
Former Pinehill



B4818 Bruce Manor

Location

34 Pinehill Drive,, FRANKSTON VIC 3199 - Property No B4818

Municipality

FRANKSTON CITY

Level of significance

State

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1998

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 22, 2008

Pinehill was the Frankston home of Viscount Bruce of Melbourne P C, C H, MC, C de G, B A (Cantab), Barrister at Law, Prime Minister of Australia 1923-29, High Commissioner and Australian representative at the League of Nations and first Chancellor of the Australian National University. It was designed by the Sydney Architects Prevost, Synnot and Rewald and was built in 1926 under the supervision of Robert Bell Hamilton, Architect. When in Viscount Bruce's hands the house stood in some 400 acres with extensive stands of wattle and pine trees. Pinehill is a large two-storey house with one-storey wings flanking a courtyard, all styled in the Hollywood Spanish Mission manner and with arcaded terraces and verandahs. The decorative work has traces of Art Nouveau 'gum-nut' detailing but is very much in the character of the times with timber wall panelling contrasted

with textured white plaster, exposed timber beams etc. The house is significant as the home of the most dominant figure in Australian politics in the 1920's, a man who became a distinguished counsellor to leading statesmen of other nations, a most illustrious Australian. It is an example of the new house planning that developed during the inter-war period permitting great comfort and privacy for the occupants without the use of a large domestic staff. It is an early example of the integration of the motor garage into the planning form. Stylistically the house demonstrates the new romantic regard for sun and shadow with its links with the Mediterranean via Beverly Hills. The house is substantially intact but the land has been reduced to so small an allotment that the house is now visibly diminished.

Classified: 12/02/1981

Revised: Classified 3/8/98

Upgraded 25/10/04

Other Names Bruce Manor,

Hermes Number 65528

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/>