

# FORMER 1) POLICE RESIDENCE AND 2) REAR STABLE, PARKS OFFICE, 728 MAIN RD, ELTHAM



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham - Shire  
of Eltham Heritage Study  
1992



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham 02 - Old  
photograph (ELHPC NO.??) -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham 03 -  
Distant view of the Police  
Residence (furthest left)  
Showing the complex of  
buildings on the site then  
(ELHPC NO. 633) - Shire  
of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham 04 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham 05 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham 06 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham 07 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



198 - Former Police Complex  
728 Main Rd Eltham 08 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



Former Police Complex 728  
Main Rd Eltham Colour 1 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



Former Police Complex 728  
Main Rd Eltham Colour 2 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



Former Police Complex 728  
Main Rd Eltham Colour 3 -  
Shire of Eltham Heritage  
Study 1992



Former Police Complex 728  
Main Rd Eltham Black &  
White 1 - Shire of Eltham  
Heritage Study 1992



Former Police Complex 728  
Main Rd Eltham Black &  
White 2 - Shire of Eltham  
Heritage Study 1992



Former Police Complex 728  
Main Rd Eltham Black &  
White 3 - Shire of Eltham  
Heritage Study 1992



Former Police Complex 728  
Main Rd Eltham Black &  
White 4 - Shire of Eltham  
Heritage Study 1992



HO122 Police Residence 728  
Main Road Eltham.jpg

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## Location

728 MAIN RD ELTHAM, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1539

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO122

## 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 former police quarters, Eltham are part of a larger police complex designed by the Public Works Department and built by Langridge, Wright and Witney in 1859-60. The original single storey residence consisting of five rooms is constructed of brick and has a projecting front room and a timber verandah. Subsequent additions have been constructed of weatherboards. Following the relocation of police operations in 1952, the residence was used as the local office of the Lands Department and more recently as offices for the local council's Parks and Environment Section. The original single stall brick stables building with loft, built in 1859-60, is located at the rear of the residence but has been substantially altered. The original two-cell bluestone lockup was demolished c1950s. The existing detached weatherboard building, located close to the residence, is a c1980s replica of the original police office which was located in the same position but was initially relocated to the rear of the site but subsequently demolished.

A late 19th century or early 20th century portable timber lockup has recently been relocated to the site from Youth Road, Eltham- see also HO67 (The portable lock up was formerly HO174 in the Nillumbik planning scheme).

#### How is it significant?

The former police quarters, Eltham is historically and architecturally significant to the State of Victoria.

The late 19th or early 20th century portable timber lockup is historically, technically and aesthetically significant to the Shire of Nillumbik.

#### Why is it significant?

The former police quarters, Eltham, together with the brick stables, are historically significant for their early date of construction. The buildings are important for their relationship with the nearby courthouse which together form an example of an early justice precinct (Criteria A & B) The residence and stables are also important for their association with the earliest development of Eltham township (Criteria A). The former police quarters, Eltham is architecturally significant as one of the earliest examples of police buildings erected throughout Victoria in the mid nineteenth century. The simple detailing and lack of ornament are important features as they reflect the building's utilitarian function and demonstrate an important period in the development of the Public Works Department (Criteria F).

The portable timber lockup is historically significant because there are only a few similar structures in Victoria (Criteria B). It is historically, aesthetically and technically significant because it was designed to be cheap, effective and mobile and features: vertical framing members and an iron bar covered window (Criteria A, F & E).

#### BICK STUDY, 1992

This Former Police Residence is one of the small number of such buildings erected in Victoria in the 1850s and 1860s and has special local importance as the oldest public building in the Municipality after the adjacent Court House (built 1859-1860).

The Court House and Police Residence with its unique (for Eltham Shire) rear brick stable are the focal buildings of the only section of Main Road that has some resemblance to what 19th and early 20th century residents knew. The rear stable is one of just two 19th century stable buildings in the Municipality (the other being the local stone one at Sweeney's Cottage in Sweeney Lane).

BASIS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

ILLUSTRATION OF THE THEMES

HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

STREETSCAPE

DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE: LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

EXTENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

ALL OF BOTH BUILDINGS, REAR STABLE, DETACHED REPLICA TIMBER BUILDING AND ENTIRE SITE

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

Construction dates 1860, 1980,

Hermes Number 63588

Property Number

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## Historical Australian Themes

THE ORIGINAL ELTHAM TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT

7.6 Administering Australia

7.6.3 Policing Australia

7.6.5 Incarcerating People

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## Physical Description 1

Residence

Style mid Victorian.

Design standard.

Plan rectangular, with projecting front room and timber verandah beside it.

Single storeyed.

Walls solid face brick.

Roof hipped with front gable and shallow eaves. Features are the projecting front room and timber front verandah, the chimneys, multi-pane windows, the simple design and the stable.

Stable

Style Victorian utilitarian.

Design standard.

Plan rectangular.

Single storeyed with loft.

Walls solid face brick.

Roof gabled with no eaves, corrugated iron clad. Features are the simple design. The building has been variously unsympathetically altered.

## **Usage/Former Usage**

Original Use: Police residence

Later Use:

Lands Department's local office, Parks and Environment Section, Eltham Shire office

*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/>*