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Laurendel - a royal gem up for sale



Iconic property: Laurendel at Elaine in Victoria is on the market, with agents seeking offers around \$20 million.

Matilda Abey

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PLAYING host to the Duke of Edinburgh is just part of the colourful history of spectacular property Larundel.

The slice of Victorian pastoral history at Elaine, south of Ballarat, is on the market, with Armadale agents [Abercromby's](#) asking for offers around \$20 million.

Larundel was established in the 1870s by AAA Austin, who also founded the Austin Hospital and held two other renowned properties - Barwon Park and Avalon.

The pioneering pastoral family established the property as a large-scale fine-wool operation, and employed architect Joseph Watts to design the homestead.

The 1011ha grazing property has since been owned by Just Jeans founder Paul Kimberly, and is currently owned by Paul and Gabrielle Preat.

In recent years the homestead has been restored, while the gardens were famously re-designed by prominent landscape designer Paul Bangay more than 20 years ago.

Sprawling across 2ha, the lawns and gardens at Larundel are an elaborate network of hedges, garden beds and trees divided into different sections.

The Victorian homestead has four-bedrooms and plenty of living space which was restored over a three-year period in the 1980s remaining faithful to the era it was built in.

There is plenty of living space with the family room, long gallery and conservatory as well as a kitchen equipped with an Aga adjoining a scullery and a 4000-bottle wine cellar.

Guest quarters are the old stables, which have been converted to four bedrooms, three bathrooms, a library, a commercial kitchen and a dining room with seating for 30. As well as the homestead and gardens, the property also boasts a polo field, a 900m lit airstrip and helipad, croquet lawns, a tennis court, a large lake and ample infrastructure to support farming.