

## 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 Pictorial Collection OBJECT NO.: 10067-003

Object intrinsically related to Martindale Hall (SHP 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 of this 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, parquetry 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 Pictorial Collection is intrinsically related to the 'baronial' lifestyle achieved at Martindale Hall by the Mortlock family. A variety of original artworks and machine-woven tapestries were used to decorate the house in a manner fitting a grand country mansion. Of particular note are the Mortlock family portraits that hang in the first floor gallery above the hall. There is also a series of photographs depicting the lifestyle and interests of the Mortlock family, including their sporting pursuits, travel and the prize winning rams that supported the success of their pastoral empire.

## 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 Pictorial Collection is comprised of 42 framed items including photographs, oil and watercolour paintings and machine-woven tapestries that were displayed by members of the Mortlock family throughout the mansion. Of particular note are the collection of family portraits painted in oil on canvas by S Stump, Helen Hambidge and William Longstaff. Helen Hambidge was the eldest of three sisters who were all South Australian female artists working primarily between the 1880s-1930s, while William Longstaff was a war artist during World War One. The collection also includes a number of other oil paintings by Longstaff depicting various London scenes.

The photographs are Mortlock family items and depict a range of subjects mostly from the time of Jack Mortlock's ownership of Martindale Hall, including a studio portrait of Jack Mortlock, numerous images of the Mortlock's prize winning rams, Jack's two yachts (both named *Martindale*), and holiday images from Port Lincoln and India.

There are also a few earlier images depicting a large gathering for a hunting party (c. late nineteenth century, probably William and Rosina centre front), two images of a polo team (possibly including William Mortlock), and two images of William Mortlock and his race horse 'Yudnapinna' and others associated with the training and racing of the horse.

A full description of each item and images is included in Appendix A – Martindale Hall Pictorial Collection spreadsheet. The listing includes both the artwork/image and its frame.

### Elements of Significance:

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

- Martindale Hall Pictorial Collection as identified in Appendix A

### History of the Object

Currently, there is no specific history to accompany the Martindale Hall Pictorial Collection. Provenance for the items proposed to be included in the Martindale Hall Pictorial Collection is based on identifying each item as present at Martindale Hall prior to the death of Jack Mortlock in 1950. A series of historic photographs of the interiors were taken in 1932 for a pictorial feature on Martindale Hall by *South*

*Australian Homes & Gardens Magazine* and again in 1936 by HCD Collyer for an unknown purpose and are held in the State Library of South Australia collections. In addition, a number of the paintings were specifically identified by name and recorded in a pamphlet prepared by the South Australian Pioneers Association after their visit to Martindale Hall in 1948.

Provenance for the photographs is based on a range of information ranging from inscriptions that directly identify the Mortlock family, to indicative dating of the image combined with other information such as the subject matter. For example, there are a number of photographs that appear to have members of the Mortlock family in them, while the images of India are in keeping with other items in the collection with known provenance. Specific details to support provenance are provided for each item in Appendix A.

In instances where the only indication that an item may be associated with Martindale Hall is its identification in the inventory prepared by the University of South Australia in 1986, the item is considered to have insufficient evidence to support provenance for listing as a State Heritage Object. Similarly, an item's appearance in the photographs taken to accompany the entry of Martindale Hall in *Historic Homesteads of Australia*, prepared by the Australian Council of National Trusts in 1969, is also considered insufficient evidence to list the item. At the time of provisional entry, there are 43 items that require further investigation, of which 19 are identified in the University of Adelaide inventory.

## Chronology

- 1838 Edmund Bowman visits South Australia and upon his return to Tasmania convinces his parents to relocate the family to South Australia.
- 1839 Edmund Bowman arrives in South Australia with a flock of sheep. His brothers John Jr. and William follow with a second flock of sheep and are joined later by their parents John and Mary and sisters.
- 1840 John Bowman Sr. purchases section 341 at Enfield and establishes 'Barton Vale' including orchard, vines and grain crops.
- 1843 John Sr. and Edmund Sr. Bowman begin to move their stock (sheep) north and look for land to lease around the Wakefield River.  
William Ranson Mortlock arrives in South Australia and works as an Inspector of Sheep, amongst other activities.
- 1844 J Bowman takes out an occupation license over land described as Finniss River.
- 1845 J Bowman takes out 2 occupation licenses for land near the River Wakefield.

- 1846 J Bowman takes out an occupation license for land at Lower Wakefield.
- 1847 J Bowman takes out occupation licenses for land in Upper Wakefield and Light Regions. Upper Wakefield land is named Martindale.
- William Ranson Mortlock procures an occupation license for land near Tumbby Bay on the Eyre Peninsula.
- 1848 Edmund Bowman Sr. purchases 3 acres of land in the village of Enfield near Barton Vale and builds a 5-room stone cottage.
- 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.
- 1850-1851 Hundreds of Upper Wakefield and Stanley are proclaimed and the **Bowman's purchase most of the land in the area they lease.**
- 1852 'Barton Vale' house comprising eleven rooms is completed and is surrounded by a 3 acre garden. The property also features a stables, coach house and numerous outbuildings.
- 1854 Edmund Bowman Sr. and Elizabeth Hackney are married at Trinity Church.
- 1855 Edmund Bowman Jr. is born.
- 1857 John Bowman dies leaving his pastoral holdings to his four sons. (Edmund **Sr. inherits 'Barton Vale', Martindale and Werocata.) Edmund transfers the** title of the 3-acre property and cottage at the village of Enfield to his mother, Mary.
- William and Margaret Mortlock return to the Eyre Peninsula with their young family after the Halifax Street mill is destroyed by fire.
- 1857-1864 Brothers Edmund Sr., John Jr., Thomas and William Bowman collectively manage the Bowman pastoral holdings.
- 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.
- 1866 Edmund Sr. drowns in the Wakefield River leaving his estate to his sons Edmund Jr., Charles and Hubert and financial support for his daughters Clarissa, Alice and Jessie. Edmund Sr. bequests his wife Elizabeth the use **of 'Barton Vale' during her life. The** Bowman estate is placed into trust and the land leased until the children reach their majority.

- 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.
- 1875 Edmund Bowman Jr. travels to England to study law at Cambridge University. While in the UK he meet Francis Hasell (Fanny) and wishes to marry her.
- 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.
- Mid-1878 Edmund Bowman Jr. returns to South Australia (without completing his degree) and **launches amicable legal proceedings to have his father's intentions interpreted in the disposal of the trust as both Edmund Jr. and Charles had turned 21 and wished to manage their inheritance.** The trust is valued at £114,410.
- 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.
- Late 1870s-early 1880 Edmund Bowman Jr. and Charles borrow substantial sums of money and continue to build their pastoral empire. By 1883 they own Wandillah (17,787 acres), Mt Bryan (25,136 acres), Martindale/Wirilla (16,000 acres), Holm Hill (1,600 acres), Werocata (25,616 acres), Forrester's Farm (595 acres) other land (1,000 acres) and lease Euro Bluff, Andamooka, Parakylia and a small station at Mongolatta.
- 1881 William Tennant Mortlock returns to South Australia due to his father's ill health.
- 1881-1885 South Australia experiences a severe drought.
- 1884 Edmund Jr. and Annie Lewers Cowle are married at St Peter's Cathedral.
- William Ranson Mortlock dies and leaves his estate to his son William Tennant Mortlock.
- 1886 Edmund Jr and Charles increasingly struggle to service their debt and **raise credit against the following year's wool clip to pay their interest bill.** They also offer four properties for sale. When Werocata sells for less than anticipated Edmund Jr. transfers Martindale into joint ownership with Charles.
- March 1890 The English, Scottish and Australian Bank declares Edmund Jr. and **Charles's account inoperative.**

- 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).
- 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.
- 1932 *South Australian Homes and Gardens* magazine notes the extensive weapons collection at Martindale Hall and identifies both William and his son John as its collectors.
- 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.
- 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

Martindale Hall Summary of State Heritage Place (Retrospective).

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

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

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

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

Collyer, HDC (1936), 'Martindale Hall: sitting hall, stairway and gallery' SLSA B 46414.

Collyer, HDC (1936), 'Martindale Hall: view from the stairs of the sitting area inside entrance' SLSA B 46415.

Collyer, HDC (1936), 'Martindale Hall: dinning room with table extendable for twelve diners' SLSA B 46416.

Collyer, HDC (1936), 'Martindale Hall: the drawing room' SLSA B 46417.



## OBJECT DETAILS

Martindale Hall Pictorial Collection

OBJECT NO.: 10067-003

Martindale Hall, Manoora Road, Mintaro

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DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT: 42 framed pictorial items comprising oil and watercolour paintings, machine-woven tapestries and photographs.

REGISTER STATUS: Provisional Entry 10 December 2020

CURRENT USE: On display at Martindale Hall  
c.1890- 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 Pictorial Collection  
Martindale Hall, Manoora Road, Mintaro

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OBJECT NO.: 10067-003



William Ranson Mortlock, painted posthumously from a photograph by Helen Hambidge (1907)

Source: DEW Files 19 August 2019



William Tennant Mortlock painted by Helen Hambidge (1907)

Source: DEW Files 19 August 2019



Rosina Forsyth Mortlock painted by S Stump

Source: DEW Files 2010



John (Jack) Andrew Tennant Mortlock painted by Blodwen Thomas

Source: DEW Files 19 August 2019

## PHOTOS



**B 46415** Reproduction rights: State Library of South Australia

Image of the hall taken by Collyer in 1936 showing a number of the artworks hung on the walls at Martindale Hall

Source: SLSAB 46415