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**"Leamont"**  
27 Natimuk Road, Horsham



Photo: 1997

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**Existing Registrations:**

Victorian Heritage Register: nil  
National Estate Register: nil  
National Trust Register: nil

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**History:** The land on the south side of Natimuk Road between Rose Street and Brooks Avenue stretching down to the Wimmera River, comprised lots 19 and 20 of Section 4(?), which were purchased from the Crown by J. Wilson. It was subdivided and developed later than the Dooen Road but in time became recognised as a desirable address.

In 1926, George Gardiner, manager for AMP, bought the land at no. 27-29 Natimuk Road and had built for his residence in that year a house described in 1929 as "stone, NAV 60 pounds".

The property was later bought by Jack Bolton who provided the upper level attic storey of the house. In 1996, it was owned by Mrs. Audrey Maybery.

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**Description:** A sophisticated example of the Californian Bungalow style distinguished by its exaggerated horizontality and deeply recessed corner porch with dominant gable ends and limestone piers and balustrade. There is a suggestion of the Oriental in the

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treatment of the piers and main gable end that gives depth to the residence as an example of the Style. Other elements include the principal leadlit windows, limestone front fence, hedge and spacious garden.

**Integrity:** High, attic floor later along with lattice work to gable ends.  
**Condition:** Sound.

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**Comparative examples:** Comparable houses in the same style in Horsham include the former Rodda residence at the corner of Stawell and Williams Roads, 53, and 81 Natimuk Road, "Penzance" at 50 Dooen Road, "Greyholm" at 15 McPherson Street and 80 Bennett Road.

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**Significance:** "Leamont" at 27 Natimuk Road is culturally important as a sophisticated example of the Californian Bungalow style in Horsham, reinforcing this City's heritage of similar interwar residences giving it distinction at the State level (criteria D and E). It is also important as a key building in the Natimuk Road historic area and is of interest also for its links with the AMP Society's presence in Horsham, once confirmed by the AMP building of 1916 (demolished) in Firebrace Street (criterion G).

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**References:** Town of Horsham, Parish Plan, Department of Lands and Survey, 28.2 1928.  
Horsham, County of Burong, Department of Lands and Survey, undated.  
Horsham Sewerage Plan no.133, c.1994.  
Borough of Horsham Rate Books: 1925-6, 1929-30.  
"Historical Horsham Calendar 1996", Horsham Historical Society.  
Brian Brooke and Alan Finch, A Story of Horsham, A Municipal Century, City of Horsham, 1982, p.178.

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