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# RAILWAY TIMBER TRESTLE BRIDGE OVER DIAMOND CREEK, PANTHER PLACE, ELTHAM



Railway Timber Trestle Bridge, Panther Place Colour - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



Railway Timber Trestle Bridge, Panther Place



Railway Timber Trestle Bridge, Panther Place - OLD PHOTOGRAPH



Railway Timber Trestle Bridge, Panther Place - ROSE POSTCARD TAKEN AFTER ELECTRIFICATION IN 1926



Railway Timber Trestle Bridge, Panther Place - PREVIOUS MAIN ROAD BRIDGE OVER DIAMOND CREEK AT ELTHAM - ALSO A TIMBER TRESTLE BRIDGE



Railway Timber Trestle Bridge, Panther Place



Railway Timber Trestle Bridge, Panther Place Black & White - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992

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## Location

PANTHER PLACE ELTHAM, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO145

## 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 c1901-02 railway timber trestle bridge and the surrounding site to a radius of 100 metres.

### How is it significant?

The bridge is historically and technically significant to the Shire of Nillumbik.

### Why is it significant?

The railway bridge is historically and technically significant because timber trestle bridges are very rare around Melbourne; this bridge is particularly significant because of its large size (Criteria B & F). The bridge is also significant because at a physical level, its construction linked Eltham to Melbourne's city centre and ended Eltham's relative isolation by bringing a steady flow of tourists, artists and suburban commuters to the district (Criterion A).

### BICK STUDY, 1992

The construction of the railway to Eltham in 1902 (extended to Hurstbridge in 1912) had one of the greatest impacts of any social change on Eltham Township, as well as on Hurstbridge and country areas of the Shire. Eltham's isolation was greatly lessened and the railway brought tourists, artists and suburban commuters, particularly after the Second World War. As the most substantial structure of this railway line in the Shire, this timber trestle bridge exemplifies the line's historic and social significance. Timber trestle bridges are very rare around Melbourne and the Eltham example also has engineering importance on account of its size.

DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE:REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

EXTENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: ENTIRE TIMBER TRESTLE BRIDGE, ABUTMENTS TO 150 METRES FROM EACH END OF THE TRESTLE BRIDGE AND SITES TO A RADIUS OF 100 METRES.

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

Construction dates 1901,

Other Names PANTHER PLACE, ELTHAM,

Hermes Number 104395

Property Number

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## Historical Australian Themes

TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT

TRANSPORT

3.8.5 Moving goods and people on land

3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways

4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## Physical Description 1

Construction is in timber log section posts forming trestles which carry timber beams supporting the tracks. The end posts to each trestle are battered and diagonal braces tie them together.

The extent of replacement is unknown, but it is reasonable to assume that there has been much new timber installed during the bridge's 90 year life.

## Usage/Former Usage

Original and Continuing Use: Railway line bridge over Diamond Creek

*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/>*