

Deco! The Empress is back

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The Empress Court lettering that was changed 30 years ago

If you, like this diarist, are in love with Mumbai's old-world charm, here's a bit of good news. Empress Court that stands on the corner of the road opposite Oval Maidan recently reinstated the old lettering of its name after having it changed 30 years ago due to repairing damages. The project, taken up by Art Deco Mumbai Trust (ADMT) that works towards conservation of the city's iconic Art Deco buildings, along with artist Tanya George, was a tough challenge, the latter revealed. "ADMT reached out to me a year ago.



The new Empress Court lettering that is inspired from the original one, is made of metal. Pics courtesy/Art Deco Mumbai

While it sounded like an exciting offer, the only problem was that the reference photo we had was very old. We could barely see the letters. We got the overall idea of the shapes, and then ADMT suggested using some motifs and designs from the interiors and the gate of the building so that it does not look out of place," George said. Vishaka Bhat from the Trust added that it was their suggestion that led to this project. "We have a small collection of archival images of [Mumbai](#). When we showed the owners of the building the photo, they were on board to get the lettering done again," she explained.

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