

## Coldstream Hill, 131 Mangans Road, Lilydale - Statement of Significance, October 2024

<b>Heritage Place:</b>	Coldstream Hill 131 Mangans Road, Lilydale	<b>PS Ref. no:</b>	HO444
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### What is significant?

Coldstream Hill, the property at 131 Mangans Road, Lilydale is locally significant.

Character elements that contribute to the significance of the place include:

- The elevated siting of the main dwelling set within the surrounding sprawling gardens.
- The interwar era Spanish Mission renovation of the earlier Edwardian residence primarily characterised by its hipped roof clad with Cordova tiles, brick chimneys with gable tops as well as the prominent wide, rectangular chimney fronting the courtyard, verandahs with timber eaves, posts and bush poles, timber framed doors and windows, original/early colour scheme and architectural detailing including a cement render exterior and circular vents at the gable ends.
- Known intact interiors of the residence, specifically the Dining Room with its brick stairs and metal handrail, dark stained timber detailing and arched brick

fireplace, and the pressed metal ceilings in the Sitting/Smoking Room, Hallway, and Servery.

- The outdoor courtyard located to the south of the residence.
- The high, brick fence and wrought iron gate to the south of the residence as well as the dry stone wall to the east.
- The extant double garage and laundry outbuildings.
- The mature Monterey Cypress (*Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*) tree.
- There are also several other small buildings see photos below, these are along the eastern side.

#### How is it significant?

Coldstream Hill is of local historical, representative, aesthetic, and associative significance to the Yarra Ranges Shire.

#### Why is it significant?

Coldstream Hill is of historical significance as a residence extensively renovated during the interwar period as the Yarra Ranges Shire grew in popularity as a tourist and leisure destination for Melbourne's elite. Built as a country holiday house, Coldstream Hill not only forms a tangible link to this phase of development which saw the proliferation of architect designed houses for prominent Victorian residents, but also provides insight into the ways the region's built environment was shaped by tourism, leisure activities and new residential aspirations during the interwar period. (Criterion A)

Coldstream Hill is identified as an uncommon, extant example of an interwar era dwelling designed in the Spanish Mission style. Dwellings in this architectural style are rare in the Yarra Ranges Shire. (Criterion B)

Coldstream Hill is of representative significance as a fine, characteristic example of an interwar era bungalow designed in the Spanish Mission style. The residence not only retains a high degree of integrity in terms of its form and materiality but also exhibits key architectural features associated with the style, including a Cordova tiled hipped roof, gable top chimneys, rendered facades, and windows with shutters. Its original brick fence and wrought iron gate, accompanying garage and laundry outbuildings, and its siting within sprawling gardens are also of particular note as they illustrate the principal elements of extravagant residences constructed during the interwar period in the municipality. (Criterion D)

Coldstream Hill is of aesthetic significance for its unique design and high-quality architecture that exemplifies the Spanish Mission style which gained popularity during the interwar period. Its notable features include its asymmetrical layout, hipped roof clad with Cordova tiles, brick chimneys with gable tops as well as the prominent wide, rectangular chimney fronting the courtyard, verandahs with timber eaves, posts and bush poles, timber framed doors and windows, and architectural detailing including a cement render exterior and circular vents at the gable ends. The existing paint colours, including the coral finish to the rendered walls and chimneys and blue paint finish to

the external joinery also contribute to the aesthetic presentation of the dwelling and speak to the Mediterranean influence on its design. Further aesthetic interest is created by its arrangement around a courtyard, its brick fence and wrought iron gate, and the mature Monterey Cypress (*Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*) tree within its gardens that combine to create a visually distinct interwar era residence. (Criterion E)

Coldstream Hill is also of aesthetic significance for its substantially intact interiors which include the Dining Room with its brick stairs and metal handrail, dark stained timber detailing and arched brick fireplace, and the pressed metal ceilings in the Sitting/Smoking Room, Hallway, and Servery. (Criterion E)

Coldstream Hill is of significance for its association as a design by the influential Marcus Martin, an architect to the wealthy families of the time in Melbourne. While this is the only known example of Martin's work in the Yarra Ranges, and one of a few examples of Martin's foray in the Spanish Mission style, his association with the place demonstrates the influence of well-regarded and connected Melbourne architects, in the Yarra Ranges in the interwar period as they undertook commissions for their wealthy clientele. In addition, the house is also significant for its association with renowned opera singer Dame Nellie Melba, a prominent resident of Coldstream, who was the Godmother of the Keppel Palmer's daughter Angela. (Criterion H)

Primary source:

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