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# ELTHAM HOTEL (PRE 1940 SECTION), CNR. MAIN RD AND PITT ST



Eltham Hotel 746 Main Road  
Eltham - Shire of Eltham  
Heritage Study 1992

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## Location

746 MAIN RD ELTHAM, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO116

## 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 two-storey hotel which was primarily built in the 1920s, and including any of the surviving fabric of the c1887 original hotel and the c1915-16 additions, and the surrounding site to a radius of 10 metres.

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

The hotel is historically, socially and aesthetically significant to the Shire of Nillumbik.

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

The hotel is historically significant because a hotel has stood on the site since 1887; in the 20th century the hotel became a meeting place for Eltham's artists, intellectuals and mud brick builders, who were developing a distinctive local lifestyle (Criteria A & H). The hotel is historically significant because its gradual expansion reflects the increase in Eltham's popularity as a holiday destination, and later a suburb, following the arrival of the railway (Criterion A). The hotel is aesthetically and socially significant because it features a half timbered exterior and is a local landmark (Criteria E & G).

### **BICK STUDY, 1992**

First opened as Watson's Hotel, a double-storeyed building constructed on the Main Road frontage circa 1887 for Christopher Watson, the Eltham Hotel has social and historical significance as an important meeting place within the Little Eltham township, established in the 1850s within Josiah Holloway's subdivision. With additions and/or extensive rebuilding during the First World War period and later, the Eltham Hotel has been a local landmark on this site for more than a century. The building as it is today mainly dates from the 1920s and/or later and was the meeting place in the 1950s of Eltham's artists, intellectuals and (other) mud brick builders, who were developing a distinctive local lifestyle at that time.

BASIS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

ILLUSTRATION OF THE THEMES

HISTORY

STREETSCAPE

SOCIAL

DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE: LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

EXTENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

ENTIRE TWO STOREY BUILDING AND SITE WITHIN A 10 METRE RADIUS; SINGLE STOREY SECTION OF THE BUILDING AND THE REMAINDER OF THE SITE TO BE REGULATED FOR ANY IMPACT ON THE TWO STOREY SECTION.

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

Construction dates 1900, 1915, 1920, 1970,

Hermes Number 63806

Property Number

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## **Historical Australian Themes**

TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT

8.4 Eating and drinking

3.12.5 Retailing food and beverages

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## **Physical Description 1**

Style early 20th century half timbered.

Design fairly standard.

Plan fairly standard.

Plan irregular, basically rectangular.

Two storeyed.

Walls solid brick?

Roof pitched.

Features are the half timbered exterior.

## **Usage/Former Usage**

Original and Later Use: Hotel

*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/>*