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# THE PERIWINKLE HOUSE ORIGINAL SECTION, 54 BATMAN ROAD, ELTHAM



Periwinkle House 54 Batman Rd Colour 1 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



23 - Periwinkle House 54 Batman Rd - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



23 - Periwinkle House 54 Batman Rd\_02 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992



23 - Periwinkle House 54 Batman Rd\_03 - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study 1992

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## Location

54 BATMAN ROAD ELTHAM, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO11

## Heritage Listing

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 5, 2010

REVISED STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONTEXT, 2010

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

The 1948 curved house and the surrounding site to the title boundaries.

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

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

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

The house is historically significant as one of the first buildings to be constructed to the north of the Eltham township and one of the first mud brick buildings constructed in Eltham after the Council's acceptance of mud brick as a building material (Criteria A & B). The modest size of the house is characteristic of homes constructed in Eltham immediately after World War II (Criteria A & D). The building is architecturally and historically significant as a work by the prominent 'Eltham-style' architect, Alistair Knox and for its connections to the local builder Horrie Judd and Sonia Skipper (the daughter of the novelist Mervyn Skipper) (Criterion H). The Periwinkle house is architecturally and technically significant because it contains a number of particularly innovative features - it was the first time that Knox had employed a curved wall and was one of the first curved post-war houses to be erected in Melbourne, it was also one of the first houses to feature a concrete slab floor. The techniques employed during the construction of the Periwinkle House went on to have an important influence on the development of Eltham's distinctive residential character (Criteria A, E & F).

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

Construction dates 1948, 1970,

Architect/Designer Knox, Alistair,

Hermes Number 55226

Property Number

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## Historical Australian Themes

DISTINCTIVE ELTHAM BUILDING STYLES

PROMINENT RESIDENTS - ALISTAIR KNOX

SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

3.14.2 Using Australian materials in construction

4.1.2 Making suburbs

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 Later Use: Residence

## **Physical Description 1**

Original Section

Style 1950s modern.

Design unique.

Plan part circular.

Single storeyed.

Walls single skin solid mud brick.

Roof lean-to with eaves, originally gravel topped bitumen sheet over timber board lining.

Features are the curved shape, lean-to roofs and the otherwise simple detailing.

*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/>*