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# Aldermaston



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## Location

Off Lower Plenty Road ROSANNA, BANYULE CITY

## Municipality

BANYULE CITY

## Level of significance

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## Heritage Overlay Numbers

## Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

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This is an outstanding and original house of the Neo-Tudor style and the former first marital home of Australia's most renowned psychiatrist, Dr Ainslie Meares. The building is of state importance, architecturally and historically.

Heritage Study/Consultant Banyule - Heidelberg Conservation Study, Graeme Butler and Associates, 1985;  
Other Names Watsonia Military Camp,  
Hermes Number 125861  
Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Built in the Neo-Tudor style, so favoured in Heidelberg, Aldermaston is perhaps the biggest and the best, showing an extension of the eclectic style to suit the modern concept of massing. Clinker face -brickwork, steep over lapping slated gabled roofs and multi -paned shuttered windows are the components of the style, whilst the curved driveway, with main and service entrances spaced along its length, illustrates a design for facility on a grand scale. Internally, the two levels of the house are carried through to overlook a vast two level space, in the Great Hall manner, with the lacquered veneered panelling, large fireplace, and gallery which communicates with the upper level rooms. The garden has basically survived and is an important part of the hillside setting.

## Veterans Description for Public

The Aldermaston property was built in 1936 for the first owner Ainslie Meares. It was designed by Lesley Forsyth, who was renowned for his Neo-Tudor houses, and built by H.G. White on some 247 acres of land, purchased from the Wragge family. The Australian Army requisitioned the property during the Second World War, purchasing it in two parts, in 1943 and 1951.

*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/>*