

---

# FRANK WERTHER RESIDENCE



Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd Colour 1 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd Colour 2 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd Colour 3 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd inside 1 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



18 - Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



18 - Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd 02 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



18 - Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd 03 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



18 - Frank Werther Residence off Barreenong Rd 04 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992

---

## Location

19 Dunmoochin Road COTTLES BRIDGE, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO40

## Heritage Listing

Nillumbik Shire

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 5, 2010

REVISED STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONTEXT, 2010

### ***What is significant?***

The house, built c1954-mid 1970s, and the site to a radius of 30 metres. The house is connected with the Dunmoochin artists' community (See also H08, H09, H10, HO41 and HO148).

### ***How is it Significant?***

The house is, historically, and architecturally significant to the Shire of Nillumbik.

### ***Why is it significant?***

The house is historically significant because it is associated with the Dunmoochin artist's community (which played an important part in Victoria's cultural history) and was the home from 1954 of Frank Werther, the last living member of the community (Criteria A & H). The house is architecturally significant because its construction illustrates several characteristics of 'Eltham-style' architecture - the use of mud brick and recycled materials, construction in stages and the close involvement of the owner in the process (Criterion D).

### **BICK STUDY, 1992**

This building has historic significance as the home, since 1954, of Frank Werther, the last surviving member of the Dunmoochin Artists Co-operative, which was established here in the mid 1950s. After Alma Shanahan (see page 478) Frank Werther is also the person who has lived longest at Dunmoochin. The Werther residence also illustrates the common characteristics of Eltham Shire dwellings in the post 1945 period that is construction in stages using mud brick and second hand materials, with the close involvement of the owner in the process. This building is an integral component of the Dunmoochin artists' precinct, recommended to become a conservation area and remains in the occupation of Frank Werther and his wife. The waterhole near the residence is a reputedly a former goldmining-shaft and has been used as a water supply by the Werthers.

BASIS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

HISTORY

ILLUSTRATION OF THE THEMES

DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE:

LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

EXTENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

ENTIRE BUILDING AND SITE TO A RADIUS OF 30 METRES, INCLUDING WATER HOLE IN EMBANKMENT

Heritage Study/Consultant Nillumbik - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study, David Bick, 1992;  
Construction dates 1954,  
Hermes Number 55214  
Property Number

---

## Historical Australian Themes

ARTISTS AND THE ELTHAM LANDSCAPE AND LIFESTYLE

DISTINCTIVE ELTHAM BUILDING STYLES

3.14.2 Using Australian materials in construction

8.10.2 Creating visual arts

8.10.4 Designing and building fine buildings

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## Usage/Former Usage

Original and Continuing Use: Dwelling, now residence.

## Physical Description 1

Style Eltham-style.

Design evolved, unique.

Plan basically L-shaped.

Single and two storeyed.

Walls solid mud brick.

Roof pitched, corrugated iron clad. Features are the evolved building form, exterior details and the various interior spaces which include a split level room with stone block steps and angled planning in the master -bedroom section.

*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/>*