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## Residence



30 Albany Road, Toorak



Recommended extent of heritage overlay for 30 Albany Road, Toorak.

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### Location

30 Albany Road TOORAK, STONNINGTON CITY

### Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO487

### Heritage Listing

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Note that the relevant HERCON criteria are shown in brackets.

### *What is Significant?*

The house at 30 Albany Road, Toorak was originally constructed as stables for the Yar Orrong mansion in the early 1870s and then converted for use as his own residence by architect Rodney Alsop in an Arts and Crafts cottage style in 1921. The house was sympathetically altered and extended in 1937 by architects F L and K Klingender.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The external form, materials and detailing of the building surviving from the original nineteenth century stables, the 1921 residential conversion by Alsop and the 1937 additions and alterations.
- The high level of external intactness to its 1937 state.
- The domestic garden setting (but not the fabric of the garden itself).

Modern fabric, including the timber front fence, is not significant.

### *How is it significant?*

The house at 30 Albany Road, Toorak is of local architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

### *Why is it significant?*

Architecturally, the house is significant as an unusual example of an interwar Arts and Crafts style house derived from American Craftsman bungalow and English cottage sources (Criterion E). It is illustrative of architect Rodney Alsop's pursuit of an Australian architectural identity based on a simple, unornamented and functional approach. The 1937 extensions by Klingender are respectful of the design of his former partner and are of note for the manner in which a modest cottage character is maintained in a larger house.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - City of Stonnington Interwar Houses Study, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2014;
Construction dates	1875, 1921, 1937,
Architect/Designer	Alsop, Rodney H, Klingender, FL, Klingender & Alsop,
Hermes Number	197639
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The house at 30 Albany Road is a converted and extended stable presenting as an attic style residence with the strong building forms of the gabled Craftsman bungalow. The roof is a picturesque composition of slate clad gables punctuated by simply detailed chimneys. The transverse gable formed the second floor of the original stables. The gable detail from the Alsop design is matched by the 1937 gabled extension. They each have louvred vents at the apex, and are clad with vertical planked boards with narrow timber cover straps, a trademark of Alsop's work at this time. The dark finish of the vertical boarding of the upper floor provides a contrast with the light coloured finish to the ground floor masonry walls. The building exterior appears to be largely intact to its

1937 state apart from the rear single-storey addition.

## **Local Historical Themes**

The house at 30 Albany Road, Toorak illustrates the following themes, as identified in the *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History* (Context Pty Ltd, 2006):

8.1.3 The end of an era - mansion estate subdivisions in the twentieth century

8.4.3 Architects and their houses

The house is of some historical interest as evidence of the major phase of development that took place in the 1920s and 1930s when many of Toorak's grand nineteenth century mansion estates were subdivided to create prestigious residential enclaves (TEH 8.1.3 The end of an era - mansion estate subdivisions in the twentieth century). It also provides a tangible illustration of this pattern of development through the retention of remnants of the Yar Orrong mansion stables. The house derives additional historical interest from its association with Rodney Alsop (8.4.3 - Architects and their houses).

*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/>*