigo Pottery founder George Duncan Guthrie c1875 and added to in the 1920s; and the Moreton Bay fig tree are significant elements of the site. The outbuildings are not of significance.

### How is it significant?

48-56 Taylor Street (Potter's Arms) is of historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

### Why is it significant?

The property at 48-56 Taylor Street, subdivided from the larger holdings established by prominent Bendigo pharmaceutical supplier John Holdsworth, and purchased by Bendigo Pottery founder George Duncan Guthrie is significant for its historical associations. Located near Holdsworth's Gothic-revival style house, Guthrie's house of 1875 is a functional and utilitarian structure when compared with that of its neighbour; however Scot George Duncan Guthrie (1828-1910) is an important figure in Bendigo's history and the nearby pottery he established at Epsom has survived until the present time. Following the discovery of suitable clay, Guthrie's establishment and management of Bendigo Pottery saw it rival some of the great Staffordshire potteries of nineteenth century England, and the house he built for his family near to his workplace is of significance by association. The property continues its historic associations with ceramics, functioning as a home and as a pottery studio business under the present ownership. (Criteria A & H)

The property retains the size of the landholding as purchased by Guthrie in 1875 and a garden layout that enhances the setting of the house. The mid-Victorian brick house is of significance as a representative Victorian style single-storey face brick house with decorative brick chimneys. As a house reflecting a utilitarian approach to design, it contrasts with a number of the ornate and architecturally resplendent houses built by prominent citizens for which Bendigo is renowned.

The Moreton Bay fig tree (*Ficus macrophylla*) is a significant contributing element to the site and a significant tree specimen in its own right given its large size, fine shape and age. The partially brick and earth culvert outside the property boundary, together with the row of peppercorn trees are contributory elements of the site. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - White Hills & East Bendigo Heritage Study 2016, Context P/L, 2015;
Hermes Number	198321
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The property known as the Potter's Arms is located on a large triangular site between Taylor Street and Myrtle Road, Ascot. To the north-east of the site is the Gothic Revival house, Ascot Park, from which Guthrie's property was later subdivided. The house and outbuildings known as the Potter's Arms are surrounded by a large garden and separated from Taylor Street by a deep earth and partially brick-lined culvert and a row of peppercorn trees (*Schinus molle*). The garden is dominated by a large and impressive Moreton Bay fig tree (*Ficus macrophylla*).

The house is single storey, built of brick and of utilitarian Victorian design with a series of later additions. Now comprising several parts with hipped roofs and joined together with verandahs, the entrance of the house faces away from the road and towards the Bendigo Pottery and the garden. Alterations to the interior and extensions have transformed the house; nevertheless it still retains much of its mid Victorian-era character. Several red and cream brick chimneys are important features, as is the general scale and form of the house. A projecting gable

roofed section was added to the front of the house in the 1920s following a large extension to the rear. The house has also undergone internal renovations in the 1970s.

The outbuildings, including a ceramics studio have been built since 1972. The garden at one time was elaborately planted and features camphor laurels (*Cinnamomum camphora*), photinias, plums, bush olives and large areas of naturalised spring bulbs.

*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/>*