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# MCWHELANS RESIDENCE



971 3.jpg

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## Location

5 HOMESTEAD ROAD ELTHAM, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO84

## Heritage Listing

Nillumbik Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 7, 2010

REVISED STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONTEXT, 2010

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

The early c1950s to early c1970s house and the entire surrounding site to the title boundaries.

### ***How is it significant?***

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

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

The house is historically significant because it was owned by George Chalmers, a student of Justus Jorgensen and a member of the Montsalvat community (see HO82) (Criterion H). The house is historically and architecturally significant as an illustration of the development of the 'Eltham style' of architecture. Like many other 'Eltham-style' buildings, the house featured the use of recycled materials and was constructed in stages. The use of recycled materials is reflected in the house's name, "McWhelans", after two of the leading wrecking firms of the time. The house was modelled on a magazine photograph (*Ideal Home* 1949) of the 11th-16th century residence, Bouchiers Hall in England, and is, after Monsalvat, the most accomplished historical revival style dwelling in the Eltham area (Criteria A & F).

Heritage Study/Consultant Nillumbik - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study, David Bick, 1992;

Construction dates 1950, 1957, 1973, 1957,

Hermes Number 63350

Property Number

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## **Historical Australian Themes**

DISTINCTIVE ELTHAM BUILDING STYLES

EMERGENCE OF AN ELTHAM LIFESTYLE

ARTISTS AND THE ELTHAM LANDSCAPE AND LIFESTYLE

3.14.2 Using Australian materials in construction

4.6 Remembering significant phases in the development of settlements, towns and cities.

8.10.4 Designing and building fine buildings

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

## **Physical Description 1**

Style vernacular gothic.

Designs one-off.

Plans rectangular.

Single storied with attic rooms to both main buildings. Walls: residence solid coursed bluestone facing concrete rubble, formed in pise fashion studio adobe.

Roofs gabled without eaves, slate clad. Features are the two picturesque, double storied attic main buildings, use of secondhand materials, bluestone and adobe wall construction, external staircase to the studio the courtyard with its fountain and B-B-Q building, the slate slab paving and the front balustraded terrace. The bluestone horse trough from the Kew Mental Asylum farm and the various bluestone bollards are unusual and integral components of the place, as are the front gates. Internally the marble bath, the planning and the use of secondhand materials and fittings including doors and the cast iron stove from the Kew mansion, are all features.

## **Usage/Former Usage**

Original and Continuing Use: Residence and studio

*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/>*