

## SUMMARY OF STATE HERITAGE OBJECT

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### REGISTER ENTRY

Entry in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with the *Heritage Places Act 1993*

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NAME: Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection                      OBJECT NO.: 10067-004  
Object intrinsically related to Martindale  
Hall (10067)

ADDRESS: Martindale Hall, Manoora Road, Mintaro  
CR 5372/406 D19214 A1 Hundred of Upper Wakefield

### STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

#### Place

The Statement of Heritage Significance Place was approved by the South Australian Heritage Council on 12 December 2019.

Martindale Hall, a property including a mansion and its interiors, coach house, stables, and associated structures, is closely associated with the pastoral and economic development of South Australia in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The main house was constructed for Edmund Bowman Jr., in 1879-1880 to a design prepared by London architect E Gregg, while the coach house was probably designed by Adelaide architect EJ Woods. The construction of the mansion and other structures was supervised by Woods and main builder Robert Huckson.

Martindale Hall is an outstanding example of the grand country mansions constructed by wealthy pastoralists and represents the 'baronial' lifestyle achieved by them. The property including the mansion, its interiors and furnishings, and coach house retain a high degree of integrity and illustrate a way of life that no longer exists in South Australia. The classical styling, proportions and detailing of the external elevations of the mansion and coach house are of a very high quality, and the elaborate detailing of interior features such as timberwork, parquet floor and plaster work to cornices, ceilings and gallery are finely executed. Martindale Hall remains as a testament to the successful establishment and ongoing management of the intergenerational pastoral empires created by the Bowman and Mortlock families.

## Object

The Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection is intrinsically related to the 'baronial' lifestyle achieved at Martindale Hall by the Mortlock family. The grant of arms and other heraldic pieces were acquired by the Mortlock family in the first half of the twentieth century and proudly displayed at Martindale Hall. The Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection is a testament to the successful ongoing management of the intergenerational pastoral empire created by the Mortlock family and demonstrates the Mortlock family's pride in their achievements.

## COMMENTARY ON THE LISTING

Description and notes with respect to a place entered in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with the *Heritage Places Act 1993*

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### Physical Description

The Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection is comprised of a number of heraldic pieces made from a range of materials including painted timber, parchment and paper. Most of the pieces are framed in gilt-timber and glazed with glass. The grant of arms is the most notable item in the collection and is comprised of a framed parchment with three wax seals attached to the parchment with grosgrain ribbon and is framed in a decorative gilt-timber frame. A metal support attached to the gilt-frame holds the red-leather-covered timber box the grant was sent from the United Kingdom in. The box features gold stamps depicting two crowns and the initials GVR denoting King George V.

Other items in the collection are:

- Three copies of the Mortlock coat of arms

A full list and description of each item in the Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection is located in Appendix A – Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection spreadsheet.

Elements of Significance:

Elements of heritage significance include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection as described in Appendix A

History of the Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection (Provenance)

The Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection is comprised of four items, namely the grant of arms to John Andrew Tennant Mortlock to use the Mortlock family Coat of Arms, and three copies of the Mortlock family Coat of Arms.

John Andrew Tennant Mortlock received the grant of arms in 1936 and it seems likely that he commissioned the copies of the Mortlock family coat of arms around the same time. Two of the undated copies appear to be depicted in historic images taken in 1936, while the third bears the signature of the issuing Norroy King of Arms Algar Howard. Sir Algar Howard held the position of Norroy King of Arms between 1931 and 1943.

## Chronology

Note: The chronology includes key dates and events from both the place's and object's histories.

- 1847 William Ranson Mortlock procures an occupation license for land near Tumbby Bay on the Eyre Peninsula.
- 1850 William Ranson Mortlock and Margaret Tennant marry in Port Lincoln and soon after relocate to Adelaide, where William runs flour mills on Halifax Street and at Port Noarlunga. Their pastoral holdings are cared for by a manager.
- 1857 William and Margaret Mortlock return to the Eyre Peninsula with their young family after the Halifax Street mill is destroyed by fire.
- 1858 William Tennant Mortlock is born near Port Lincoln.
- 1860s-1870s William Ranson and Margaret Mortlock continue to build their pastoral holdings adding Strawberry Hill and Lake Wangary to the Yalluna Run. They also acquire pastoral holdings in the north of the State including Angorichna, Mount Arden and Yudnapinna.
- 1868-1884 William Ranson Mortlock serves three terms in the House of Assembly.
- 1873 William Tennant Mortlock travels to England to study law at Cambridge University. After completing his degree he practices law in London.
- 1878 Edmund Bowman Jr. commissions Ebenezer Gregg to design Martindale Hall. The completed house is meant as an enticement to try and persuade Fanny to marry him and move to South Australia. She ultimately refuses.
- 1878-1880 Martindale Hall and Coach House are constructed under the supervision of EJ Woods and main builder Robert Huckson. A pump house, reservoir and tanks are constructed to supply water to the house.
- 1881 William Tennant Mortlock returns to South Australia due to his father's ill health.
- 1881-1885 South Australia experiences a severe drought.
- 1884 William Ranson Mortlock dies and leaves his estate to his son William Tennant Mortlock.
- Sept 1890 Martindale Hall is offered for sale.
- Jan 1891 William Tennant Mortlock and Rosina Forsyth Tennant marry, her father gives the couple £20,000 as a wedding present/dowry.

- March 1891 William Tennant Mortlock and Rosina Forsyth Tennant Mortlock purchase Martindale Hall for £33,000 and redecorate and furnish the house.
- 1891 William and Rosina also acquire Euro Bluff Station, near Port Augusta.
- 1894 John Andrew Tennant Mortlock is born.
- 1896-1902 William Tennant Mortlock serves two terms in the House of Assembly and is noted for his contributions on pastoral matters.
- 1897 William and Rosina acquire Warratta Vale Station (southern Eyre Peninsula).
- 1912-1920 Frederick Ranson Mortlock attends St Peter's College.
- 1913 William Tennant Mortlock dies after a period of ill health. John who was studying at Cambridge returns home. John decides to live at Martindale Hall with his mother Rosina and together they jointly manage the Mortlock pastoral estate, which encompasses 1,976 square miles of land in South Australia.
- 1926 The South Australian Government considers acquiring Martindale Hall for closer settlement, however, due to costly improvements find it too expensive to do so.
- 1920s Rosina redecorates Martindale Hall.
- 1936 After the death of his brother in Colombo, John and Rosina establish the Ranson Mortlock Trust to fund research into soil erosion and pasture regeneration.  
John applies for and receives a grant of arms to use the Mortlock family coat of arms.
- 1940 Dorothy Beech begins working as Ernest Scarf's secretary, Scarf manages the Mortlock accounts.
- 1947 Dorothy Beech takes over the management of the Mortlock account after Scarf dies.
- 1948 John is diagnosed with cancer, he and Dorothy are married soon after.
- 1950 John Mortlock dies, leaving the majority of his estate (£1,148,124) in trust jointly to the Waite Institute University of Adelaide and the Libraries Board of South Australia. Dorothy is appointed a trustee and is given a lifetime interest in Martindale Hall.
- 1953 University of Adelaide expresses an interest in taking over control of Martindale Hall.

- 1959 University of Adelaide proposes creating a research station at Martindale Hall.
- 1965 An agreement is reached between the University of Adelaide and the trustees of Martindale Hall to enable the University to establish a research station at the property. As a part of the agreement, the University is to maintain the Hall.
- 1979 Dorothy Mortlock dies and the Mortlock estate is divided between the University of Adelaide and Libraries Board of South Australia. Dorothy also leaves a bequest to the University specifically to assist in the upkeep of Martindale Hall.
- 24 July 1980 Martindale Hall is entered in the South Australian Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.
- 1980s University of Adelaide embarks on a rationalisation of the structures at Martindale Hall and the conservatory and garden elements are removed. The Coach House is re-roofed.
- 1980s-present Martindale Hall is used as a tourism venue and historic house museum.
- 1986 **Martindale Hall and Dorothy Mortlock's bequest is given to the South Australian Government.**
- 5 Dec 1991 Under the provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* Martindale Hall is proclaimed a conservation park.

## References

LeMessurier Architects (1991), 'Martindale Mintaro Conservation Plan' (Adelaide: South Australian Department of Environment and Planning).

Elizabeth Warburton (1979), *Martindale Hall*, (Adelaide: University of Adelaide).

The South Australian Government Gazette, 5 December 1991, p.1668.

Pioneers Association of South Australia (1948), *Pioneers Visit to Martindale Hall*, (Adelaide: Pioneers Association of SA).

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'Advertising', *Register* 29 December 1852, p.2.

'Married', *Observer* 4 February 1854, p.5.

'Marriages', *Register* 9 September 1871, p.8.

'Law and Criminal Courts Supreme Court-In Equity', *Register* 6 December 1878, p.1.

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Provisionally entered by the South Australian Heritage Council on 10 December 2020

Confirmed by the South Australian Heritage Council on 20 May 2021

'Advertising', *Observer* 18 December 1880, p.18.

'Mr E Bowman's Mansion at Martindale', *Observer* 25 December 1880, p.32.

'Mr E Bowman's Mansion at Martindale', *Evening Journal* 18 December 1880, p.2.

'Fashionable Weddings', *Evening Journal* 29 January 1891, p.3.

'Flocks and Herds Poltalloch Estate', *Observer* 9 January 1904, p.13.

'Martindale', *Kapunda Herald* 3 November 1905, p.1.

'Death of Mr WT Mortlock', *Chronicle* 23 August 1913, p.15.

'Martindale Hall, Mintaro the home of Mr JT Mortlock', *South Australian Homes and Gardens* March 1932.

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Collyer, HDC (1936), 'Martindale Hall: smoke room view 1' SLISA B 46418.

Collyer, HDC (1936), 'Martindale Hall: smoke room view 2' SLISA B 46419.

March, Marian, 'Historic Country Home', *Advertiser* 5 May 1937, p.8.

'History of Martindale Hall' <https://www.dalemain.com/australia-2014-tour-martindale-hall/> [accessed 31 October 2019].

## OBJECT DETAILS

Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection  
Manoora Road, Mintaro

OBJECT NO.: 1067-001

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NAME OF SHP:	Martindale Hall (SHP 10067)
DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT:	Collection of heraldic items including a grant of arms and a number of framed coats of arms.
REGISTER STATUS:	Provisional Entry 10 December 2020 Confirmed 20 May 2021
CURRENT USE:	Displayed at Martindale Hall. c.1910–present
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:	Clare and Gilbert Valleys
LOCATION:	Street Name: Manoora Road Town/Suburb: Mintaro Post Code: 5415
LAND DESCRIPTION:	Title CR 5372/406 D19214 A1 Reference: Hundred: Upper Wakefield



## PHOTOS

Martindale Hall Heraldic Collection

OBJECT NO.: 10067-004

Martindale Hall, Manoora Road, Minataro

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Grant of Arms to John Andrew Tennant Mortlock, displayed in the gallery

Source: DEW Files 30 August 2019

## PHOTOS



Smoking Room showing the Cambridge University and Jesus College Shields, and Mortlock Coat of Arms. The display of these items above the mantle is a more current arrangement as they were not hung here in 1936. Only the Mortlock Coat of Arms is currently listed, the SAHC may reconsider listing the two shields as a part of the collection when additional information to support provenance is discovered.

Source: DEW Files 30 August 2019

Source: SLSAB 46418