Former Motor Garage, 1140 Malvern Road, Malvern – Statement of Significance, June 2021

Heritage place: Former Motor Garage, 1140 Malvern Road, Malvern

PS ref no.: HO681



Figure 1. 1140 Malvern Road, Malvern (November 2020)

What is significant?

The Former Motor Garage at 1140 Malvern Road, Malvern, constructed in 1927.

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

- The original external form, materials and detailing of the building
- The building's high level of integrity to its original design
- Imposing horizontal form
- Rigid symmetry across the principal (north) elevation
- Restrained ornamentation to principal elevation, including parapet, mouldings, pilasters with recessed panels and central pediment with winged heraldic device
- Broad reference to the Egyptian Revival style in the composition and detailing of the principal elevation
- Masonry form with large display windows and flanking a large central doorway
- Gable roof form.

Later alterations and additions, including the existing front entrance, are not significant.

How is it significant?

The Former Motor Garage is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

The Former Motor Garage at 1140 Malvern Road is illustrative of the growth of private transport in the City of Stonnington in the interwar period when private car ownership was increasing rapidly in popularity. Built in 1927 as a commercial motor garage to serve the local community, it coincides with the emergence of the car as a preferred means of private transport and clearly illustrates this important phase of development in Malvern, and across Victoria more broadly (Criterion A).

The Former Motor Garage at 1140 Malvern Road is a distinctive and carefully detailed example of a motor garage which incorporates references to the Egyptian Revival style. The design, with its strong symmetrical composition, triangular parapet concealing the roof form behind and large display windows flanking the central entry, together with the use of distinctive architectural elements, including central entry pediment with winged sun herald and flanking pilasters with recessed panels, presents a picturesque composition of this architectural style (Criterion E).

Primary sources:

Malvern Heritage Review, GJM Heritage (June 2021)