

NAME: War Memorial Hospital (formerly 'Tsong Gyiaou') Stables, 5-9 Aldersey Street, MCLAREN VALE

CURRENT USE:	Stables
FORMER USE:	stables
DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION:	C.1862 with later alterations
LOCATION:	5-9 Aldersey Street, MCLAREN VALE
LAND DESCRIPTION:	CTs 5954/387, Section 157, Hundred of Willunga
OWNER:	Private ownership
RECOMMENDATION:	Local Heritage Place (amended)



War Memorial Hospital (formerly 'Tsong Gyiaou') stables, 5-9 Aldersey Street, McLaren Vale (GGA, 2021)

NAME: War Memorial Hospital (formerly 'Tsong Gyiaou') Stables, 5-9 Aldersey Street, MCLAREN VALE

DESCRIPTION:

C.1862 stabling complex constructed of sandstone with brick quoins, surrounds and string courses. Timber framed hipped roof with replacement corrugated steel extending to replacement timber framed verandah to south elevation. Timber framed window sill to west elevation. C.2011 painted timber doors to external door opening to south elevation.

It is recommended that War Memorial Hospital (formerly 'Tsong Gyiaou') Stables at 5-9 Aldersey Street, McLaren Vale be included within the scope of the current Local Heritage listing that applies to the War Memorial Hospital (formerly 'Tsong Gyiaou'), 5-9 Aldersey Street, McLaren Vale (Local, HID 5225)

A delineation of significant historic fabric is provided in the Extent of Listing.

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

The War Memorial Hospital (formerly 'Tsong Gyiaou') Stables, 5-9 Aldersey Street, McLaren Vale are of significance as the stabling complex of the 'Tsong Gyiaou' residence, a significant mid 19th century homestead for the McLaren Vale township. The stables represent the functionality of the stie and the lifestyle of its occupants from the mid-19th onwards. The former 'Tsong Gyiaou' residence is strongly associated with original owner Mary Ann Aldersey and her nieces Mary Ann and Eliza Aldersey, significant figures within the township's history in the mid-to-late 19th century.

RELEVANT CRITERIA (As defined in Section 67(1) of the PDI Act 2016):

- a) it displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area, being the stable complex of the former 'Tsong Gyiaou' dwelling, now the War Memorial Hospital, a large, early and significant homestead complex for the local district.
 - b) it represents customs or ways of life that are characteristic of the local area; being the stable outbuildings for a large and significant homestead complex within the local district, demonstrating the functionality of the site and lifestyle of the occupants from the mid-19th century onwards.
 - e) it is associated with a notable local personality or event, being strongly associated with original owner Mary Ann Aldersey and her nieces Mary Ann and Eliza Aldersey, significant figures within McLaren Vale's mid-to-late 19th century history.
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RELEVANT HISTORIC THEMES:

Theme 2: Regional Life in the Southern Vales

2.2 Manor houses and country estates

Theme 5: Food Production in the Southern Vales

5.4 Animal husbandry

BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The heritage values of the stable complex at the 'War Memorial Hospital (formerly 'Tsong Gyiaou'), 5-9 Aldersey Street, McLaren Vale do not appear to have been identified or assessed as part of any previous heritage survey, though several assessments of the War Memorial Hospital building itself have been undertaken.

The former 'Tsong Gyiaou' building was initially assessed as part of the 1985 *Heritage Survey of the Fleurieu Peninsula, D. C. Willunga*, though an assessment of the associated stabling complex was not included at this time. Following this survey, the main War Memorial Hospital building was entered as a Local Heritage place on the SA Heritage Register on 11th January, 1996. A subsequent assessment of the War Memorial Hospital was again undertaken as part of the 2007 *McLaren Vale Township Local Heritage Register*, described as meeting criteria a), c) & d) of the *Development Act 1993*, though again no assessment of the associated stabling complex was provided.

As an outbuilding of the adjoining 'Tsong Gyiaou' complex, the history of the stable complex is intrinsically associated with that the dwelling it serviced. A current history of the War Memorial Hospital is provided on a historical plaque adjoining the main 'Tsong Gyiaou' building. This history reads as follows:

In 1857, at 60 years of age, after spending many years in China as a missionary, Mary Ann Aldersey settled in McLaren Vale. She purchased land and built a new home into which she moved in 1862. Because of her happy memories of the little village with three bridges in Ningpo, China, she named her house Tsong Gyiaou. She planted eucalypts to form a semi-circular driveway onto Aldersey Street. Some of these trees are still standing and form a living monument to her memory.

On the death of their aunt (1868), nieces Eliza and Mary Ann Aldersey inherited Tsong Gyiaou and established the much respected Ladies Boarding School. Mary Ann was Headmistress and Eliza attended to all housekeeping matters. In November 1899 a disastrous fire gutted the interior of the house. But by February 10th 1900, in a remarkably short time, the house had been restored and was ready for the new year's intake of students.

In 1903 at the age of 77 years, Miss Mary Ann Aldersey retired and the school closed. Her school had functioned with smooth efficiency for 35 years. In the early 1950s Tsong Gyiaou became part of the Southern Districts War Memorial Hospital.

The associated stabling complex, located immediately north-east of the residence, is of similar construction to the 'Tsong Gyiaou' dwelling and is understood to have been most likely constructed during the same period, most likely in association with the delineation of the semi-circular driveway and eucalypt tree plantings.

The building's current good condition is the result of restoration works undertaken after 2011, when the stabling complex was identified as being in poor condition. Following funding approval from the City of Onkaparinga, graffiti and ivy creepers were removed in addition to stonework repairs and the replacement of corrugated steel roofing. Timber elements, including verandah posts and stable doors, appear to also have been replaced at this time.

EXTENT OF LISTING:

The form and materials of the C.1862 former stabling complex, including external masonry walls with brick quoins, surrounds and string courses. All current door and window openings are included in the listing, as is the use of timber elements within these openings though current replacement materials are not included in the listing. The use of corrugated steel roof cladding is included in the

listing though current replacement materials are not included in the listing. All later additions and/or modifications are not included in the listing.

REFERENCES:

Department of Environment & Planning, Heritage Survey of the Fleurieu Peninsula, District Council of Willunga, Item Ref. No. 115.

City of Onkaparinga, 2007, McLaren Vale Township Local Heritage Register, City of Onkaparinga No. 181, pp. 38-40.

City of Onkaparinga, Historical Plaque located immediately west of former 'Tsong Gyiaou' building, photographed 19/1/2022.

Andrew Stevens Architects, 2011, War Memorial Hospital restoration proposal documentation, viewed 2/3/2022.

SITE MAPPING:



Site of 5-9 Aldersey Street, McLaren Vale; stable location identified within red square to northern boundary (GGA, 2021).

HISTORICAL IMAGES:



'Tsong Gyiaou' homestead, McLaren Vale in c.1886 (SLSA, D 4546/2 (Misc))



C.2011 photos showing dilapidated condition of former stable complex at this time (Andrew Stevens Architects, 2011).

OTHER IMAGES:



Former 'Tsong Gyiaou' homestead, looking west (GGA, 2021).



North and east elevations of former 'Tsong Gyiaou' stables, looking west (GGA, 2021).



Internal elements of former 'Tsong Gyiaou' stables, looking north-west (GGA, 2021).