

# Eltham District Historical Society

Incorporated No. A0016285F

Local History Centre

728 Main Road (PO Box 137) Eltham Victoria 3095 Australia

Email: [edhs1@bigpond.com](mailto:edhs1@bigpond.com)

Website: [www.elthamhistory.org.au](http://www.elthamhistory.org.au)



*The township of Eltham's Justice precinct of the 1860's  
Home of the Eltham District Historical Society since 1998*

## The Old Eltham Courthouse

The Eltham Courthouse is the oldest public building in Eltham and is one of the most prominent historical sites in our area

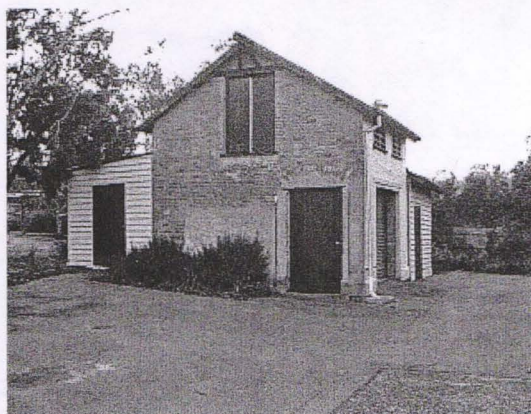
- It was built in 1860 at a cost of £536 (\$1072)
- It is listed on the National Trust Register
- It is one of only six known country courthouses constructed using small handmade bricks
- It was established as a Court of Petty Sessions, with a rostered calendar of visits by a Magistrate to deal with licenses, permits and electoral roll matters
- Other offences were also dealt with at the court by local 'on call' Justices of the Peace (JPs). These included vagrancy, drunkenness, street offences, minor assaults and breaches of local By-Laws and Regulations
- More serious offences would receive a preliminary hearing at the Courthouse, with the 'offender' then transported in a horse-drawn carriage to the Melbourne Goal
- Over the years it has been used for a variety of purposes – as a Court, a school (1875), a polling station, an office of the Eltham Roads Board (1860s) and for the Public Works Department of Victoria
- Today, it is a local historical asset that is used for various community purposes



## Policeman's Residence and Office



Policeman's residence and office from 1860



Police horse stables from 1860

The portable lockup replaces the original bluestone cellblock

*Printed by courtesy of Vicki Ward MP, State Member for Eltham*



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# The Old Eltham Courthouse

The Eltham Courthouse is the oldest public building in Eltham and is one of the most prominent historical sites in our area

### Some interesting facts about the Eltham Courthouse:

- It was built in 1860 at a cost of £536
- It is one of only two remaining buildings of this design in Victoria
- It is listed on the National Trust Register
- It is one of only six known country courthouses constructed using small bricks, which for this building were hand made
- It was established as a Court of Petty Sessions, with a rostered calendar of visits by a Magistrate to deal with licenses, permits and electoral roll matters
- Other misdemeanours were also dealt with at the court by local 'on call' Justices of the Peace (JPs) These included vagrancy, drunkenness, street offences, minor assaults and breaches of local By-Laws and Regulations.
- More serious offences would receive a preliminary hearing at the Courthouse, with the 'offender' then transported in a horse-drawn carriage to the Melbourne Goal
- Over the years it has been used for a variety of purposes – as a Court, a school (1875), a polling station, an office of the Eltham Roads Board (1860s) and for the Public Works Department of Victoria
- Today, it is a local historic asset that is used for various community purposes and during 2005 received improvements to the external landscaping area in a joint initiative between the State Government and Nillumbik Shire Council





## Some Interesting Facts about the **THE OLD ELTHAM COURTHOUSE**

**The building you are currently sitting in is the oldest public building in Eltham and is one of the most prominent historical sites in our area.**

**Here are some other interesting facts about the Old Eltham Courthouse:**

- + Was built in 1860 at a cost of £536**
- + It is one of only two remaining buildings of this design in Victoria**
- + Is currently listed on the National Trust Register**
- + Each brick used in its construction was hand-made**
- + One of only six known country court houses constructed using small brick**
- + Was established as a Court of Petty Sessions, with a rostered calendar of visits by a Magistrate to deal with licenses, permits and electoral roll matters of the area**
- + Other misdemeanours were also dealt with at the court by local 'on call' Justices of the Peace (JP's). These included vagrancy, drunkenness, street offences, minor assaults and breaches of local By-Laws and Regulations**
- + More serious offences would receive a preliminary hearing at the Courthouse, with the 'offender' then transported in a horse-drawn vehicle to Melbourne Gaol**
- + Over the years, has been used for a variety of purposes – as a Court, a school (1875), a polling station, an office for the Road Board (1860's) and for the Public Works Department of Victoria**
- + Today, is a local historic asset that is used for community purposes. Has recently received improvements to the external landscaping area in a joint initiative between the State Government and Nillumbik Shire Council**

2005



## COURT HOUSE - 730 Main Road Eltham

A Court of Petty Sessions was established in Eltham in 1858 and the present building dates from 1850. It is the oldest public building remaining in Eltham. In its early days the building was used as a meeting place and office of the Eltham District Road Board and as an overflow classroom for the local school.

This building and the former police residence beside it were constructed as a result of a petition by five Eltham residents in 1857. The nearest police were at Heidelberg eight miles away, or at the Caledonia Diggings twenty-one miles away. After the construction of the Court of Petty Sessions at Eltham in 1859-60 it was used for a variety of purposes.

In 1857 five Eltham residents petitioned the licensing magistrates of Heidelberg district.

They pointed out that Eltham had two hotels, a population of about 1000 and many strangers employed on the public roads.

The Court House has been classified by the National Trust. The citation states that it is an example of the simple form of early brick Court House with gabled roof and porch.

According to National Trust records, the Eltham Court House is a relatively rare building type.

There are only six other known examples of similar small brick country court houses in the State which have small projecting entry porches and a gabled form.

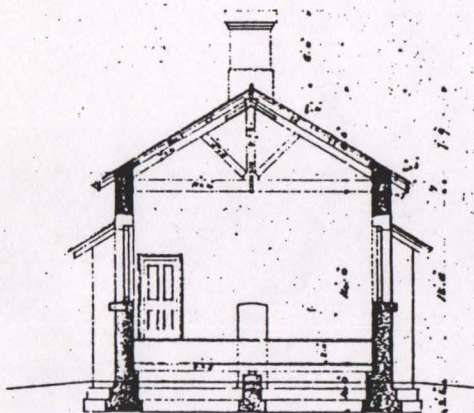
The front is ..... and the side walls are of handmade bricks.

The roof and porch are covered with brown slate tiles and the windows at the side are twelve-paned with decorative fan-like brickwork above.

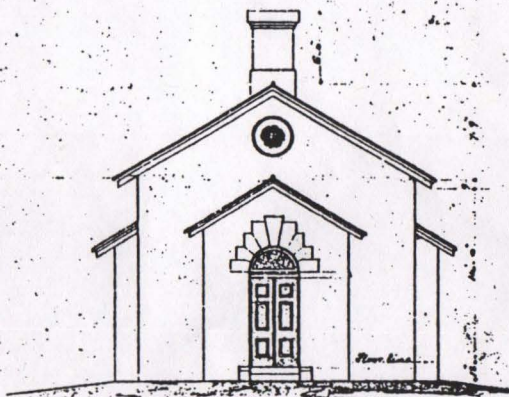
Most of the carved wooden and upholstered furniture is original. (*Harry tells me that recent work at the Court House has included returning the furniture to the original settings*).



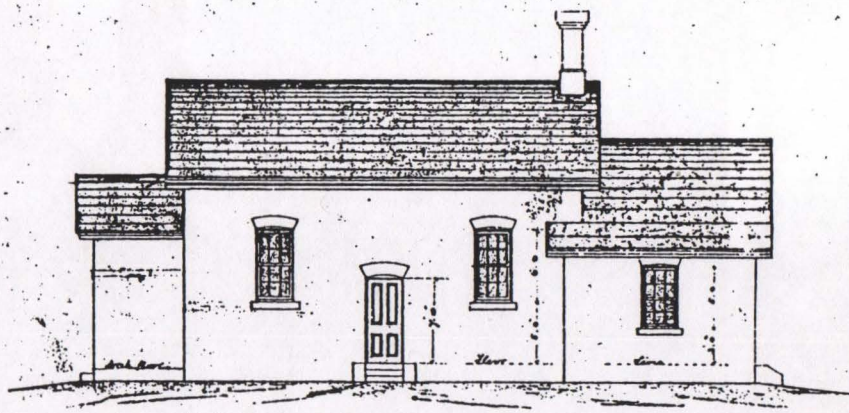
EIGHTH SCALE



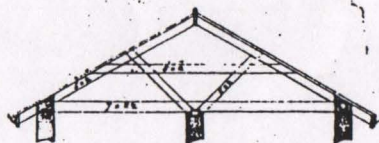
CROSS SECTION.



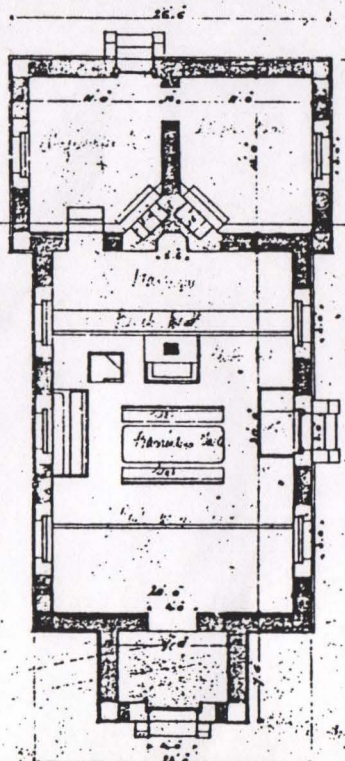
FRONT ELEVATION.



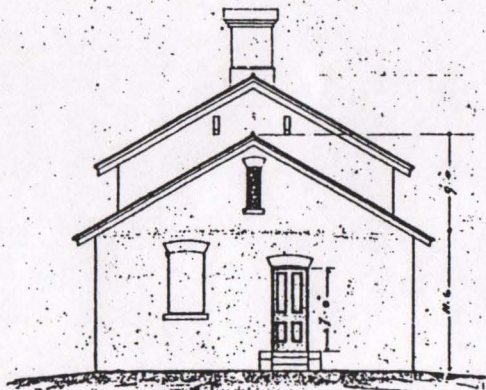
SIDE ELEVATION.



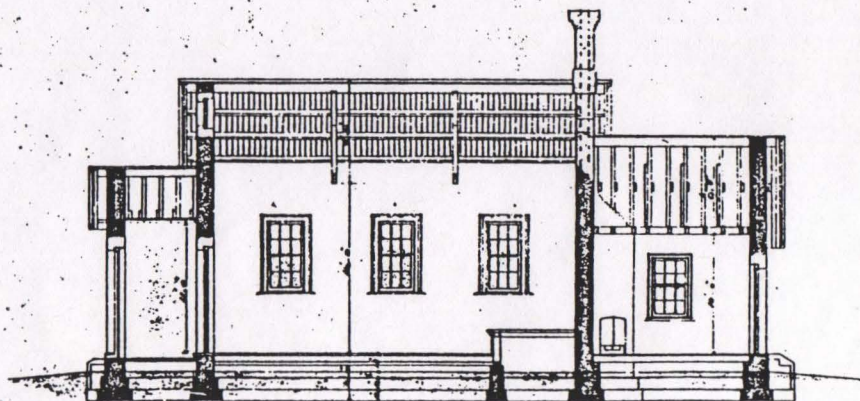
SECTION BACK  
ROOF



PLAN.



BACK ELEVATION.



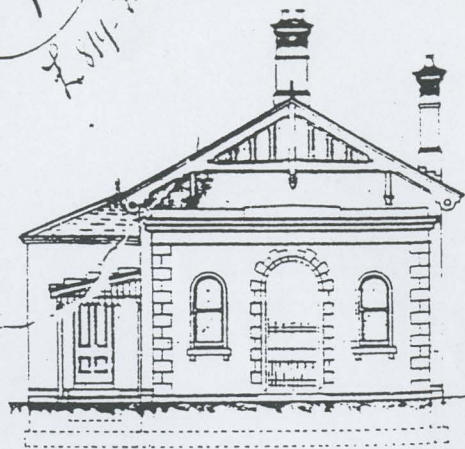
LONGITUDINAL SECTION.



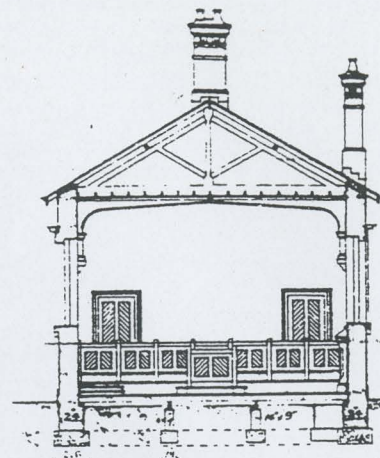
# COURT HOUSE BRUNSWICK

## ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS

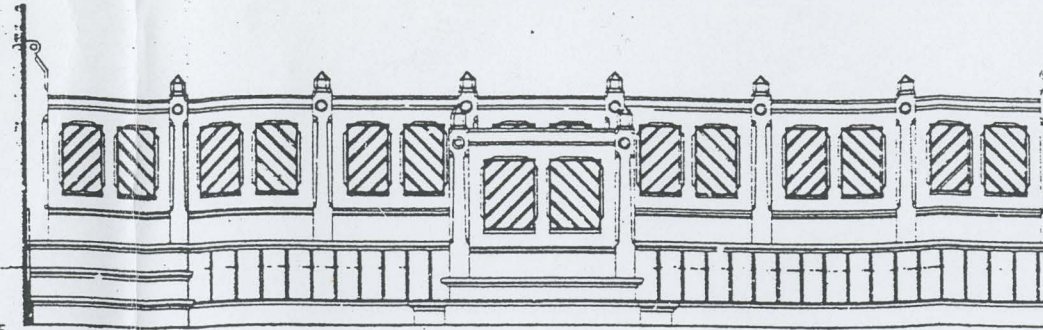
SCALE FOR BUILDINGS 8 FEET TO ONE INCH  
FOR FITTINGS 1/2 INCH TO ONE FOOT



FRONT ELEVATION

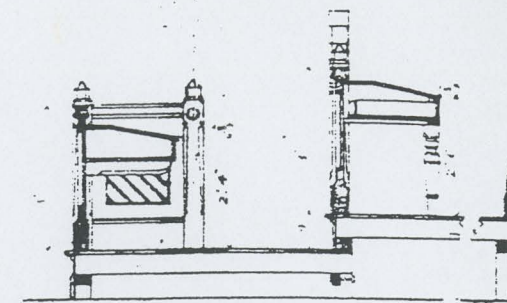


SECTION ON LINE A B



ELEVATION OF BENCH & DESK

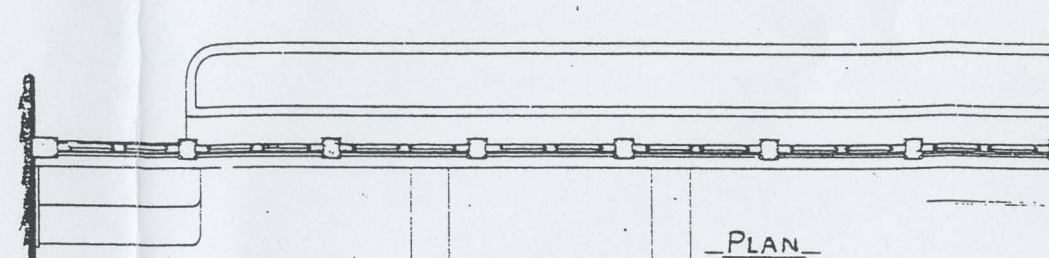
BENCH & CLERK'S DESK



SECTION THRO' BENCH & CLERK'S DESK

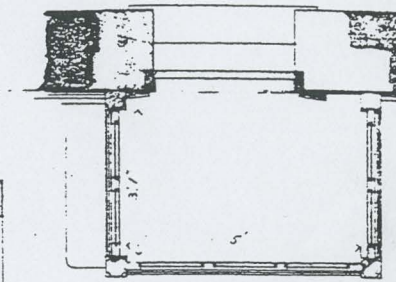


SIDE ELEVATION

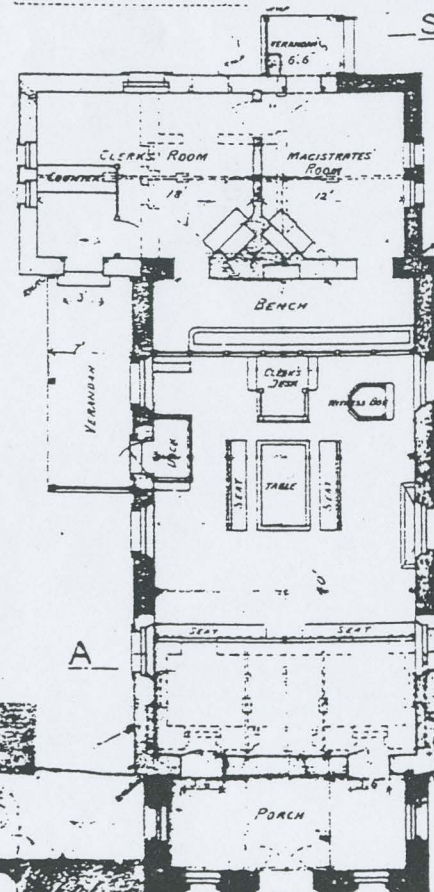


PLAN

SCALE 1/2 INCH TO ONE FOOT



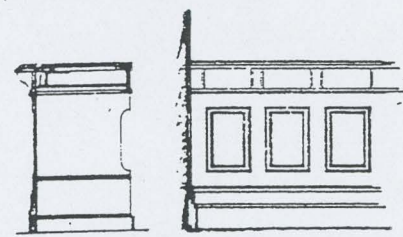
PLAN



PLAN

SCALE 8 FEET TO ONE INCH

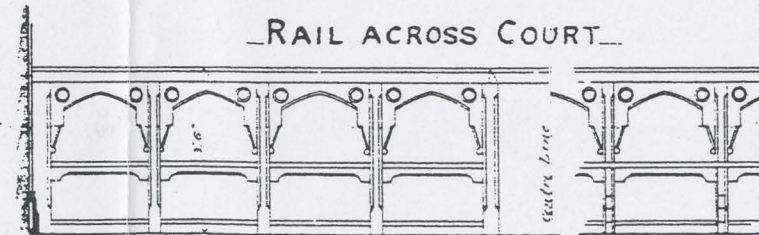
NOTE. INDIAN INK TINT SHOWS OLD WORK  
Dotted yellow Lines show present work to be removed



SECTION PART ELEVATION

COUNTER

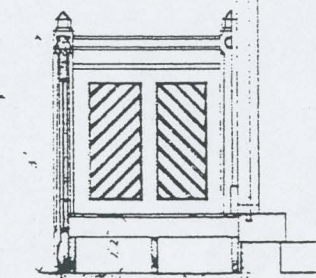
SCALE 1/2 INCH TO ONE FOOT



RAIL ACROSS COURT

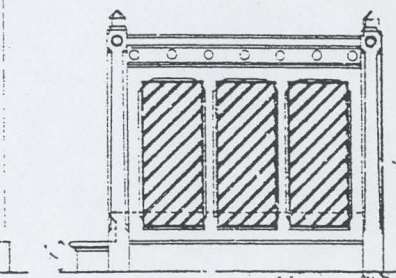
HALF EXTERNAL ELEVATION

PART EXTERNAL ELEVATION SECTION

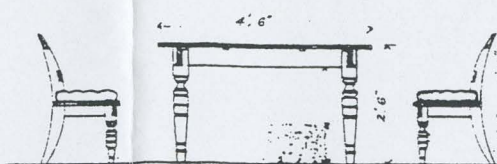


SECTION

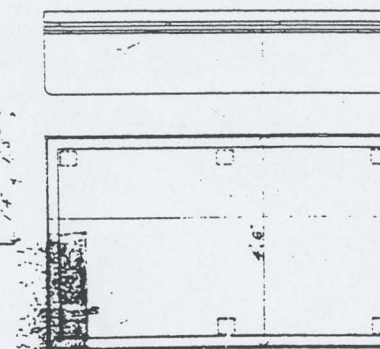
DOCK



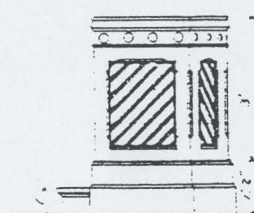
ELEVATION



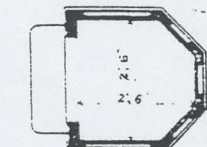
SECTION OF SEATS & TABLE



PLAN



ELEVATION

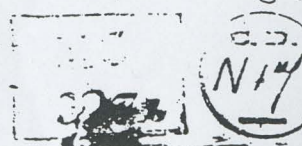


PLAN

WITNESS BOX

26/1/99  
M.O.P.

Planned by Court.



1880s

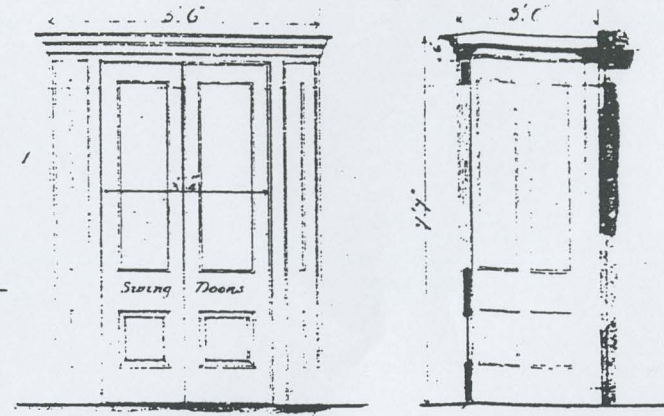


# COURT HOUSE MAFFRA

FITTING 8c

SCALE 2 FEET TO ONE INCH

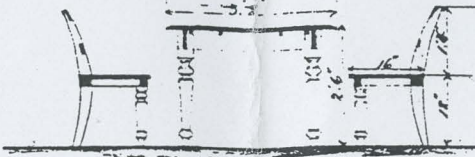
SCREEN AT ENTRANCE



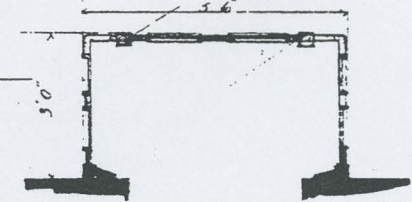
ELEVATION

SECTION

BARRISTERS TABLE AND SEATS



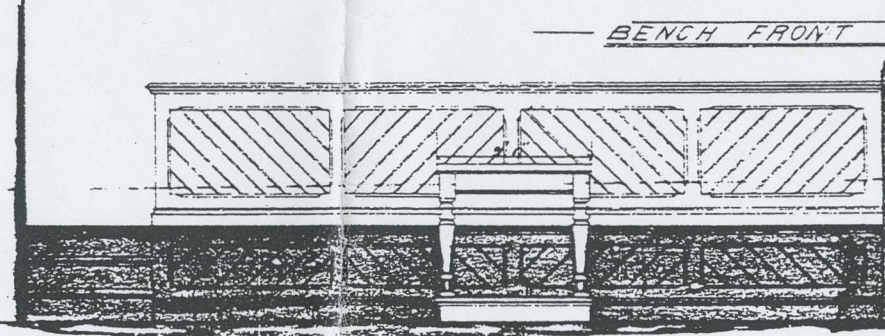
SECTION



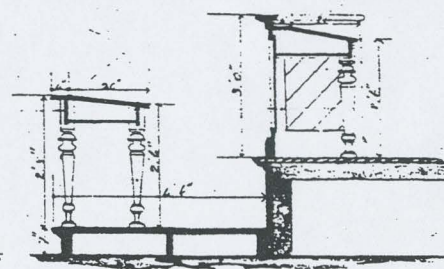
PLAN

CORNICE TO SCREEN  
1/4 FULL SIZE

BENCH FRONT AND DESK

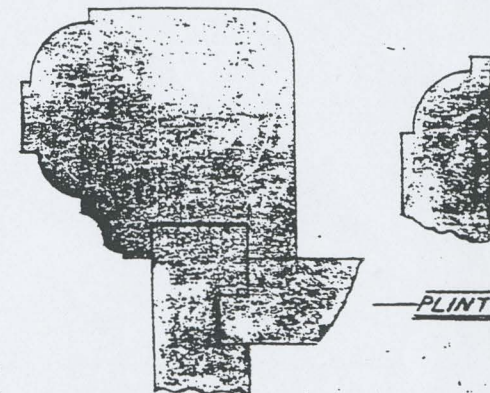


ELEVATION



SECTION

DETAILS OF BENCH FULL SIZE



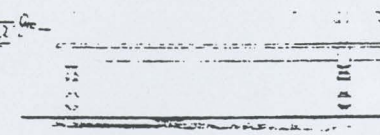
PLINTH

CAPPING

22/6

SEAT TO FORM BARRIER

12'0"



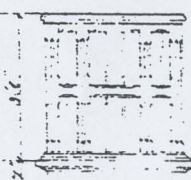
FULL SIZE

PART ELEVATION

SECTION

WITNESS BOX

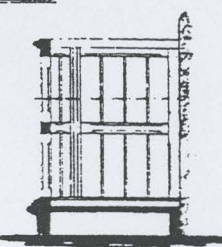
PRISONERS DOCK



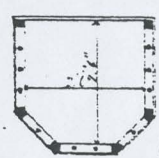
ELEVATION



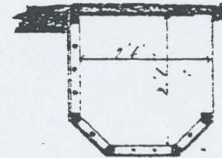
ELEVATION



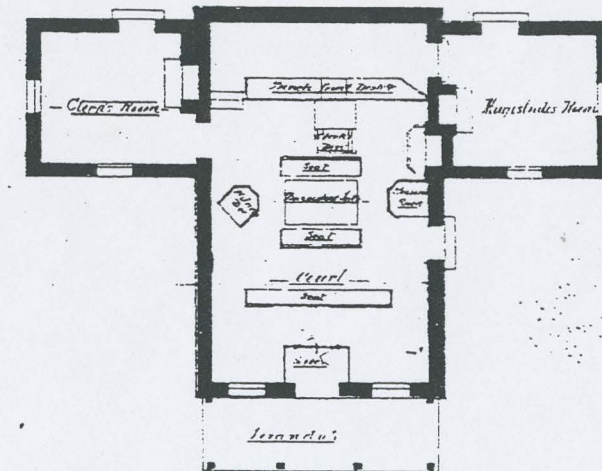
SECTION



PLAN

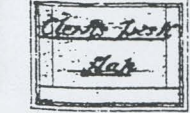


PLAN



PLAN

THIS IS ON THE DRAWINGS REFERRED TO IN MY  
CONTRACT ENTERED INTO THIS DAY FOR ARCHT  
WORKS  
MELBOURNE 19th Nov 1887  
WITNESS *[Signature]*



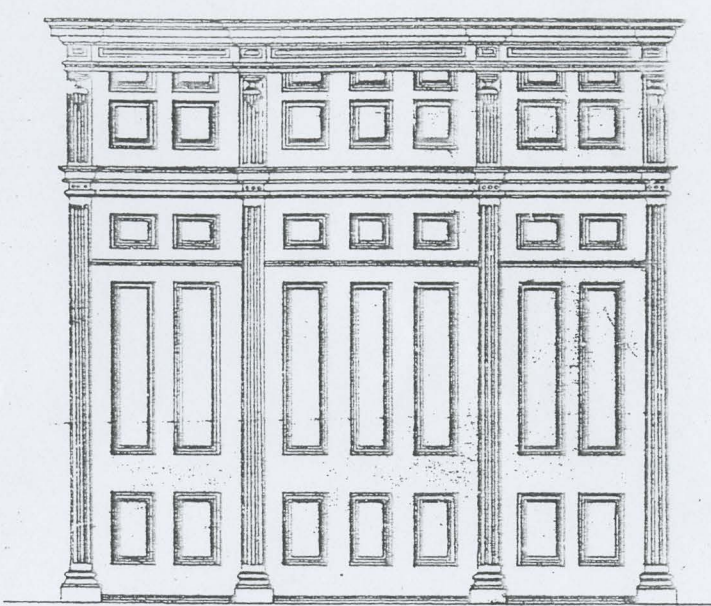
PLAN

12.11.87  
12.11.87  
12.11.87

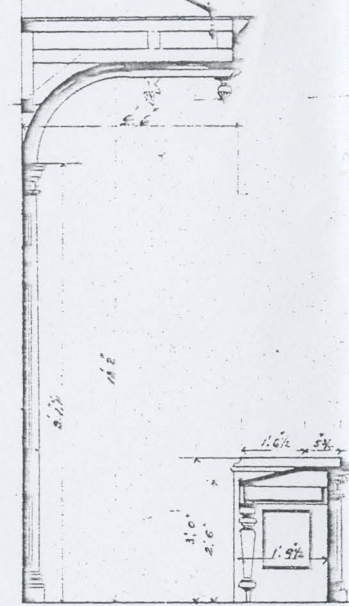


DUNOLLY

FITTINGS



ELEVATION OF CANOPY



SECTION OF CANOPY

ELEVATION OF END OF CANOPY

ELEVATION OF COUNTER IN CLERK'S ROOM.

SECTION.

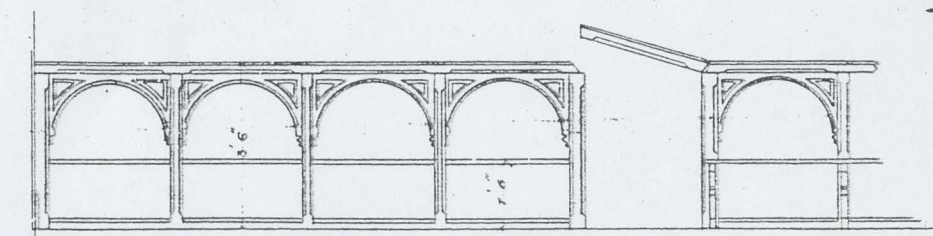
ELEVATION OF SCREEN CLERK'S ROOM.

DETAIL OF CORNICE TO BENCH & CAPPING TO PLASTER.

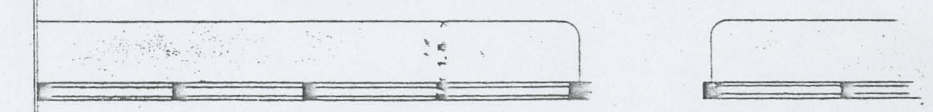
Scale for Details 1/4 FULL SIZE

DETAIL OF CAPPING TO CLERK'S DESK.

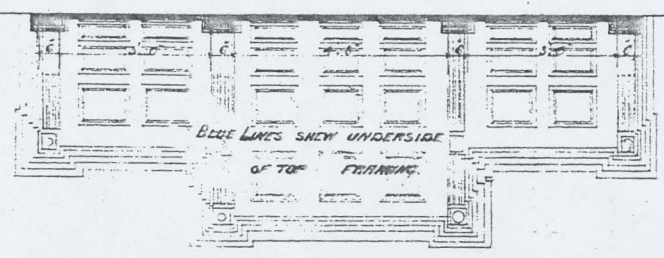
DETAIL OF PLINTH TO ALL FRAMING.



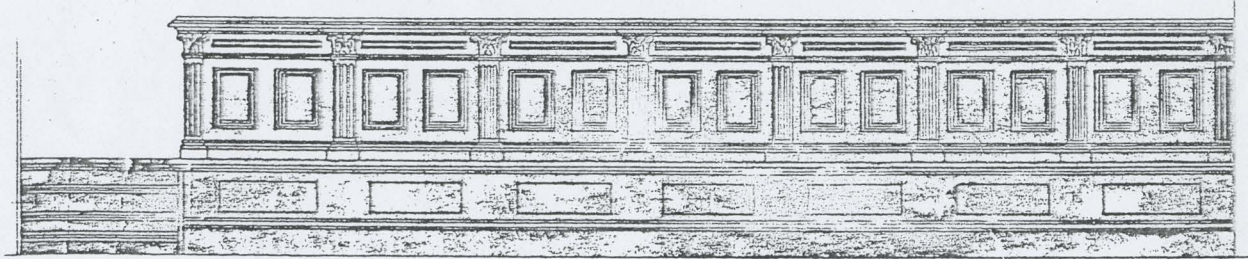
ELEVATION OF RAIL ACROSS COURT



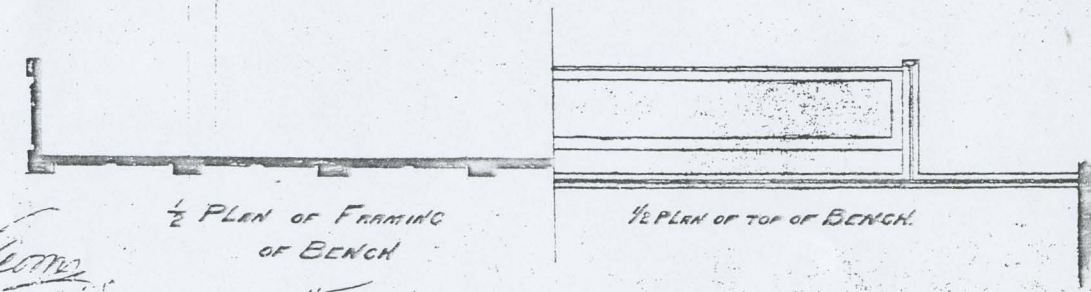
PLAN OF RAIL ACROSS COURT



PLAN OF FRAMING OF CANOPY.



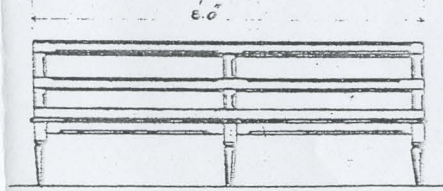
ELEVATION OF BENCH



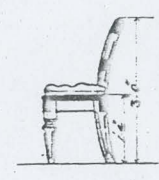
1/2 PLAN OF FRAMING OF BENCH

1/2 PLAN OF TOP OF BENCH.

REPORTERS' SEATS

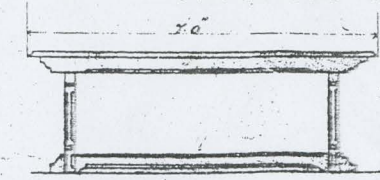


ELEVATION

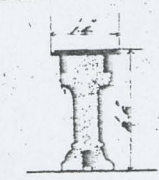


SECTION

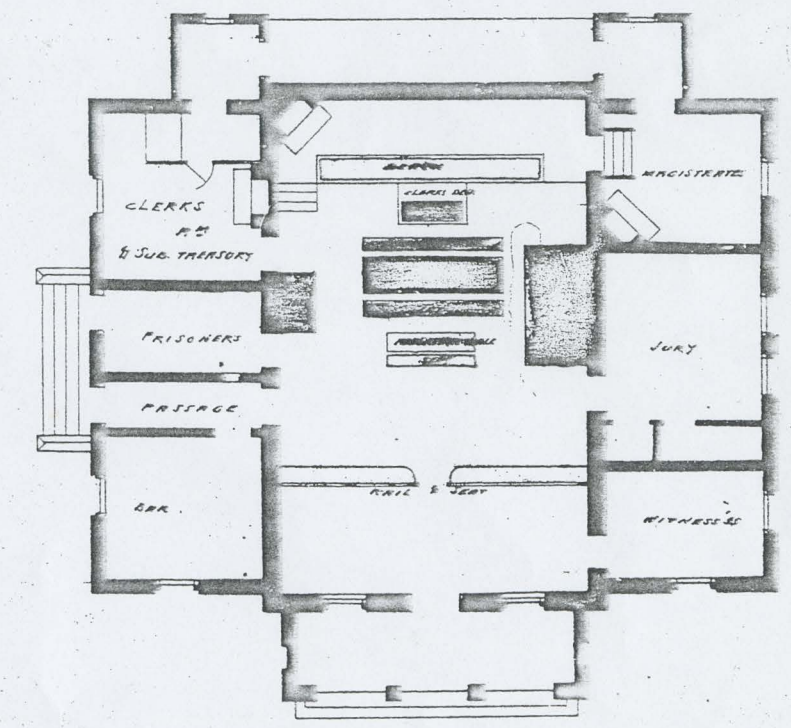
REPORTERS' TABLE



ELEVATION



SECTION



PLAN.

Wm. H. ...

Wm. H. ...

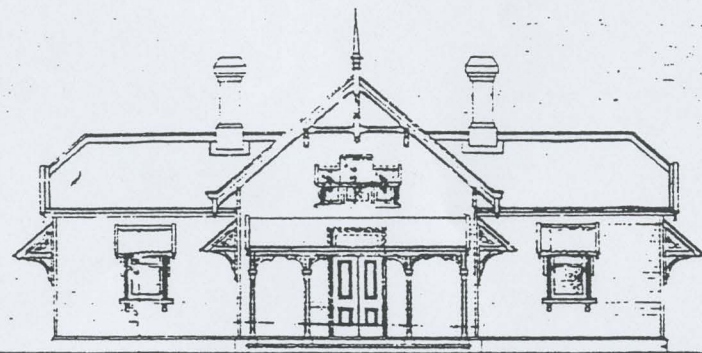
16-06-85

Dunolly

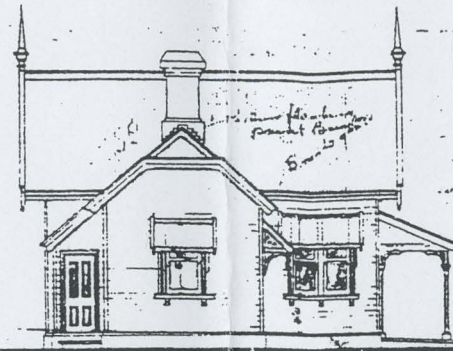
7.3.  
1880S



# COURT HOUSE SUNBURY



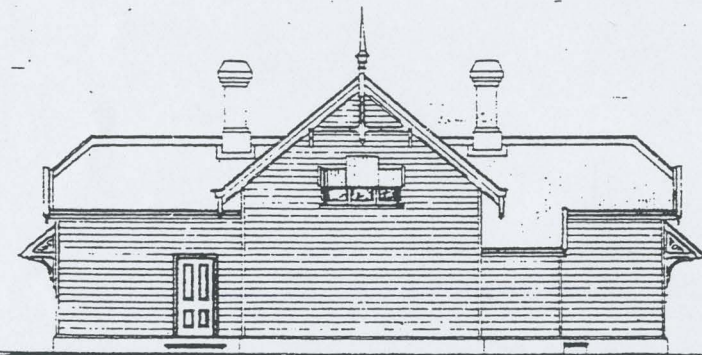
FRONT ELEVATION



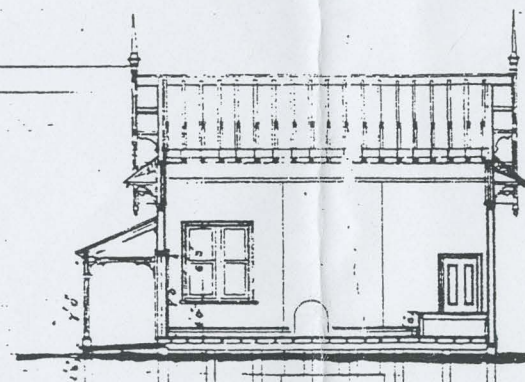
SIDE ELEVATION



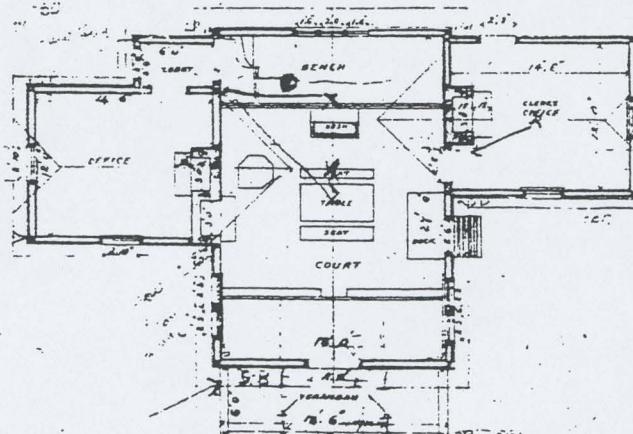
SIDE ELEVATION



BACK ELEVATION

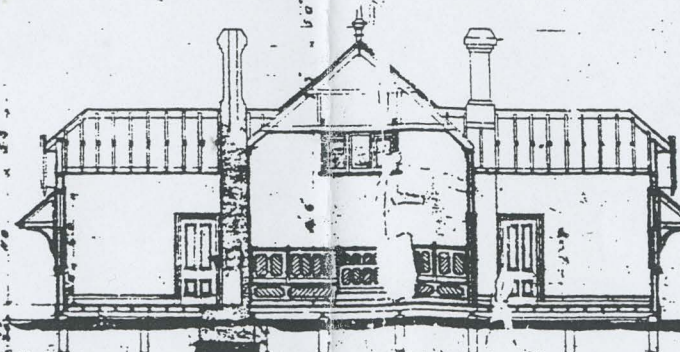


LONGITUDINAL SECTION



PLAN

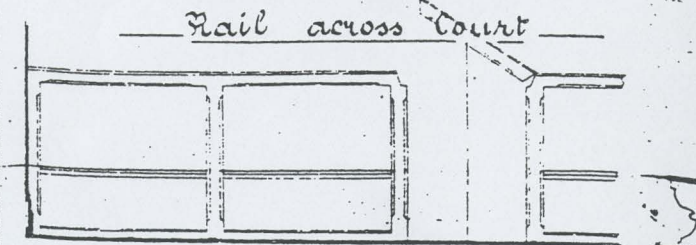
SCALE 8 FEET TO ONE INCH



TRANSVERSE SECTION

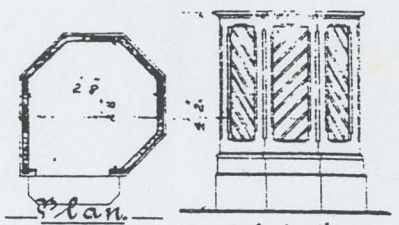
## Fittings

Rail across Court



Part Elevation

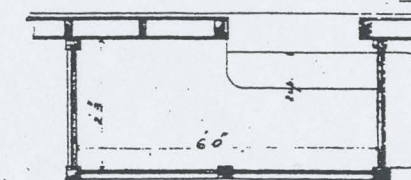
Witness Box



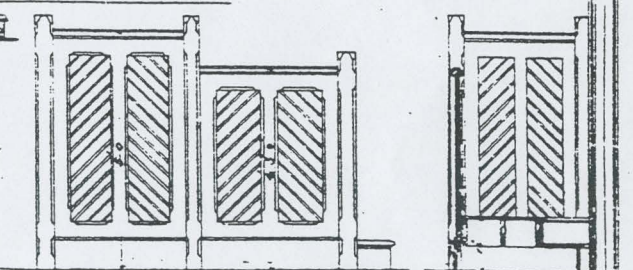
Plan

Elevation

## Prisoner's Dock



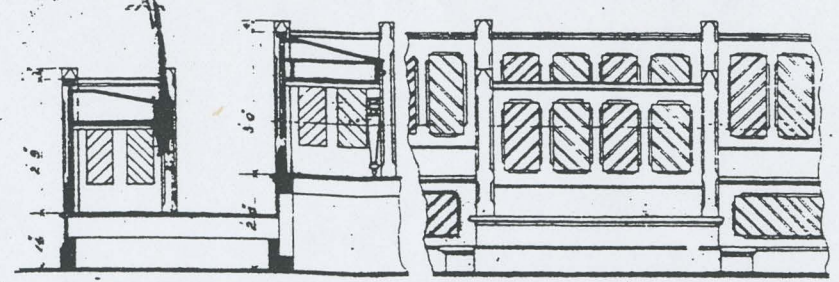
Plan



Elevation

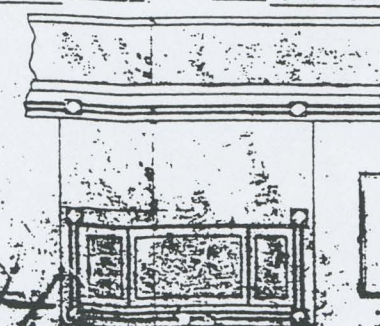
Section

## Bench and Clerk's Desk



Section

Part Elevation



CC  
343

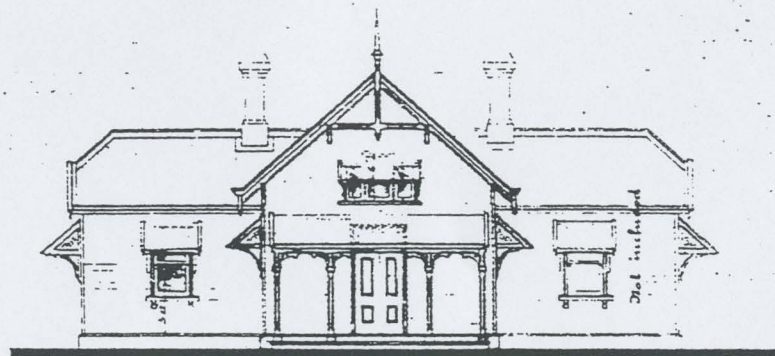
Y200  
1880s

to one inch

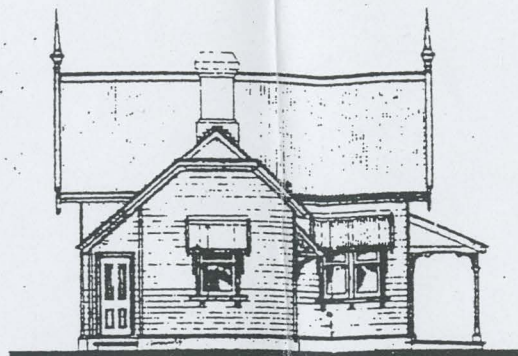


# New Court House—Landsborough—

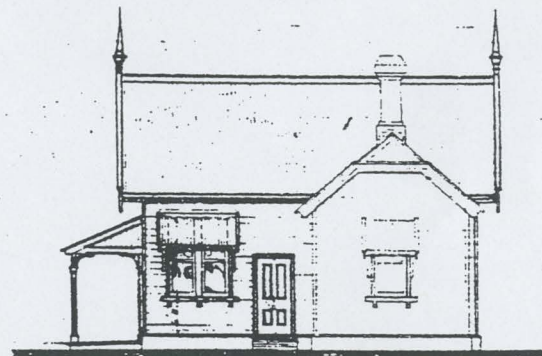
*Note.* The portion of building which is not coloured is not to be included in the present contract



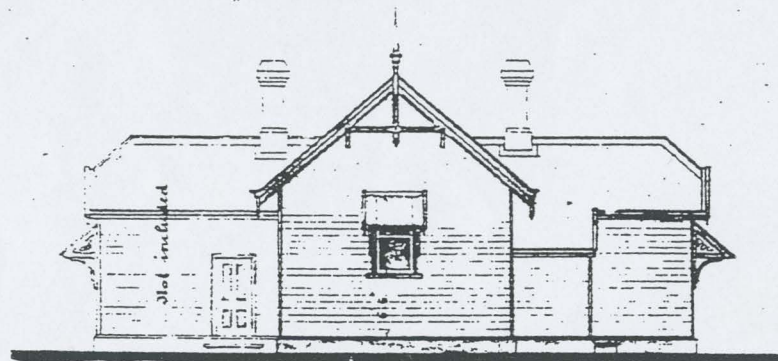
Front Elevation



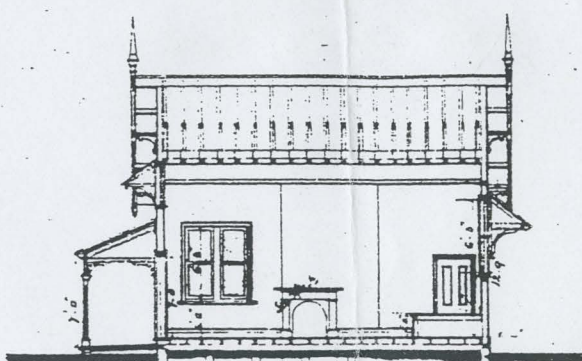
Side Elevation



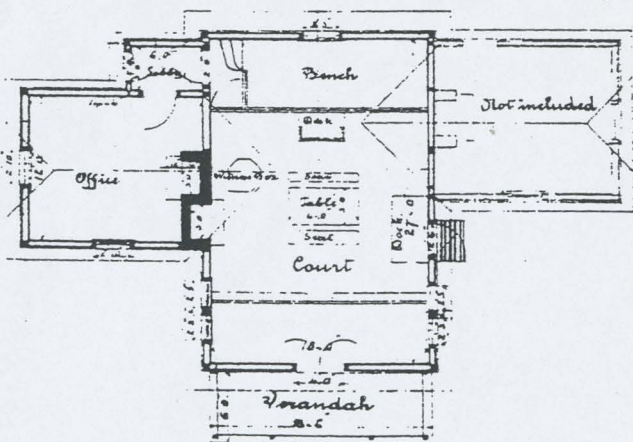
Side Elevation



Back Elevation

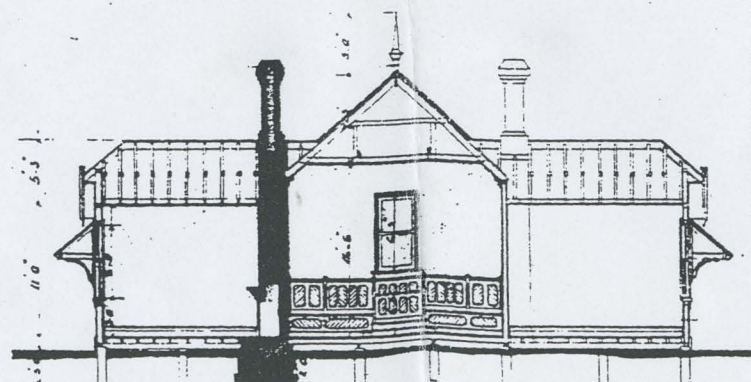


Longitudinal Section



Plan

Scale 8 feet to one inch

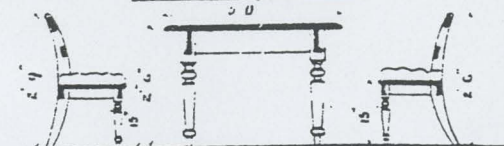


Transverse Section

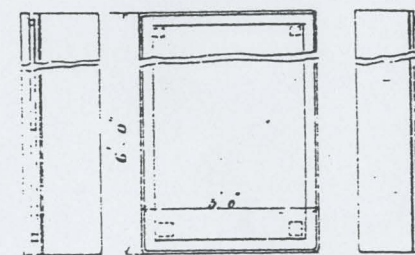
Drawing No. 1

Fittings

Table & Seats

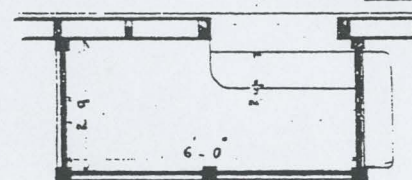


Section

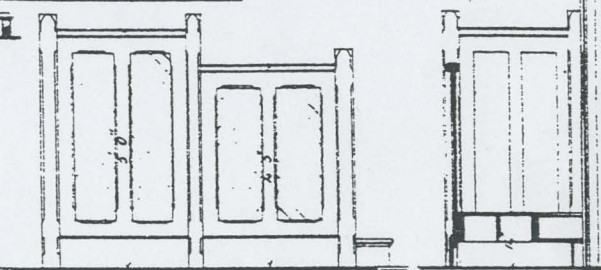


Plan

Prisoner's Dock



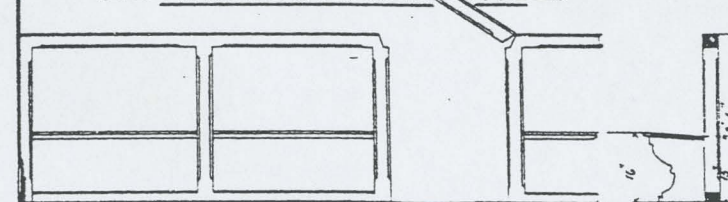
Plan



Elevation

Section

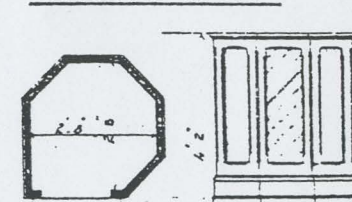
Rail across Court



Part Elevation

Section

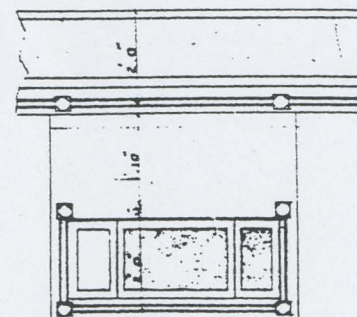
Witness Box



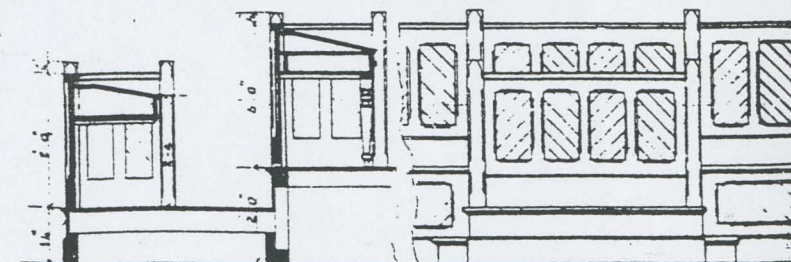
Plan

Elevation

Bench and Clerk's Desk



Part Plan



Section

Part Elevation

Scale 2 feet to one inch

A 159

A 160

2

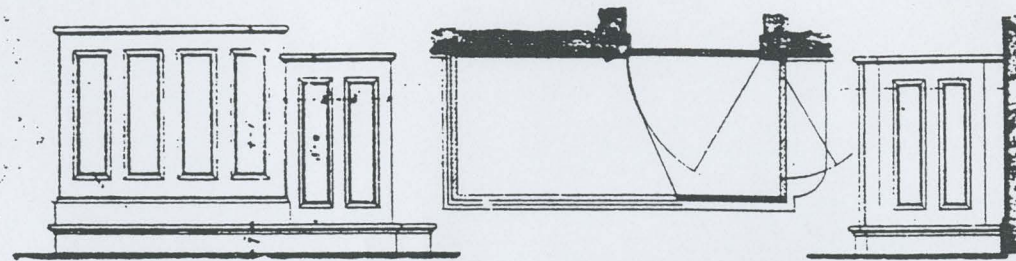
*Landsborough*

1880S

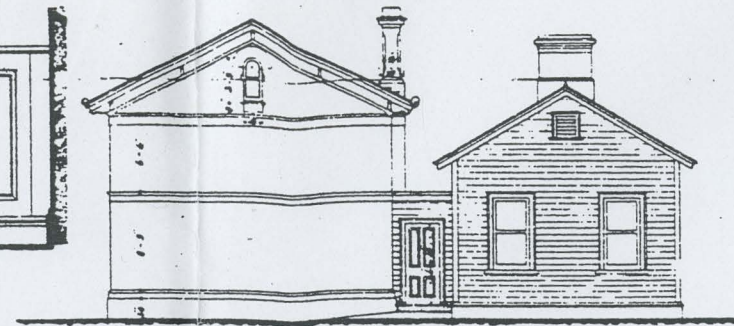


# COURT HOUSE WODONGA

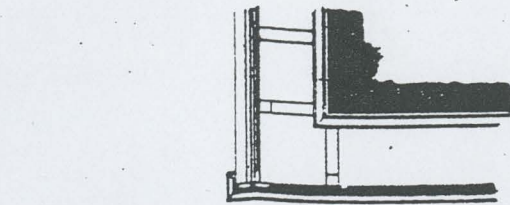
SCALE 8 FEET TO ONE INCH  
DETAILS 2 FEET TO ONE INCH



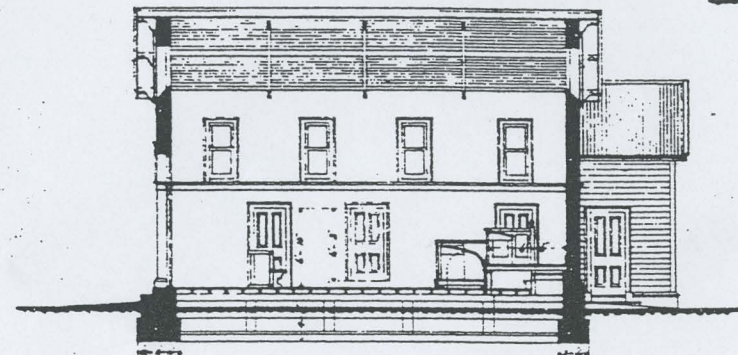
PLAN & ELEVATIONS of Dock



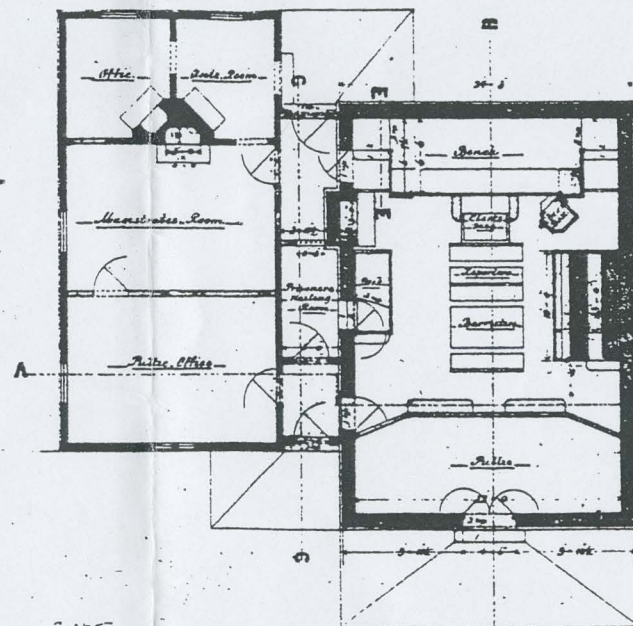
BACK ELEVATION



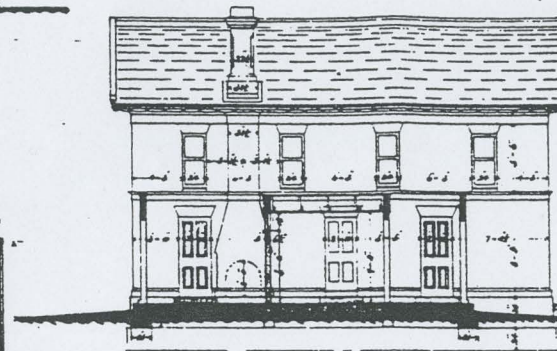
SECTIONS ELEVATIONS & PLAN of Eaves and Gables



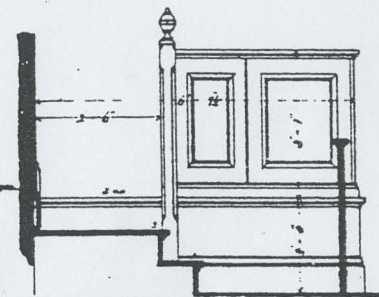
SECTION ON LINE BB



PLAN

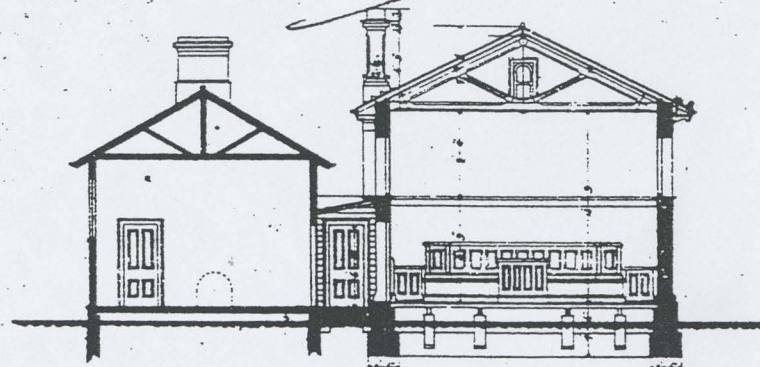


SECTION ON LINE CC

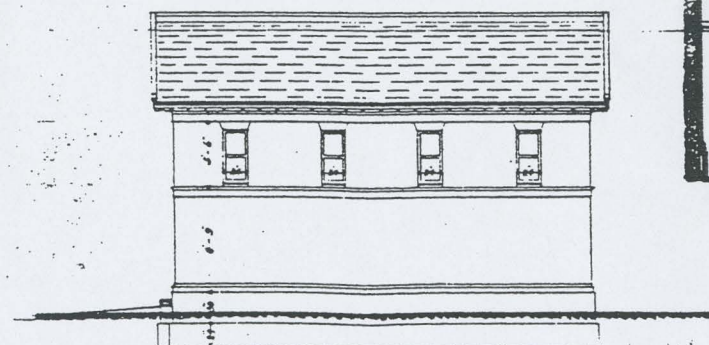


PART ELEVATIONS & SECTION ON LINE DD

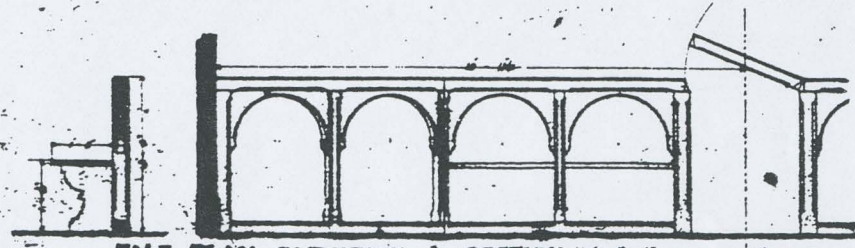
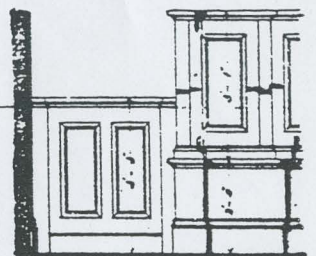
See the Plan etc  
1920



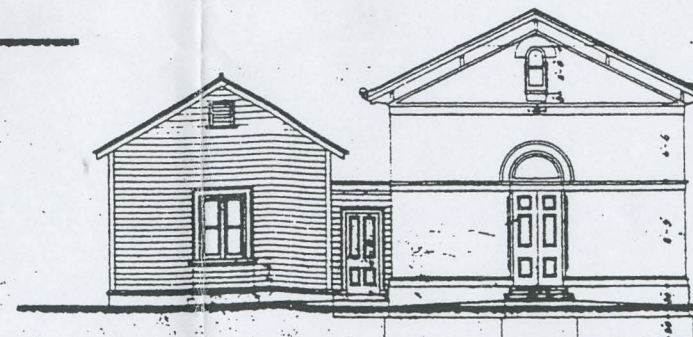
SECTION ON LINE AA



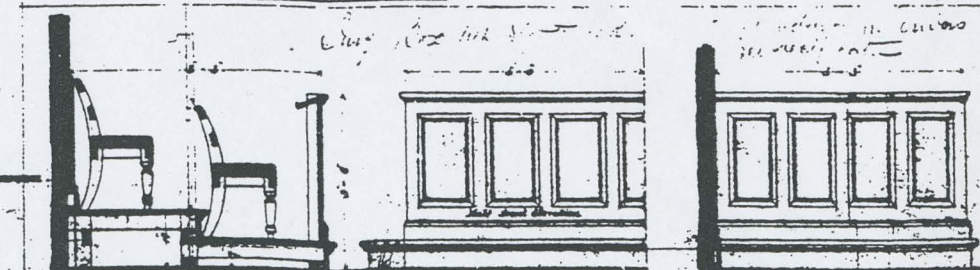
SIDE ELEVATION



HALF PLAN ELEVATION & SECTION of Rail across Court



FRONT ELEVATION



ELEVATIONS & SECTION of Court House

CC  
4165

C.D.  
N307

WODONGA

1880s



ELTHAM POLICE COURT.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD MARCH 1892

(Before Mr. Hare, P.M., and Messrs. Wingrove and Ellis, J'st.)

Senior-Constable Dungey v. Wm. Crellin.—Stealing a saddle, value £2. Mr. B. Mills appeared for the defence.

Senior-Constable Dungey deposed that on the 15th inst., from information received, he interviewed defendant, who said he had taken the saddle off a race-horse and handed it to John Lyons on the day of Eltham races, just before the auction sale. Defendant said he asked who owned the saddle and Lyons claimed it.

Cross-examined—It was after the Selling Race. It is usual to take the saddle off before the sale.

A. L. Armstrong, market gardener, deposed that he remembered the 30th January. His horse won the Selling Race. Borrowed a saddle from Kent for the race. The saddle was on when the horse came in from the race. After the race he missed his saddle and could not find it. Cross-examined—Don't think the boy would steal it.

John Kent deposed that on the 30th January at Eltham races he lent Armstrong a saddle borrowed from Delany; had not seen it since.

John Delany deposed that on the 30th January at the races he lent Kent a racing saddle, value £5.

Constable T. Flint deposed that on the 30th January he remembered Rattler winning; saw the horse sold; heard someone calling out to take the saddle off; saw defendant taking the saddle off; had not seen saddle since.

Cross-examined.—Had heard that saddle was handed to Lyons, who was worse for liquor.

John Lyons deposed that on the 30th January at the Eltham races he remembered Rattler winning); was standing close to the stewards' room with a saddle on his arm; spoke to several persons. Did not receive any saddle from defendant. Was the worse for liquor. Did not see defendant take the saddle off the horse. Heard of the loss soon after the race. Was asked by Armstrong if he had seen it, and said no.

Cross examined—Did not get the boy a martingale and say the saddle was his. Will not swear the boy did not hand the saddle to me.

For the defence Mrs. Crellin stated: Remember 30th January. Saw John Lyons after Selling Race with a saddle on his arm close by where the horse was sold.

Thomas Hope Fairy deposed that on the day after races he heard Lyons say that he was looking for a saddle that was mislaid; Lyons went to look for the saddle on the racecourse.

Wm. Crellin, defendant, deposed that he heard some one sing out to take the saddle off; heard Lyons say the saddle was his, and Lyons took it; Lyons was standing; Lyons was very drunk.

Case dismissed.



# BREAKING A PUBLICAN'S LEG.

DICE, DRINK, AND OATS.

A COSTLY PASTIME.

At the Eltham Police Court on Tuesday last, before Mr. O'Meara, P.M., and Messrs. Bell, Duncan, and Wingrove, J's.P., John Dingwell Sellars proceeded against John Williams, woodcarter, of Eltham, for unlawfully assaulting him on the 6th March last.

Mr. Brayshay appeared on behalf of complainant, and Mr. Woolf Fink on behalf of the defendant.

Mr. Brayshay, in stating the case, said that on the 6th of March last, between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, defendant was at the Councillors' Arms Hotel at Watson's Creek, then kept by the complainant. Three gentlemen also were there at the same time, named Henderson, Hill, and Love. After they had had one or two drinks defendant asked Sellars if he could give him some oats, and Sellars replied no, as he had only enough for himself. Williams then said ——— (the exact words used are too disgusting to print), and struck Sellars in the face and knocked him down, and on Sellars getting up he was again knocked down by Williams, who even tried to drag him under his horses' feet, kicked him and broke one of Sellars' legs, owing to which his client had been laid up for seven or eight weeks, and even was not well yet, as there would always be a deformity. He would call evidence to prove his case, and the Bench would find that a very brutal assault had been committed.

All witnesses were ordered out of court.

The complainant (on oath) said his name was John Dingwell Sellars, gentleman, of 21 Clarke Street, Melbourne. On the 6th of March last he was an hotelkeeper keeping the Councillors' Arms Hotel, Watson's Creek. On that date about 7 o'clock in the evening defendant came to his place. Messrs. Henderson, Hill, and Love were there also. When leaving defendant asked for some oats, and he replied he had only enough for himself. Defendant then used bad language and walked towards his team, and as he kept on swearing he went over to pacify him, but defendant then assaulted him; threw him down and kicked him. Hill pulled Williams off him, and Henderson asked him (Sellars) to get up, but he replied he could not as his ankle was out or his leg broken. He was then carried inside. He went that night to a doctor at Christmas Hills and was told his leg was broken. He was seven weeks under the doctor, and paid him 12 guineas (receipt produced). He did not provoke Williams.

In cross-examination complainant admitted that Williams had called previously repeatedly at the hotel, but would not have that he was an old acquaintance. He could not tell why Williams had treated him so. They were shaking dice, but they only had one round. Williams first asked for them. He did not keep dice in the bar; the dice in question belonged to a ludo board. The fight occurred about 7.30 p.m. He could not tell exactly how many drinks he had had before the accident occurred, perhaps five or six. Had positively never said that "if Williams comes into the bar and shouts for one or two I will let the matter drop." He had been drunk on occasions. Remembered capsizing his cart some six months before, and losing his lamp, but was not the worse for liquor on the night Williams

didn't kick Sellars of. He didn't k  
"I would have l  
Mr. Brayshay  
not being aware  
kick Sellars?  
Williams.—N  
The Bench  
consider the evi  
Police Magistra  
but that an assa  
would fine def  
imprisonment;  
default distress  
pay in.

CLAIM

Sellars v. Wi  
in connection w  
Mr. Brayshay  
would be the sa  
case, the solici  
with him to sim  
the damages, v  
over again.  
Mr. Fink said  
to point out t  
brought it all  
encouraging g  
premises.  
The Bench s  
2s, and allowed  
Execution sta



ren stand a ro  
knock the whole  
brick. That is  
the health when  
their proper fun  
trouble all along  
out of order, is t  
the stomach. It  
matter, and bec  
else, it gets in  
carries it all ove  
sluggishness, las  
taste in the mow  
gas and causes w  
tion in the stor  
heartburn and fla  
and blotches an  
headaches. Nin  
ments are due to  
cause. Dr. Mor  
constipation. T  
do not sicken, do  
Dr. Morse's Indi  
healthy stomach  
liver; they put a  
and give you b  
red. Dr. Morse'  
stood the test o  
weighed in the  
wanting.

July 13  
1900

2/2





✓

**ELTHAM  
COURT OF PETTY SESSIONS.**

**TUESDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY.**

1901

(Before T. Smallman, Esq., P.M.,  
and Messrs. O. S. Wingrove, Wm.  
Duncan, and J. Bell, J's.P.)

Constable Galvin, of Greensborough, proceeded against Peter Doyle and Daniel Berrigan, two young men employed on the railway works at Greensborough, for the larceny of two bottles of beer from Mr. Poulter's Hotel at Greensborough on the 5th inst.

The prisoners, who were arrested on warrant, pleaded not guilty, and were defended by Mr. Ridgeway, and Constable Galvin prosecuted.

After a lengthy hearing, they were both found guilty and fined 20s, in default 7 days' imprisonment, with 13s costs, which was paid.

A second charge was preferred against Berrigan by Constable Galvin of assaulting one Edwin Gilding at Poulter's Hotel, Greensborough, on the 5th inst.

Mr. Ridgeway appeared for the defence, and prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Edwin Gilding, a young man residing at Greensborough, gave evidence to the effect that on the date in question he was in the bar of Poulter's Hotel when prisoner with a few of his companions came into the bar and began to tantalize him for leaving the railway work before knocking-off time on one very warm afternoon some days previously and finished up by striking him a severe blow on the right eye, after which a general scuffle ensued.

Prisoner said in defence that if he struck complainant he had no recollection of it, as he had taken some drink.

Mr. Smallman cautioned the prisoner severely and fined him £3, with 14-6d costs, in default 3 weeks' imprisonment, and told him that if he or any other of the Greensborough rowdies came before him again that probably their case would be met by imprisonment without the option of a fine.

The fine and costs were paid.

Constable Maher proceeded against William Morris, hotelkeeper, Eltham, for neglecting to cause his child to be vaccinated. He pleaded guilty, and stated in mitigation of the offence that he was not opposed to having the child vaccinated, but his wife was totally against vaccination. Defendant was fined 20s, in default distress.

Constable Maher proceeded against



observed from Decem-  
27. Seconded by Mr.

W. Cracknell that the  
start on the 11th  
by Mr. Glennon and

Cracknell that last season's  
alteration of dates  
clubs, and the addi-  
professional players, be  
by Mr. Plunkett and

will be commenced on  
when the following  
day:—

Kinglake, at Christmas

Edgna, at Panton Hill,  
by.

Ground v. Christmas  
at Kangaroo Ground  
afternoon.

#### THE EVELYN OBSERVER.

Season will soon be in  
to make one or two  
interested in the game,  
grounds, and general  
clubs could be greatly

this district to treat  
light refreshments,  
frayed by members of  
contribute one shilling  
has always appeared  
necessary inasmuch as,  
Kinglake C. C., the  
are no great distance  
of the travelling team  
dinner before they

club plays matches at  
aturdays during the  
have paid 10s apiece,  
and above membership  
now for it.

ishments be abolished  
a team coming a con-  
and feel sure that  
ills—at the same rate  
ugh the season, with  
wickets, ground, or  
erials. For instance,  
ers who live at some  
being unable to get  
n they could often  
r home; and for the  
three cheap practice  
e purchased.

believe the ladies show  
grand old game by  
v. Clubs so supported

of retrenchment and  
of in thinking that  
ought to a much more  
would be a marked  
play all round with  
ter wickets, and the  
economic lines than

reaching so much on  
and thanking you in

L. O. WIELDER.

No. 334 of The Illus-  
Chapwick High Road,  
contains a description  
of Deafness and Head  
carried out at the  
which is said to be  
a member will be sent free  
giving their address to

## ANNIE CHASES A TINKER.

### AND STABS A CONSTABLE WITH A HAT PIN.

On the evening of the 23rd ult., about 9 o'clock, the Eltham residents were startled by the wild and ear-piercing shrieks of a female coming from the direction of the creek, opposite the Shire Secretary's house. A number of the residents, thinking something serious had happened, hurried out to ascertain the cause, and amongst them was Constable Maher, who learned that the person who was giving vent to terrifying shrieks was a young married woman named Annie Ehlers, who for two days previously had occupied a hollow log on the bank of the creek at Eltham in company with a travelling tinker. This individual stated that the woman accompanied him from South Melbourne on the understanding that they were to travel together through the country; but unfortunately on that day they both indulged in too much of the strong ale of Eltham and that had quite upset Annie's nerves, and as the log accommodation was rather limited, and the tinker wanted more than his share, a quarrel ensued, with the result that Annie pursued the tinker for his life, threatening to do all sorts of desperate things. He informed Constable Maher she had a large knife and he was afraid to go near her. The constable cautiously approached her in the darkness and pinioned both arms to her side, but in doing so received a sharp stab in the thigh, which he naturally thought was the knife. After much difficulty the hand was opened, which tightly clasped a huge hat pin. At this stage Annie again threw herself on the ground and exercised her powerful leather lungs to the fullest extent. A wheelbarrow was at length procured, Annie's legs tied with a pocket-handkerchief, and she was placed in the barrow for removal to the lockup, but unfortunately the wrong way about, as was afterwards seen. The journey to the lockup had only just proceeded, with Jarrold Brothers supporting Annie's head and arms, and Constable Maher between the shafts, when with one powerful and well-directed kick, which would have done credit to Thurgood, the Essendon goal-kicker, she landed the constable into the middle of the roadway. However, Mr. Jarrold, with his kind and genial manner, which is much appreciated by the ladies, succeeded in enticing the young lady to accompany him to Government lodgings, which she readily did. She appeared next day before Mr. Wingrove, J.P., for disorderly conduct, and on promising that gentleman that her sweet voice would be heard no more at Eltham, she was allowed to return to Melbourne with a caution.

The Templestowe Council will meet to transact business on Monday afternoon next.

would mention was that of Mr. Col-  
liver of Tatura, who in April last  
from 30 cows received 180 quarts of  
milk a day; while another gentleman  
in the same district from 15 cows  
received 200 quarts per day. The  
latter had 120 acres of his farm under  
lucerne, his average from 36 cows  
being a return of £10 13s 4d per cow  
for the year. He sowed his lucerne at  
the rate of 7 lbs of seed per acre, broad-  
cast; he cut the first crop and fed it  
to his cows, then irrigation was used,  
and after a time grazed. He also had  
a small area under sorghum, which  
grew to a height of about 9 feet.  
Another farmer, Mr. Lockwood, has  
80 acres of land under lucerne, irriga-  
tion being again used, and from which  
in six months ending in April last  
he took as a return for milk the sum  
of £3 per acre. Another, Mr. Curtis,  
has 12 cows, from which in the middle  
of summer he was taking 18 gallons of  
milk daily, and from whom he took  
over £11 per head per annum. Yet  
another farmer, Mr. Hastings, 33 cows  
for 400 quarts per day; but his fodder  
failed, and yet despite the fact that he  
had several fresh cows, newly calved,  
his supply fell 160 quarts per day; his  
loss for the year through feed giving  
out he estimated at not less than £100.  
The cause of Mr. Hastings fodder  
giving out was owing to land he had  
put in with sorghum becoming flooded  
the crop was a failure. Mr. Hobson,  
another dairyman, makes farming pay  
by lucerne grown with the aid of irri-  
gation, his cows being in full profit all  
through the summer and every cow fat  
and in condition fit for the butcher.  
If we go further north to Kerang, we  
find many instances of dairy farming  
carried on successfully despite the  
adverse season by the aid of irrigation.  
Mr. Bott, of Kerang, kept 40 cows for  
three months by means of sorghum  
grown on land irrigated by pumping  
water on to the land. When Mr Bott  
started feeding with sorghum his milk  
in two days increased to 67 gallons per  
day from 37 gallons he was getting  
prior to starting to feed. Mr. Murphy,  
of Kerang, also went in for growing  
sorghum, and sowing it in December  
he cut the first time in March, the  
crop being then 10 feet high; the crop  
was again watered, the result being a  
second cutting of 6 feet in height. Mr  
Murphy believes that one acre, pro-  
perly attended, of sorghum would keep  
and feed two cows for six months.  
There are many others who might be  
mentioned, the sure thing being that  
with proper care and attention dairy-  
ing is one of the surest industries in  
the State. Mr Crowe also mentioned  
the gain obtained by intense culture,  
giving several instances in proof in the  
vicinity of Adelaide, where three  
cuttings of sorghum per annum are  
estimated to yield 60 and 70 tons of  
feed per acre per annum, the seed to  
the acre being about 12 lbs. This, in  
their hot climate, is watered every ten  
days. Barley and rye is also grown,  
being ready to cut in ten weeks from  
the time it is sown. By intense cul-

the supply was exported while  
was a surplus. Mr W. Thom-  
what surprised him was th  
Church, a representative of pro  
should object to pay a high p  
butter. (Laughter.) Mr Bail  
posed a vote of thanks to Mr  
for his very instructive and  
address. He also was like Mr C  
although living in the north  
he objected to the high price of  
Mr Church seconded the motio  
had only had time to rear a  
while those present grew the at  
which he had to pay high price  
Glassford: "Keep on." (Loud  
ter.) A voice: "Ask the inter  
general to explain." (Laughter.  
Church: "No doubt the farmers  
like me to keep on, but I have  
now to make room for them.  
Edwards supported the motio  
considered the dairying indust  
salvation of the State. The  
was enthusiastically carried.  
Crowe, in reply, thanked them  
intended visiting Mr Gaffy, of  
roopna, who the previous mo  
taken £50 14s 2d for his milk.  
was no doubt that the dairying  
try would well repay anyone to  
into. The conference then adj  
to the following day.

## MISS SUTHERLAND'S W

On Sunday evening, 28th ins  
residents of Panton Hill were  
favoured with a visit from Sister  
the able representative and assist  
Miss Sutherland in her noble  
praiseworthy efforts of rescuing  
dren from wretchedness and a  
transferring them to homes of co  
where they are trained to lives of  
fulness.

The meeting was held in the  
school. The Chairman (Mr. M  
in a few appropriate remarks  
duced Sister Mary, who kept  
audience interested by a vivid de-  
tion of her work and travels thr  
out the entire length and bread  
the state. A more Christ-like  
it is difficult to conceive, and  
gratifying to know that it has  
and still is eminently successful.  
new Home recently purchased is  
handsome building, situated in  
Royal Park. A large amount of  
purchase money has already been  
and there is every prospect of it  
free of debt at no very distant  
Sister Mary interspersed her st  
address with several solos, beaut  
rendered, and Mrs. Sullivan k  
presided at the organ.

The collection amounted to £1  
ld.

The benediction being pronou  
brought the meeting to a close.

In addition to the amount st  
above Sister Mary received pri  
subscriptions amounting to 5s, ma  
the Panton Hill total £1 16s 1d.



each district.  
ordination between the Na-  
Insurance Fund and the admin-  
wealth Invalid  
sion, Maternity Al-  
and Pensions.  
system of labor, bureaus  
recommended be utilised  
urpose of certification of un-  
nt in connection with exem-  
n contribution.  
ject of the Government in  
the Commission was to col-  
regarding National Insur-  
ating in other countries and  
it to devise means in Aus-  
making provision for casual  
permanent invalidity, old  
unemployment.

## HODIST CHURCH.

arterly meeting of the Yan-  
cuit was held at Mernda,  
W. H. Taylor presided. It  
ted that there were 74 adult  
and 18 juniors, and in spite  
removals there were 13 more  
than three years ago. Suc-  
arvest efforts were made in  
ces, but most of the money  
retained for trust purposes  
as a considerable deficiency  
accounts. Arrangements  
ue for the visit of Sister  
s Home Mission deputation  
15 The resignation of Mr.  
suprintendent of the  
unday school was ac-  
with regret, and thanks were  
d for his services. Mr. Fred.  
as appointed as acting super-  
nt. Mr. Greenwood, circuit  
reported that the confer-  
d not accede to the request to  
e a Home Mission station, and  
Allsop, from Beaufort, had  
pointed and a hearty welcome  
ended to him. Mr. R. S. Knox  
nated half an acre of land to  
as a tennis court at Mernda,  
was sincerely thanked for his  
efore the meeting terminated  
Greenwood and Barton re-  
to the departure of their minis-  
d greatly regretted that ill-  
had caused him to ask for a  
rest, and expressed the hope  
speedy recovery. To this Mr.  
replied suitably, and asked for  
prayerful support for his succes-

from Saturday's social will be devoted  
to the hall floor funds.

## ELTHAM POLICE COURT

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1927.

(Before Messrs Smithers, Wraight,  
and Price, J's.P.).

A firm was sued for rates by the  
Eltham shire, but the amount having  
been paid the case was struck out.

John Griffiths, of Montmorency,  
was fined 5/, or 12 hours, for not  
sending his child to school.

**Damaging with Intent to Steal.**

Frank Thomas Hill, of 51 Elgin  
street, Carlton, was charged by Const.  
W. G. Purser with damaging with in-  
tent to steal vegetables to the value  
of £2, the property of Robert Ness,  
of Kangaroo Ground.

Robert Ness, in giving evidence,  
said he saw two men on his property.  
One he did not know, but the other  
he identified as defendant, who was  
carrying a pumpkin. There were two  
heaps of pumpkins in readiness to be  
taken away. The pumpkin plants were  
much damaged.

Defendant, in giving evidence, swore  
that he met a stranger on the road to  
whom he gave a lift in his motor car,  
and was taken by him into a pad-  
dock and given a pumpkin. He was  
carrying the pumpkin to his car when  
intercepted by Ness, who demanded  
an explanation as to why he was  
stealing pumpkins.

Under cross-examination defend-  
ant said he did not know the man to whom  
he had given a ride, nor did he  
ask his name, although he was threat-  
ened with a prosecution.

Hill was convicted and sentenced  
to 14 days imprisonment, the sentence  
to be suspended for six months on  
payment of £3 3/ to cover damages  
and costs.

Members of the bench were very  
strong in their remarks about the way  
both orchardists and farmers were  
robbed by people travelling in motor  
cars, and expressed themselves as be-  
ing determined to make examples of  
any mean pilferers who might be  
brought before them and convicted.  
In fact, one member said that for the  
future he would vote for sending to  
goal without the option of a fine any  
person convicted of robbing farmers  
and orchardists.

**PRINTING** of all descriptions at  
"Advertiser" office.

to visit the district and his many  
friends again. "For they are jolly  
good fellows" was sung and the cheers  
could be heard resounding in the dis-  
t hills. The proceeds from the  
evening are to be forwarded to the  
Melbourne hospital. The management  
wish to thank Miss M. Giddens for  
supplying first-class music free of  
charge, and the many willing helpers  
who did much to bring the evening to  
a successful conclusion.

## WARRANTYTE.

At Easter this pleasure resort was  
well patronised. The most pleasing  
amusement at the Easter Gymkhana  
was the canoe events on the Yarra,  
some 40 members of the Victorian  
Canoe Club taking part. Three prizes  
were given locally as follows:—

440 yards (singles).—Trophy pre-  
sented by Mr. Carroll, Grand Hotel,  
Warrandyte.—C. Tudor 1, W. Fisher  
2, R. Burgin 3; 7 competitors.

440 yards (pairs).—Trophies pre-  
sented by Warrandyte Progress  
League and Mr. J. J. Moore grocer.—  
J. Jackson and W. Conyer's 1, K. Ken-  
nedy and C. Tudor 2; 8 pairs com-  
peted.

440 yards (fours).—Trophies  
by V.A.C.A.—K. Kennedy, B.  
Haines, N. Gilbert, W. Fisher, 1; W.  
Conyers, J. Jackson, H. Edward, F.  
Taylor, 2. There were 5 heats and 20  
competitors. Each event was closely  
contested. One crew upset into the  
river.

Every competitor thoroughly en-  
joyed himself, and likewise the on-  
lookers. On Sunday afternoon a canoe  
carnival was held, when the banks of  
the river was packed with visitors, the  
main feature being a burlesque of  
the arrival of the Duke and Duchess  
to Warrandyte, which was very funny  
and caused roars of laughter. On  
Easter Saturday afternoon the local  
gymkhana was held, when the result  
will be a nice sum of money will be  
divided between the Progress Associa-  
tion, Cricket and Football and Pianola  
clubs. Everything passed off well in  
splendid weather.

The local cricket club was defeated  
last Saturday by Blackburn by 3  
wickets in the final. In the second in-  
nings of Blackburn, who were given

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TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1927.

(Before Mr. Grant, P.M., Smithers, Wraight, Leach, Santon, Middleton, Price, and Bradley, J's.P.)

## Using Obscene Language.

Constable Fitzpatrick proceeded against Joseph Laird, for using obscene language in a public place. Defendant, who pleaded guilty, stated he was a hard-working man living between Eltham and Diamond Creek, and that he had lost everything in the recent fires at Watson's Creek. He was fined 40/-, in default 7 days' imprisonment.

Irene Louise Fields, of Railway Place, Briar Hill, was charged with using obscene language at Railway Place, Briar Hill, on 8th April. She pleaded not guilty. Constable Fitzpatrick prosecuted, and Mr. Clark defended.

Bertrand Thurlow, rubber worker, Briar Hill, deposed that at 8.30 p.m. on Saturday, 9th April, he was sitting in his front room reading the "Herald," and his little daughter 11 years of age was with him, when his daughter complained of the bad language someone was using. He looked out and saw Mrs. Fields walking along and using obscene language (produced). She was using the language frequently. He had no doubt about the language or where it was used.

To Mr. Clark: He lived next door. There was nobody about except the woman's husband. Defendant was under the influence of liquor.

Gertrude Thurlow, wife of the previous witness, deposed that on the 9th April there was a disturbance in Fields' place, and Mrs. Fields came on to the road, calling out her husband's name and using obscene language.

To Mr. Clark: She had no doubt about the defendant being the person who used the language. She had not seen what her husband had written on the paper in reference to the obscene language. They had not compared the papers.

Mr. Clark suggested that the imagination of the two previous witnesses had run away with them, and denied that the words complained of were used.

Frederick Clayton, miner, Greensborough, said that on the 9th April he was talking to Mrs. Fields after tea about 8 o'clock. He was talking about 15 minutes. During that time no bad language was used and defendant was not under the influence of liquor.

Irene Louise Fields, the defendant, said that she never used bad language. She had never spoken to the complainants at any time. She was talking to Clayton between 8 and 8.30, and talked about half-an-hour.

To the Bench: The only reason she could suggest for Thurlow's action

station. He did not ask where they slept the night before. Eltham was 14 miles by rail from Melbourne, and Pantom Hill 11 miles from Eltham.

The Bench said it was quite clear that the men on the premises were not bona fide travellers, and defendant would be convicted and fined £1, with 1/- costs, in default distress.

A case of allowing persons on licensed premises was withdrawn.

In connection with this case, James Barber, Patrick Alder, and William Habel were fined £1, with 1/- costs, for being on licensed premises, and for claiming that they were bona fide travellers they were each fined 40/-. In inflicting the fine the P.M. said that he regarded the claim made by the men that they were bona fide travellers as more serious than the one of being found on licensed premises, as they had led to the licensee being convicted, although he generally found that the licensee was quite willing to be misled.

## Eltham Hotel.

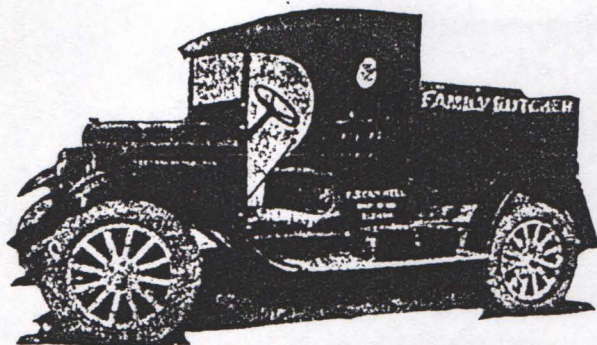
Herbert Watson, licensee of the Eltham Hotel, was charged with allowing men on licensed premises on Sunday, 8th May, whilst Frederick Hooper, and William George Manchester were charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours. The three cases were taken together. Inspector Gardner prosecuted, and Mr. Manchester (one of the defendants), solicitor, appeared for defendants.

Constable Fitzpatrick said that on Sunday, 8th May, he saw Hooper come from the front of the hotel and he noticed his coat was bulging, and he crossed the road to Evelyn House opposite. Witness then went into the hotel, and in a passage opposite the lodgers' cupboard he saw the wife of the licensee with a glass containing a light colored liquor, into which she was pouring soda water. Manchester was standing alongside. Witness asked Mrs. Watson what Manchester was doing there, and Manchester replied that he had come to see about dinner. Mrs. Watson then said that Manchester had come to see about dinner. Witness asked what the drink was for, and Mrs. Watson said it was for her husband, who was not too well. When asked where her husband was, she said he was having a bath. Witness said he had seen a man named Hooper leaving the hotel, and asked what he was doing on the premises. Mrs. Watson said she didn't know. Witness later interviewed Hooper, and asked him what he had gone to the hotel for, and he said, "To see what I could get." Witness said, "Evidently you got something, as you seemed to be carrying something like a bottle." Hooper lived opposite the hotel, while Manchester lived about half a mile away.

Mr. Manchester cross-examined the witness at great length, but his questions became so involved that neither the police, the inspector, nor the



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portation the more the light more can prepared as well desired fact. Th the people will they ties?

## ELTHAM COURT.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7.

Before Messrs. T. B. Wade, P.M., E. C. Leach, H. M. Bradley and E. W. Smithers, J's.P.

Breaches of Education Act.

Samuel Mountford, Greensborough, was proceeded against on two charges of having failed to send his children to school the number of days prescribed by the Education Act.

A fine of 2/- was inflicted in each case.

Unlawful Assault.

Charles Stewart, commercial traveller Clarendon St., South Melbourne, was called upon to answer a charge of having unlawfully assaulted Richard Henry Lawrey, orchardist, Diamond Creek.

Defendant entered a plea of "guilty under provocation."

Richard Henry Lawrey said that he was an orchardist and resided at Diamond Creek. At 5 o'clock on the evening of Easter Sunday, April 8, he was standing near the corner of his brother's orchard at Diamond Creek, looking at the passing traffic. Stewart approached witness and said "Get away," to which he (Lawrey) replied "I am not interfering with you." Witness started to walk across the road when he was suddenly seized by two men, one of whom was defendant. Witness called out "Help," and his nephew went to his assistance and called out "Get away if you can." Witness jumped over a fence into his brother's orchard. Stewart followed. He (Lawrey) dodged, but Stewart struck him several blows. The blows "made the blood run." Witness's nephew went for the police. The next thing Lawrey heard was a voice saying "Let's hop over the fence and get at him again."

Stewart—You say that two men got hold of you?

Lawrey—I am sure there were two men. One was a foreigner.

And what happened next?—I cried out for help.

Did I not tell you that we were not going to interfere with your orchard, or steal your apples?

Something like that was said. You kept mumbling to yourself.

Mr. Wade, P.M.—Don't pass remarks; just ask questions.

Lawrey—When I jumped over the fence into my brother's orchard I was not mumbling to myself. Stewart was the only person who hit me.

Stewart—Did you tell me that the neighbors had you set on account of your selling apples on the roadway?

Lawrey—No.

Did you go to the office of the superintendent of police with a view of "squashing" these proceedings?

Lawrey—Well—

Answer the question—yes or no?

The question was not answered.

Stewart—You said you were prepared to cancel these proceedings. I paid you 10/- expenses and made a contribution to the poor box.

Mr. Wade, P.M. (to Lawrey)—Why did you take such a long time in instituting these proceedings?

Lawrey—I tried to forget

On the something road near men were saw Stew uncle W and return fore dom men were ness adv did so V ged alone Stewart scene at assault.

Lawrey Const spoke to charge of "Yes, I that comp assumed.

Stewart that he friends fr search of direction they tray they had effected way and said that not going orchard attitude Witness self scard (Stewart) only on Submst having st Stewart Mr Wad convicted Anything Submst all, your Const I character.

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THANKS.

MRS. APTE and FAMILY wish to convey their SINCERE THANKS to all friends and relatives for expressions of sympathy and floral tributes in their recent sad bereavement. Will all please accept this as a personal acknowledgement of their deepest gratitude.

Main Street, Eltham.

IN MEMORIAM.

ADLINGTON.—In sacred memory of our dear sister and Aunt Bimmy, who passed peacefully away on May 28, 1928; also Uncle George on May 6, 1923.

Safe in God's Keeping.

—Inserted by their affectionate sister, brother-in-law and nephew, C. S., J. T. and J. L. Selwood.

The Advertiser

Incorporating  
ELTHAM AND WHITTLESEA  
"ADVERTISER"

and  
DIAMOND CREEK VALLEY  
ADVOCATE.

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1929.

Hurstbridge Railway Sub-station

In this issue we publish a most instructive and informative article on the Hurstbridge railway electric sub-station.

Concert at Panton Hill

St. Matthew's Church of England has arranged to hold a concert in the Panton Hill public hall on Friday, June 28, and particulars of the programme and performers will be advertised in a later issue.

A Rude Man

"You're a rude man," said Cr. Nelie Ibbott at Heidelberg council on Tuesday evening, to Cr. Middleton, who talked to a colleague while the lady named was addressing the meeting.

Repairs to Eltham Police Station

Mr. W. H. Everard, M.L.A. has received a letter from the Public Works Department as follows:—"I have the honor to inform you that tenders for fencing and repairs, police station, Eltham, will be invited this week."

Arrears of Rates

At the last sitting of the Heidelberg court out of about 200 summonses for arrears of rates by the local council, orders were made for the amounts claimed in each instance, with the exception of two contested cases, in which verdicts were recorded against the shire.

Opening New Kinglake Road

The chairman and members of the Country Roads Board will visit Kinglake on Thursday, May 30, to officially open the new road between Kinglake and Whittlesea at 3 p.m. Luncheon at 1.30 will be provided by the Kinglake Progress Association. The councillors of Eltham, Whittlesea and Yea shires are invited to be present.

Heavy Rainfall

Hurstbridge and district has been favored with beneficial rainfalls. Last

ELTHAM.

Assistant Stationmaster, Mr. Egan, after three weeks' leave, has resumed duty as assistant railway stationmaster at Eltham.

Building Operations Cease.

Owing to the strike in the timber trade, building operations at the new Roman Catholic Church at Eltham have ceased.

House in Stanley Avenue.

A substantial brick residence is to be erected in Stanley Avenue, Eltham, for a well known business man in Melbourne.

Visit of Reverend Mother.

The Rev. Mother from Heidelberg Convent paid her first visit to Our Lady Help of Christian school at Eltham on Tuesday. The Rev. Mother was greatly pleased with the manner in which the sisters in charge are carrying out their duties, the scholars having made excellent progress in their studies during the first term of the year. The May vacation began on Friday of this week, and the Rev. Mother said with a gracious smile—"You might mention that school duties are to be resumed on Tuesday, June 4. This will act as a reminder to the parents."

Welcome to New Vicar.

Those lines of Burns—

"In heaven itself I'll ask no more  
Than just a Highland welcome"

may justly describe the reception of the Rev. F. Tolhurst at a social evening held in St. Margaret's schoolroom on Wednesday night, May 22. There was no doubt about the genuineness and warmth of the greeting he received, and he reciprocated by expressing his pleasure at being present among the members of his new flock. Churchwardens Cr. Andrew and Mr. W. Wingrove welcomed Rev. Tolhurst and Mrs. Tolhurst at the door, and the church secretary, Mr. A. Christopher, on behalf of the parishioners, introduced the vicar and his good lady in well chosen words. Rev. Tolhurst responded, expressing his pleasure at the opportunity of meeting members of the church. The little schoolroom was crowded, the social being perhaps the best attended of any yet held. Games and competitions were indulged in, and everyone entered into the happy spirit of the evening. Mr. Copeland and Miss S. Taylor were applauded for their vocal items, whilst Mrs. Frizzell's recitations were appreciated by her hearers. The vicar brought down the house by rendering extracts from that old favorite "The Sentimental Bloke." A pleasing note was struck when the reverend gentleman suggested community singing, everyone entering wholeheartedly in reviving the old favorites. The ladies, as usual, saw that the supper provided was ample, the generous supply of sandwiches and cakes being due wholly to their good offices. The coffee, which was made by Mrs. Andrew, was indeed a credit to that lady's culinary art. It is to be hoped that many more of such evenings, as these will be held, as they undoubtedly bring together members of the church, as well as enabling the pastor to meet them individually, and thus

NOTES FROM A NIB.

(By M.A.C.)

I stole a kiss the other night.  
My conscience feels so black,  
I think I'd better do what's right  
And try to put it back.

Chatting with a suburban fireman recently, he made reference to what he termed the thriving little township of Greensborough, and ventured the opinion that the day is not far distant when the Metropolitan Fire Brigade will take charge of that district. His reason for arriving at this conclusion was that in the first place Greensborough has an electric light service, a plentiful supply of water and, thirdly, was now in possession of a telephone exchange. These facilities, the fireman pointed out, were three excellent assets, and if his opinion proves to be a correct one then Greensborough will indeed be in a fortunate position, in the event of it being taken under the wing of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

At the Zoo—"That's a new one on me," said the monkey, as he scratched his back.

I heard a housewife complain the other day about the prices of commodities in general, and apples in particular. She bought a pound of this fruit, of the "Delicious" variety, the price paid being 8d. There were four medium-sized apples, two of which were badly infected with codling moth and uneatable. And yet we are advised to "eat more fruit"—at 8d per lb. The apples referred to were bought at Armadale. The cheapest fruit on the market at present is passion fruit, which sells freely at 6d per dozen.

"I've lost my choppers!" So said a young lady living not a hundred miles from Diamond Creek. The one spoken to puzzled his little bit of brain in order to find out what was meant by the expression, but he failed. Whereupon the young lady, who had spoken in a rather mumbling tone of voice pointed to her mouth. Then the listener understood. A visit had been paid to the dentist, resulting in the removal of several offending teeth, otherwise "choppers" from the mouth of the young lady.

A visit was paid by the writer to a Chapel St. (Prahran) hairdressing establishment for the customary week-end shave. The man of the razor was in an unusually talkative mood, whereas the one being shaved was not. He had, however, to go through the ordeal, and listen to strike talk, football talk, race talk and all sorts of "talkies." A man with a razor in his hand always has the advantage. In this case he informed the suffering occupant of the chair that he (the barber)



CURRENT COMMENT.

SUGGESTION

(By "Observer.")

Five or six years ago, when business was brisk and everyone appeared to be doing well, it was occasionally noted by leading citizens that the people of the country should think before borrowing and spending so much, as a reaction was certain. The bulk of the six millions who inhabit this country took no heed of it, said that the great land of glorious sunshine, its wonderful production of wheat, and other products, the standard of living to which all had attained, and, above all, the White Australia policy, all tended to the continuance of prosperity. They believed it was good times in Australia. Whether the wise men foreshadowed our present depression were prophets or not, or whether the repeated suggestion that bad times were looming ahead caused the closing of big institutions to take stock of the coming events, the fact remains that this State is passing through a depression, the equal of which has not been experienced since the days of the boom.

Now the optimists are telling us that there is a bright future ahead if the economy is exercised. It seems to me this is one of the phases of life, which is composed of ups and downs, more downs than ups with some—that the cycle of depression is bound to pass on. Already many people are adopting the suggestion that the cloud has a silver lining, and that the coming seasons will cause a revival of trade, a great lessening of unemployment, and a return to the stability of business and contentment, which should exist in a land of such sunshine.

**THE WEATHER'S CONVERSATIONAL GOD.** Ninety-nine per cent. of human beings are affected by the weather. It is always a safe topic of conversation, for you may hurl anathema at it and consign it to a place where there are no frosts, and be sure of no reprisals. Although the weather has been regarded as sensible it has touched many residents in sensitive places, which makes them more sensitive for the days of bright sunshine. Melbourne is known far and wide as having the most variable climate in the world, being "all samples," as the Sam would say. More than a month past the shortest day, it is chilly, and as the day lengthens the cold strengthens. "It's beautiful in the winter," many housewives say, because they can work better, food is more easily looked after, the summer pests are lying dormant, and the bright fires give a cheer that compensates for many dreary days. It is as well that the weather cannot be regulated by act of Parliament or man-made organisations, or there would be elections every month, notwithstanding the abuses that are hurling at them.

WOMEN AND PROGRESS.

A striking feature of the British elections is the fact that women are in a majority of men voters by over 2,000,000. While it is very gratifying that the Mother Country has reached the level of equal voting power for both sexes to which some of the dominions have already arrived, this is only a step towards the government of the future when equal representation of the sexes will be maintained in Parliament.

While Australia has been in advance of Great Britain in conceding suffrage rights to men and women as equals, there has been no corresponding representation by women in the Australian Parliaments. The psychology of the two sexes is different, men being chiefly guided by intellect, women by emotion or intuition. Both contributions are essential to balanced progress. At the present time material considerations present baffling problems which the mind alone is unable to solve. There are two ways out of the predicament, one by abandoning our impotent democracy to an autocrat, the other to vitalise democracy with the spirit of sacrifice which women display. Dick Sheppard, speaking of the Church, said what might well be supplied to the State: "There are times in history when decisive and courageous action is the only safe course to pursue, when it is high time that what is said to be desirable but impossible should be done, and done without delay." Were the women to make a great stand for desirable but apparently impossible changes, say the abolition of unemployment, could they not be realised? Mussolini the Dictator has achieved the seemingly impossible in this direction; yet is Mussolini's power greater than that which women could wield?

Australia lags behind in not permitting women to act on juries. America and England already conceded this as part of the demand for equal citizenship. Before the bestowal on women of any civic, political or economic equality, men procrastinate indefinitely, but in spite of the protests of the more vigorous sex women in many lands are rising in growing numbers to positions of responsibility and leadership. The Women Voters' Association is making a commendable move to render women eligible to sit on juries. In the building of a greater Australia men and women must work as equals.

HOLD UP AT MACLEOD

The train was pursuing the even course of its way in the direction of Hurstbridge on Monday, when there

ELTHAM COURT.

TUESDAY, JULY 9

Before Mr. J. Macnamara, P.M., and Messrs. E. W. Smithers, C. Wraight, E. G. Leach and H. M. Bradley, J.P.

No Case

The adjourned case of the police against James P. Banks and Frederick H. Lindley was heard. The youths were charged with stealing several articles from the residence of the Rev. Nicholls, at Queenstown, in January. They were discharged.

Claim for Work Done

Martin Evans v F. Martin, claim for £82/17/ for work and labor done.—Order for amount and £6/6/ costs.

Henry O. Evans v F. Martin, claim for £37/15/ for work and labor done.—Order for amount and £6/6/ costs.

Mr. Nupe appeared for complainants and Mr. Ridgway for defendant. W. O'Callaghan v Wilkinson, claim for £6/3/ for money paid.—Order for amount, with 15/6 costs.

Poisons Act

Charles L. Butchers proceeded against several storekeepers for selling articles containing poison without having a license.

There were five charges against W. J. H. Richardson—iodine, Bates' salve, lysol, camphorated oil and arsenic. Fined £2, with £2/7/6 in each case.

Two charges against F. H. Collins—capsolin and camphorated oil. Fined £2, with £2/7/6 costs, in each case.

Two charges against J. W. Burgoyne—capsolin and camphorated oil. Fined £2, with £2/7/6 costs, in each case.

A. S. Hodgetts, five charges. Fined £1, with £1/6/6 costs, in each case.

Licensing Cases

Inspector Costello v Thomas Creed and Herbert G. Williams, charged with falsely representing themselves to the licensee of the Research Hotel as bona fide travellers on April 28. Both cases were dismissed. Mr. Ridgway appeared for Creed.

Inspector Costello v Jane Marvane, licensee of the Research Hotel, for allowing persons on the premises on June 29. Fined £5. For disposal of liquor, £10, with 18/ costs. The license was transferred to the present licensee on June 10, 1929.

For being found on the premises W. Stock, A. Norman, E. Cumerford, N. Norman and Peido Certo were fined £2 each.

Claim Fails

In a maintenance claim, in which each side had counsel, the case was dismissed.

TUESDAY, JULY 23



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SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O.Box 137  
ELTHAM. VIC. 3095

1st July, 1969.

The Shire Secretary,  
Shire of Eltham,  
P.O.Box 21,  
ELTHAM. VIC. 3095

Dear Sir,

It has been brought to the notice of this Society that preliminary steps are being taken towards the eventual replacement of the Eltham Courthouse.

It is the wish of the Society that this building be preserved because of its historical character. It is therefore requested that the interests of the Society be borne in mind when Council is dealing with this matter and that the Society be informed of any developments.

Any assistance which Council may give will be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

Russell Yeoman,  
SECRETARY.



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# SHIRE OF ELTHAM

SHIRE OFFICES, ELTHAM, 3095

PLEASE QUOTE: DSS:LH  
5601

10th July, 1969

Mr. R. Yeoman,  
Secretary,  
Shire of Eltham Historical Society,  
P.O. Box 137,  
ELTHAM. 3095

Dear Mr. Yeoman,

Thank you for your letter of 1st July, 1969, about the preservation of the Eltham Court House.

Council has decided that at the appropriate time a copy of your letter will be sent to the Crown Law Department with a request for favourable consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Shire Secretary



SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

P.O.Box 137  
ELTHAM. 3095

26th May, 1972.

The Secretary,  
Law Department,  
Owen Dixon Chambers,  
205 William Street,  
MELBOURNE. 3000

Dear Sir,

Re: Eltham Court-House.

This society has noted with interest that the Eltham Court-House is to be replaced with a new building near the Shire Office.

The present Court-House has many associations with the history of this area and the building is one of the few remaining connections with the Eltham of last century.

The society considers that the preservation of the Court-House is desirable and are prepared to present a case to the National Trust for its classification.

Although our prime concern is the preservation of the building, the matter of its use, if preserved, should also be considered. The society is interested in using the court-house as a meeting place and/or museum.

The matter of future ownership of the building or any financial considerations are not the subject of this letter. The purpose is to enquire regarding your department's plans for the court-house after the erection of the new one. We would appreciate any advice of decisions which have been made regarding the disposal of building or the land. If no such decisions have been made, it is requested that the society be notified when they are. Early notification would greatly assist any forward planning which the society may find necessary.

Thanks are extended for your anticipated co-operation.

Yours faithfully,  
R. YEOMAN.  
Secretary.





TELEPHONE 602 0181

YOUR REFERENCE.....

WHEN REPLYING PLEASE QUOTE:  
.....

STATE LAW OFFICES  
221 QUEEN STREET  
MELBOURNE, VIC. 3000

7th June, 1972

R. Yeoman Esq.,  
Secretary,  
Shire of Eltham Historical Society,  
P.O. Box 137,  
ELTHAM. Vic. 3095

Dear Mr. Yeoman,

I acknowledge your letter of 30th May, 1972,  
concerning the Eltham Court House.

It is intended to replace the existing Court building and a proposal for the erection of a new Court House on land near the Shire Offices is under examination. If this proposal proves to be impracticable, consideration will have to be given to the demolition of the present building and the erection of a new building on the existing site. A further possibility is the acquisition of another site. If the existing building is vacated it will be returned to the Public Works Department for disposal.

Some little time will elapse before a decision is made as to the course to be adopted. I shall write to you again when the matter is clarified.

Yours faithfully,

(R. Glenister)

Secretary to the Law Department.



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# Strangers around, so Eltham sought protection

By **MARGUERITE  
MARSHALL**

A petition asking for better police protection resulted in the building of the Eltham courthouse and former police residence beside it.

In 1857 five Eltham residents petitioned the licensing magistrates of Heidelberg district.

They pointed out that Eltham had two hotels, a population of about 1000, and many strangers employed on the public roads.

The nearest police were at Heidelberg, eight miles away, or at the Caledonia Diggings 21 miles away.

The courthouse and former residence near the corner of Main Rd and Brougham St were built in 1859/60.

The National Trust classified the courthouse in 1977 and the Eltham Shire Council has asked that the former residence be preserved also.

The courthouse, which was built by a Mr Duncan for 536 pounds, is a neat narrow oblong building painted cream in front with its handmade orange bricks evident at the sides.

Its gabled roof and porch are covered with brown slate tiles and the windows at the side are 12-paned with decorative fan-like brickwork above.

Inside, the roof is peaked and the court is still ventilated by oblong slits near the roof.

### Original

Most of the fine carved wooden and upholstered furniture is original.

One mark of the passing time is the original prisoners' door leading from the former police station to the dock which is now permanently closed.

The former residence next door also has a brown slate roof and its handmade bricks have been painted white.

The front veranda roof is made of corrugated iron as is the roof of the back weatherboard extension.

But the original two-storey stable still stands at the back in its pristine state of orange brick.

The application for police protection was approved within a few months and the police operated room a cottage rented at 10 shillings a week belonging to William Jarrold.

This was probably the one at the corner of Main Rd and Dalton St which was the subject of a previous article in this series.

In 1958 a second constable was appointed to Eltham following a fight in Mr Warren's hotel.

Builder, Langridge Wright and Witney constructed the station and residence for 1150 pounds and seven shillings.

The lock-up - behind the residence, and the brick stables, were built at about the same time.

Later the lock-up was demolished following the relocation of the police to a new station in about 1952.

The police office was timber and situated at the building's side on the existing driveway.

Records show court cases were held at Eltham before the courthouse was built, but the location is unknown.

### Polling

The courthouse was more widely used then it is today.

Inquests were held there rather than centrally as today.

It was probably used as a polling place as indicated by old photographs of election day crowds outside.



● The portico entrance to the Eltham courthouse, built in 1859-60. Total cost of the building was 536 pounds.

The building was also used for Eltham Road Board meetings from the early 1860s until 1868 when the board transferred to Kangaroo Ground.

Also during the same period the courthouse was used as the road board secretary's office until 1867 when this was transferred to the secretary's home at Wingrove Cottage.

The courthouse was also used as an overflow classroom for the Dalton St school in 1875 which probably resulted in the new school building in 1876.

The two buildings can further link us with Eltham's early days through Police department correspondence.

The first constable in charge was George Reid.

In 1860 a letter to the 'Argus' newspaper signed 'A Sufferer' declared the Eltham police were not sufficiently active in their duties.

The writer suggested that the 'very snug' police quarters were too comfortable, and he detailed various incidents including one of an alleged breaking into of the road board secretary's home.

But a letter to the Police Department from the board secretary, C. S. Wingrove, said he refuted the 'Argus' letter and that he had received full co-operation from Sen. Const. Peter Lawler.

**Link with  
our past**

## WARNING ON RUBELLA

Eltham's medical officer of health, Dr Edith Hewitt, last week urged women wanting children to ensure they had been immunised against rubella.

She said that while most women up to 26 had been immunised, many older women had not.

"I hope that any woman contemplating having children would have her blood tested by her own doctor, or be immunised against rubella."

Dr Hewitt said that numerous cases of German measles had been reported, mainly in young children.

A total of 373 schoolgirls were immunised against German measles in Eltham schools last year, with a further 43 adults being immunised in evening sessions.

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For the first time in 27 years a Labor Government, clearly elected by the voters, is in power in Victoria.

We congratulate the new Premier John Cain and his victorious team.

Mr Cain deserves our unstinting support as he faces the daunting task of once again getting the state on the move.

In the months ahead as he introduces the necessary leadership and legislation he will carry the hopes of all Victorians.

For many there remains the fear that Labor in power could yet again tear itself

apart with internal disputes fomented by the extremist notions of the far left.

We hope for our state's sake that Mr Cain can continue to control the lemming-like urges of some of his colleagues.

Meanwhile we see the role of this newspaper essentially as one of keeping

the men and women of Spring Street busy and honest.

To this end we will report fully on the activities, achievements and failures of our local MPs, both in Government and Opposition, the Upper and Lower Houses.

Their promises will be recorded, the action they take followed up, and the results analysed.

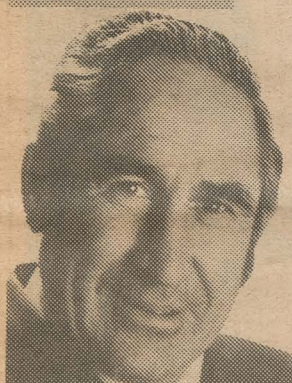
# DIAMOND VALLEY NEWS

Vol. 35: No. 13

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1982

5c

In



Mr McDonald

## TOP JOB FOR OUR PAULINE

Grand final fever had nothing on the excitement in the Toner household on Saturday night.

"It wasn't until we won the View Bank booth that we knew we'd won Victoria," said sitting Member for Greensborough, Mrs Pauline Toner, who romped home to victory with a majority of close to 5000.

The normally conservative View Bank booth showed a swing to Labor of seven per cent, enough to reassure even the most fearful Labor supporter that things were going their way.

"That was when I let out my victory cry," said Mrs Toner, who seems certain to make history by becoming Victoria's first ever woman Cabinet Minister — for Community Welfare Services and Women's Affairs.

A 5.5 per cent swing in Greensborough gave Mrs Toner 18,362 votes, nearly 54 per cent of the total.

In spite of a hard and costly campaign, her Liberal opponent, John Dobinson, took only 12,656 votes.

In the Legislative Council a slightly

ing and able to return a Labor Member."

He also paid tribute to Dr Howard, both for the way he had conducted his campaign and for what he had done for his electorate in the past six years.

A surprise result in Evelyn saw the former Speaker of the House, Mr Jim Plowman, lose a healthy 2200 vote majority and the seat.

He went down to Labor candidate, Mr Max McDonald by close to 3000 votes.

But at the end of counting on Saturday night, Mr Plowman still maintained he could win on postal votes and preferences.

The new member, Max McDonald, admitted to feeling "a bit stunned" and said he was surprised at the extent of the swing, which he estimated would finally be 10-12 per cent.

In the traditional Labor seat of Bundoora Labor leader John Cain took more than 64 per cent of the total vote, beating the Liberal candidate, Peter Clark, by almost 10,000 votes.



Mr Arnold

Out



Mr Plowman



Dr Howard



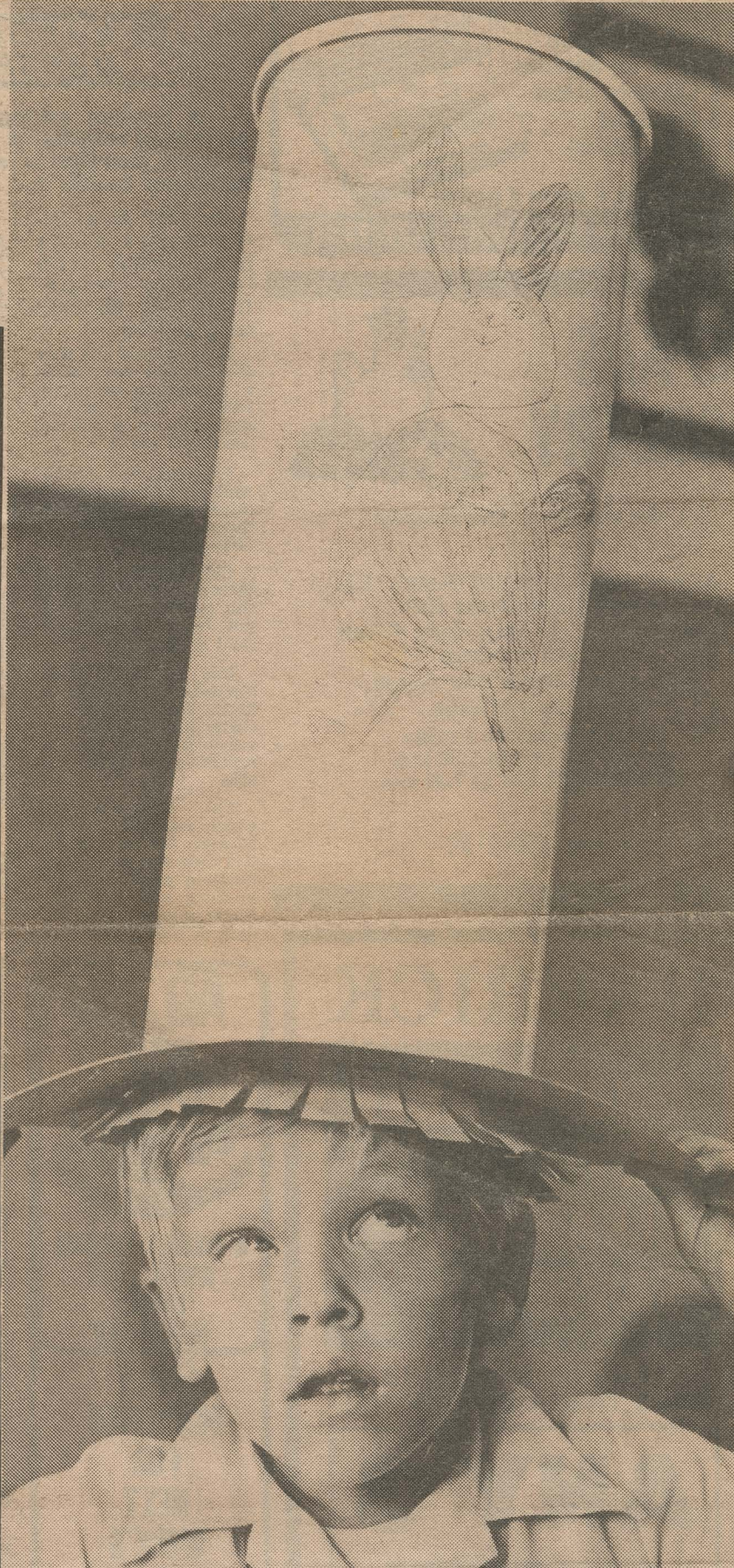
Mrs Toner

smaller swing to Labor saw Dr Ralph Howard lose the Templestowe seat he has held for the past six years.

Dr Howard expressed little surprise at the result of the election, which he said had been accurately predicted by the opinion polls.

He lost the seat by more than 6000 votes to Labor's Mike Arnold who gained more than 48 per cent of the total vote.

An Ivanhoe solicitor, Mr Arnold, successful at his second attempt at the Templestowe seat, described Saturday's result as a "healthy sign that people in the eastern suburbs are will-



## A TALL ORDER

"Don't take your eyes off it for a second..." thinks Andrew Baker, 7, a pupil at Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School.

Andrew and his grade two classmates spent the morning making Easter bonnets.

Another picture is on page 3.

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ELTHAM COURT HOUSE  
COLOUR SCHEME

This brick building built in 1860 with a slate roof is in a good condition.  
The following changes have been made:

Externally (see photos attached)

- a. A Willcsoft Terrapin building attached to the rear
- b. The ogee spouting replaced with bullnose type.
- c. The side and rear walls have been cement rendered to a height of approx 1 m to cover fretted brickwork (see fretting on photo 4).
- d. The front entrance doors have been replaced (according to Mr J Asquith SIOW, they looked quite new in 1961 when he took over this area, also the paint colour is quite different to that of the prisoner's entrance door, R on photo 3).
- e. The picket fence was replaced with timber post and rail with wire netting, now in a very poor condition.

Internally

- f. The three fireplaces have been blocked up.
- g. The "rail across Court" (see drawing) has disappeared.
- h. The lining board ceiling was covered over with caneite in the early 1970's because they had shrunk and dirt was falling through the gaps between the boards.

The front of the building including the porch are cement rendered with quoin returns on the side walls. I believe that the render is original. I have tried to establish this by trying to find old photos. There is a photo in Alan Marshall's Pioneers and Painters which only shows part of the roof of the building and is of no help.

....2/



I have seen further photos which are of no use in :

<u>The Illustrated Australian News</u>	26.12.1884
<u>The Australasian</u>	16.6.1902
<u>The Traveller</u>	1.7.1902

The local Historical Society, the Shire of Eltham, the PRO and the Latrobe Library have no photos of the building other than the one mentioned earlier.

There are two photos on the National Trust's file submitted in 1972, they show no cement render on the side walls.

The building is due for cyclic maintenance both internally and externally and I have discussed the scope of work with Mr Pat O'Neill of the Law Department. He asked for a separate estimate to be submitted to remove the Caneite sheets and expose the original lining board ceiling. Also, a new front fence is not required and the new signboard is to be of an appropriate design and lettering.

The fretting of the brickwork above the cement render (photo 4) is not serious. I consider that further rendering is not needed at this stage.

The paint samples I have taken show that the external paint has been burned off, I could not find any trace of any original paint, but it certainly would not have been white (see Analysis). I recommend that we adopt a colour scheme similar to the Kyneton Court House. I presume that the white paint on render, sample P, is not original, White paint on bluestone sills to be removed.

For the interim<sup>plv</sup> I recommend the following:

Lining board ceiling to Court Room  
(if caneite is to be removed)

- Clear varnish

Roof trusses

- Remove paint, apply clear varnish

Windows

- T.10.2 Red Cliffs Brown

Wall colours

- M.43.5 Ginseng

Doors

- D.26.4 Regency Brown

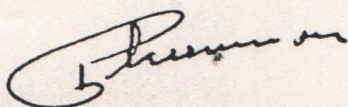
Furniture

- Clear varnish

Plinth

- T.2.4 Turner river tan

All colours to be of the Taubman's range.



P. Leenman  
Project Architect



# Eltham Courthouse under threat of closure

Eltham Courthouse will be closed down if the State Government accepts the recommendations of a recently released discussion paper.

The paper was released last month by the Law Department's Courts Management Change Program, which looks at future options for courthouses in the metropolitan area in light of the completion of a new magistrates' courthouse complex at Broadmeadows, due to open on January 1, 1985.

It is designed to stim-

ulate public discussion and makes no definite proposals.

The recommended closure of Eltham Court has caused some concern among local politicians and the legal profession.

Diamond Valley's Cr Peter Cleeland, who is an Eltham solicitor, said the Government should look at establishing a new court

by Helen Gillman

complex in the area, rather than simply closing Eltham Court down.

"The closure of Eltham Court would be a poor excuse to save money," Cr Cleeland said.

He said Diamond Valley Council would present a submission to the inquiry recommending the establishment of a new court complex in Greensborough.

## Growth

"The existing court covers two of the fastest growing municipalities in Victoria, with a projected population of 150,000 people," he said.

The paper recommends that eight courthouses, including Eltham, be closed down. Work from Eltham Court could be transferred to Heidelberg Court, the paper says.

Eltham Courthouse

has been described as inadequate and in a deteriorating condition by the paper, which says it would require in excess of \$100,000 over five years to make the building functional.

Built in the 1860s, the courthouse is now in very poor condition and, if continued occupation is to occur, complete renovation of the building would be needed to ensure the safety of the occupants, the paper says.

Mr Peter Mackay, a member of the Northern Suburbs Law Association, said he was concerned about the proposed closure of Eltham Court, but agreed that the courthouse was inadequate.

## Inadequate

"Obviously if it is closed there will be considerable inconvenience to a large number of people, but you have to look at it in a practical light," Mr Mackay said. "Most agree that the facility is inadequate and there are a lot of very strong economic reasons for closing it.

"But the question is, if it is closed, will it cause inordinate hardship for the public?" he said.

"If the work is transferred to Heidelberg Court it would mean some people would be forced to travel an extra 25 minutes or more, but the tyranny of distance is not what it was in the 1860s," he said.

According to Mr Mackay, Eltham Court, which covers Region 10, is unique in that it handles criminal, civil and family court cases. The region incorporates an area stretching from Greensbor-

ough to Kinglake.

The discussion paper, in its analysis of courthouse usage, lists Eltham Court as sitting for an average of 153 days per year, with a 52 per cent annual usage rate.

The highest number of sitting days for all the courts included in the study is 425 days (Box Hill), with an annual usage rate of 86 per cent. Chelsea Court (which has been recommended for closure) has the lowest number of sitting days (25) and an annual usage rate of 10 per cent.

Mr Mackay described the courts management study as "timely" in terms of the need to modernise the entire court system structure.

"The closure of Eltham Court would obviously inconvenience a lot of people, but it is something that has to be looked at as part of bringing the system up to date," he said.

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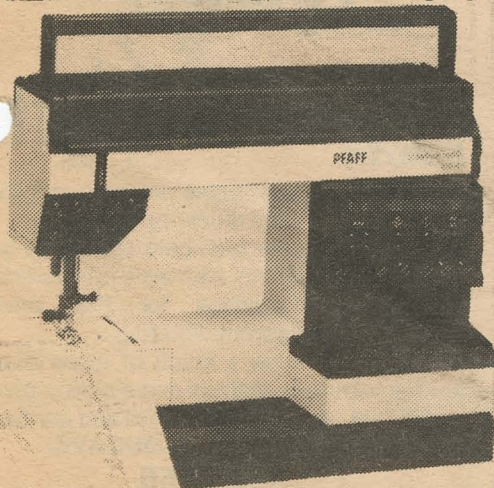
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# Diamond Valley News

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Vol. 37: No. 46

PRICE 15c

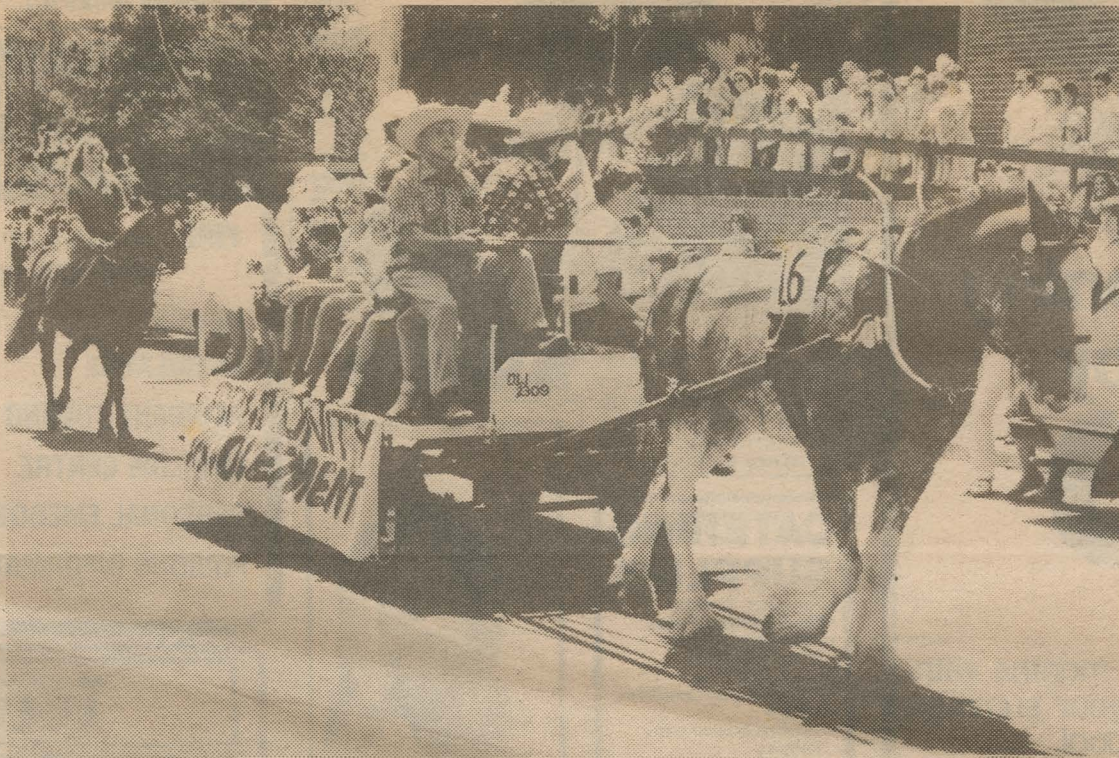


## Flying high

Sunshine, about 15,000 people, and more sunshine combined to make Eltham's 10th Community Festival an overwhelming success at the weekend.

Sue Bowen (above) of Eltham Jayteens gets into the spirit of things. Sue handed out balloons to the crowd which lined Main St to watch the parade as the Jayteens' "community involvement" float (right) passed by.

● Report and more pictures on pages 6 and 7.



# Courthouse to close

Eltham Courthouse will close on February 1, the Attorney-General, Mr Jim Kennan announced last week.

Mr Kennan made the announcement while visiting Heidelberg Courthouse, which will be upgraded to a regional court and handle all crime and civil cases now being heard at Eltham.

Traffic cases will be directed from Eltham to Moonee Ponds Courthouse, which will become the new metropolitan traffic court.

All changes in the court system implemented on February 1 will continue for a six month trial period, Mr Kennan said.

The decision to close Eltham Courthouse follows the release of a discussion paper by the Law Department's Courts Management Change Program, in September.

Recommendations made in the paper were adopted following consultation with the various professional groups associated with the court system, including

by Helen Gillman

police, court staff, solicitors and barristers and local councils.

The Courts Management Change Program has studied options for the future of metropolitan courthouses in light of the completion of a new magistrates' court complex at Broadmeadows, due to open on January 1.

The final decision on Eltham Court follows months of local confu-

sion and concern about the future of the courthouse.

While the community representatives accepted that the courthouse building was inadequate, they believed a new complex should be built in the Diamond Valley area.

Eltham Shire president, Cr Alan Baker, last week said it was "most unfortunate" the Government had decided to close Eltham Court.

## School to celebrate

The new St Andrew's Primary School will be officially opened by Education Minister Robert Fordham on Saturday at 11 am.

It will be a landmark occasion for the school community, which moved into the new building in June after seven years of dedication and effort by the school council.

The \$720,000 school replaced the 125 year-old school house and a collection of portables.

Official guests at the opening will include Federal Member for Casey Pete Steedman, State Member for Evelyn Max McDonald, representatives of the Northern Metropolitan Regional Office of the Education Department, former school principal Mrs Genevieve Leach, architects Cr Robert Marshall and Mr Jodie Wallace, Eltham Shire President Cr Alan Baker, Crs Mary Grant and John Fisher, Mr Kahn Franke, president of the Victorian Teachers Union Jim Young and area representative, Ms Caroline Lloyd.



VICTORIA 150  
GROWING TOGETHER 1984-5

Melbourne lit up last week for the start of the State's 150th Anniversary celebrations.

Premier John Cain pulled a switch on Thursday to light up four Yarra River bridges and two days later released thousands of pigeons at Portland after his official opening address.

In Melbourne the fun started at 11.30 am on Saturday with continuous entertainment on four stages, two in the Alexandra Gardens and two anchored in the Yarra.

The grand opening pageant was televised live from the concert hall from 8.30 pm and featured top variety entertainment with a period theme.

The opening weekend provided just a taste of what is being offered to Victorians and their guests during the 150th Anniversary celebrations.

Melbourne will be the focus for the major celebratory happenings and the cultural and sporting events of international interest that organisers have managed to secure for the year.

## INSIDE

- Overpass plea — P3
- Letters to the Editor — P4
- Tip options made public — P9
- More money for youth activity — P17
- Sport — P78-79

Yarra Valley  
Country Club  
— P25-27

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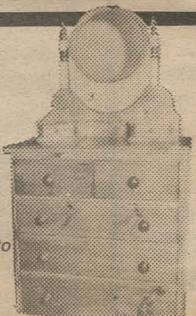
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Dial a 150th gift

As a celebration for all Victorians, Diamond Valley Shire kicked off the state's 150th anniversary with a carnival day of activities and displays.

The highlight of the day was the presentation of a sundial to the Shire of Diamond Valley from the Diamond Valley District Scouts.

State scout commissioner Neil Westaway presented the sundial to Diamond Valley Shire president Cr Ian Close.

The dial will remain at the library near the Civic Offices in Civic Drive, Greensborough.

More than 400 scouts and about 500 people were present for the ceremony.

And then for the rest of the day, it was just one thing after another as gymnasts' displays, CFA demonstrations, rap dancing, Charlie Koala, marching girls and many others performed on the Civic Centre lawns.

It was a colorful and lively occasion for all ages.

Devonshire teas were provided by the Nillumbik Historical Society and the Greensborough Rotary Club with a beef spit roast conducted by the Diamond Valley Lions Club.

Greensborough Apex Club also assisted with preparations.

— Claire Miller, Pictures: Ron Grant



● Nillumbik Historical Society member, Cyril Smith, combines old style dress with present technology while recording events for future posterity.

● Diamond Valley Shire president Cr Ian Close inspects the working order of the sundial presented to the shire by the Diamond Valley District Scouts. Victorian Scout Commissioner Neil Westaway looks on.

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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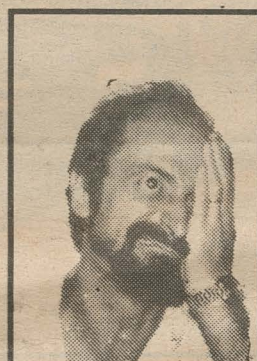
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UDVWV



# We will keep your court — Kennett

**Eltham Courthouse would remain open if the Liberal Party is elected to State Government next year.**

Opposition Leader, Mr Jeff Kennett gave an undertaking last week to keep the courthouse open if it has not been closed down by the State Government before the election, expected in March 1985.

Mr Kennett said however that he could not guarantee the Liberals would reopen the courthouse if the government had already closed it by March.

## Concern

"We are increasingly concerned about the government's move to rationalise the administration of law in this state," Mr Kennett said.

"People in communities like Eltham have come to accept the dispensing of law in their

area and are now going to find they will have to go much further to have their cases heard."

A discussion paper, released last month by the Law Department's Courts Management Change Program, has recommended that Eltham Courthouse be closed down.

The paper looks at future options for courthouses in the metropolitan area in light of the completion of a new magistrates' courthouse complex in Broadmeadows, due to open on January 1, 1985.

Mr Kennett pointed out that the Eltham-Greensborough district is a growing area.

"Rather than closing the courthouse, it would be much better to put up real alternatives for the administration of law in the area over the next 15 to 20 years," he said.

Mr Kennett, who is confident the Liberals will defeat the sitting Member for Greensborough, Mrs Pauline

Toner at the election, said the government should possibly be looking at constructing a new courthouse in the area.

"The community has to be able to feel that what they are getting in 1984 is better than what they were getting in 1982," he said.

"But services have not been maintained and the possible closure of Eltham Court is a typical example of that."

## Delays

Mr Kennett said the closure of courthouses would mean longer delays at the remaining courts and the dispensation of law more erratic.

"The real problem, highlighted here in Eltham, is that the priorities of the Cain Government are not directed at people," he said.

"But at the associations, the unions and the minority pressure groups.

"The priorities of the Government are anti-people and anti-community."

IF YOU  
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611 2740





# Shire of Eltham

'THE EVERGREEN SHIRE'

895 MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM. POST OFFICE BOX 21, ELTHAM, VICTORIA, 3095  
TELEPHONE: 430 - 1122

PLEASE QUOTE: AM:JW

REFER: 5608

YOUR REF.

15th March, 1985

The Secretary,  
Shire of Eltham Historical Society,  
P.O. Box 137,  
ELTHAM, 3095.

ATTENTION: MR. R. YEOMAN

Dear Russell,

RE: Eltham Court House

As you are aware, Council is desirous of obtaining use of the abovementioned building, and have further resolved that your Society be contracted to ascertain its interest in use of the building as a museum.

Formal advise as to the Society's interest in this matter will be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

A. Guzzo  
FINANCE MANAGER



VICTORIA 150  
GROWING TOGETHER 1984-5



# shire of eltham historical society

p.o. box 137, eltham, victoria, 3095.

17th April 1985.

Mr. A. Guzzo.  
Finance Manager.  
Shire of Eltham.

Dear Tony,

Re Eltham Court House. - Your ref. 5608.

Thank you for your letter of 15th March 1985 regarding use of the Court House. This Society has for many years considered that, if it were to become available, this building would be ideal for Society use. The Council has been advised of this on a number of occasions in the past.

It is therefore confirmed that the Society is interested in the use of the building initially as a meeting room and for storage of Society records and with the aim of establishing a local history museum in the future.

The Council's support for the Society in this matter would be appreciated

Yours faithfully  
11/1/85



Department of  
Conservation  
Forests & Lands

240 Victoria Parade  
East Melbourne  
Victoria 3002  
Telephone (03) 651 4011

Your Ref.  
Our Ref.  
Date

*The Secretary  
Shire of Eltham*



Dear Sir

ELTHAM COURT HOUSE

I am writing to inform you that this Department is seeking public expressions of interest for the above building.

The availability of the building will be publicized in local and metropolitan media. However, I would be pleased if you could draw the program to the attention of any community groups which may have an interest in the building.

Further details of the expressions of interest program are provided in the attached papers.

Yours sincerely

*Jane Lennon*

JANE L LENNON  
Manager, Historic Places Section

att





# Shire of Eltham

895 MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM. POST OFFICE BOX 21, ELTHAM, VICTORIA, 3095  
TELEPHONE: (03) 430-1122

PLEASE QUOTE: 5608  
LE:JG  
REFER: Lis Edmondson

YOUR REF.

Mr R Yeoman  
Secretary  
Eltham Historical Society  
PO Box 137  
ELTHAM 3095

Dear Russell

Re: Eltham Court House

I refer to the above matter and advise that the Department of Conservation Forests and Lands is seeking public expressions of interest for the Eltham Court House. (A copy of the letter is attached).

If you wish to register your interest, I suggest you write to the Department of Conservation Forests and Lands.

Yours sincerely

John McDonough  
Deputy Shire Secretary

18 August 1987

encl



COPY - INFO - R. YOEMAN

Department of  
Conservation  
Forests & Lands

Your Ref.  
Our Ref. 88-356  
Date 30 March 1988

240 Victoria Parade  
East Melbourne  
Victoria 3002  
Telephone (03) 412 4011

The Deputy Shire Secretary  
Shire of Eltham  
P.O. Box 21  
Eltham, 3095



*Mr. McDonough*  
Dear Sir,

Re: Eltham Court House

In reply to your letter of 23 March, I wish to advise that the above building is the responsibility of this Department, and that a decision has been made regarding future use of the court house.

Applications to use the court house were recently assessed, and the Minister has now made the building available to the Eltham Youth Resource Centre. Council's submission was given careful consideration, but the former proposal was judged to offer optimum benefits in terms of current government policies. You should note, however, that there will be scope for the rear section of the court house to be used by other community groups such as local service clubs, thus meeting some of the needs identified by Council.

In regard to the needs of the local historical society, I note that the society was suggested as a future user of the adjoining police residence when Council first sought management of that building. Perhaps this option should now be reconsidered.

I apologise for the delay in finalising arrangements for the court house. However, as was explained (by telephone) to one of your staff a few days after receipt of your January letter, release of sites from the governments assets sales program is a time consuming task. The fact that this important historic building has now been retained for on-going public use should, I believe, be welcomed by all and I am sure council shares this view.

Yours sincerely,

*Jane Lennon*  
Jane Lennon  
Manager, Historic Places Section.



FORMER COURT HOUSE, MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM  
SCHEDULE OF REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE WORK

A. BRICK COURT HOUSE

1. Roof

Slate Repairs

- The slate roof generally appears to be in good condition but there are a small number of loose and/or broken slates
- Check condition of existing slate roof
- Replace broken slates with slates of matching size, colour and quality
- Refix loose slates
- Check, repair and refix any loose and broken flashings

Cast iron rainwater goods

- Retain existing cast iron rainwater goods, including downpipes and rainwater heads
- Repair as necessary and refix loose fittings to walls

Guttering

- Remove existing guttering and replace with new 0.6 mm TCT galvanized ogee profile guttering
- Solder at stop ends and joins
- At existing cast iron downpipes and rainwater heads provide round outlets to match diameter of existing cast iron downpipes
- Provide new galvanized downpipes to match diameter and complete cast iron downpipes
- Elsewhere provide 75 mm diameter galvanized outlets and downpipes
- Connect downpipes to existing stormwater drainage system.

2. Site/Stormwater and Sewer Drainage

Stormwater and Sewerage Drains

- Sewerage and stormwater pipes appear to discharge into the same drain near to Window 4.
- Investigate drains at this location and determine the existing situation. It is most likely that when the basin and sink were installed their waste pipes were connected to an existing stormwater drain
- If this is the case and the basin and sink are not required for the proposed use for the building, they should be removed. Otherwise allow to run a new 100 mm PVC in ground sewerage drain approximately 18 metres in length from the back of the existing toilets to near Window 4. Break in and connect to existing drain at back of toilets. Provide new PVC back inlet overflow relief gully near Window 4. Provide new "S" traps and wastes to basin and sink. Run waste pipes down internally through floor and make concealed connection into back of o.r.g. Waste pipes are not to be exposed internally. Vent drain in accordance with regulations.



## Agricultural and Surface Drainage

- Take up existing concrete paving to north side building.
- Along north side of building and not less than 1000 mm from the external wall, provide a 100 mm P.V.C. agricultural drain approximately 17 m long laid on a smooth bed at a depth of not less than 450 mm and back-fill trench with gravel. Fall drain to new stormwater drainage sump at east end of building.
- Excavate down to provide a maximum finished ground level of approximately 250 mm below the internal floor level of Room 3.
- Grade ground to fall at approximately 1 in 10 away from the north wall to a distance of at least 1 metre out from the external wall of Room 3 and refinish with a crushed limestone or brick paved path.
- At the edge of the new path construct a new brick drainage channel approximately 17 metres long and falling in an easterly direction from towards Main Road.
- Construct a new 600 x 600 brick stormwater drainage sump with 100 mm thick reinforced concrete base and cast iron grate top at the east end of the brick channel.
- Connect sump to agricultural drain
- Connect sump to drain to existing stormwater drain with 100 mm P.V.C pipe.

## 3. Brickwork

### Sub-floor Vents

- Provide 24 No. new sub-floor vents to external walls approximately to locations shown on attached drawing.
- Size vents to suit brick dimensions being 1 brick long by 2 courses high.
- Fit new cast iron grills to vents
- Inspect sub-floor space and if necessary form vents in internal walls to permit cross ventilation.

### Brickwork Repairs

- Carefully remove damaged bricks to external walls of Room 3.
- Replace with matching bricks in good condition
- Set brickwork in 3:1 sand lime mortar and form joints to match existing joints.

## 4. EXTERNAL RENDER

### Damp Affected Render

- Following drainage and ventilation works previously scheduled and a subsequent drying out period, remove salt affected external render to external north wall of Room 3.
- Re-render damaged areas with two coats of 3:1 coarse sand to cement with the addition of 10% hydrated lime.
- Undercut existing render at edges to provide a key for new work.
- Finish render to match existing render including ruled ashlar course lines.

### Damaged Render Elsewhere

- Repair cracked render elsewhere including to plinth at front south corner of entry porch.



## 5. External Painting

### Colour Scheme

- The building shall be repainted in a colour scheme based on a paint scrape analysis to determine original or early colours used.
- The paint analysis shall be undertaken prior to the commencement of work.

### Exposed Timber

- To all exposed timber including fascias, eaves, doors and windows
- Clean down removed all loosed and flaking paint and sand smooth
- 1 coat of timber primer to all bare timber
- Fill all holes and cracks with linseed oil putty
- 1 coat exterior undercoat
- 2 coats exterior gloss enamel to all windows and doors
- 2 coats exterior gloss acrylic to all exposed elsewhere.

### Metal Work

- To all exposed including gutters, downpipes
- Clean down and degrease bare galvanized iron and apply 1 coat galvanized iron primer
- Clean down existing painted metal work including cast iron downpipes and rainwater heads, wire brush and/or sand back rust spots and apply 1 coat red oxide zinc chromate primer to bare metal
- 1 coat exterior undercoat
- 2 coats exterior gloss enamel

### Rendered Walls

- To all exposed cement render clean down and remove all loose and flaking paint
- 1 coat exterior undercoat
- Apply two coats exterior matt acrylic

## ELECTRICAL

### Inspection

- Arrange an inspection and assessment of the existing electrical installation by a licensed electrician

### Rewiring

- Rewire as necessary to comply with current wiring codes
- Chase new wiring into plaster on masonry walls where necessary.

## 7. INTERNAL PLASTERING

### Damp Affected Plaster

- Following drainage and ventilation works previously scheduled and a subsequent drying out period, cut out salt affected plaster to north and east walls of Room 3.



- Re-plaster damaged areas with three coat work
- Dash coat 1 part cement to 3 parts coarse sand
- Floating coat: 1 part cement to 6 parts coarse sand plus 10% lime putty
- Setting coat: 1 part lime putty to 3 parts gypsum plaster finished smooth and level
- Undercut existing plaster to key in new work

## 8. INTERNAL CARPENTRY

### Court Room Ceiling

- Remove caneite sheeting over original boarded timber ceiling
- Repair boarding as necessary

## 9. INTERNAL PAINTING

### Joinery

- To all exposed joinery including doors, windows and architraves
- Clean down and remove all loose and flaking paint
- 1 coat interior undercoat
- 2 coats interior semi-gloss enamel

### Other Timber and Plaster to Walls and Ceilings

- Clean down and remove all loose and flaking paint
- 1 coat interior undercoat
- 2 coats interior matt acrylic

## B. PREFABRICATED BUILDING AT REAR

### 1. ROOF

#### Roof Repairs

- Check condition of roof, box gutter and stormwater drainage system
- Clean out and repair as necessary
- Note that box gutter appears to overflow or leak in heavy rain

### 2. CARPENTRY REPAIRS

#### Cover Strips

- Repair damaged external cover strips to walls
- Check with manufacturer and obtain matching cover strips where replacement is necessary

### 3. EXTERNAL PAINTING

#### Repaint

- Repaint external walls and windows and doors
- Clean down and remove all loose and flaking paint and sand smooth
- 1 coat primer to all bare timber
- 1 coat exterior under coat
- 2 coats matt exterior acrylic to walls
- 2 coats gloss exterior enamel to windows and doors



EXISTING CONDITIONS SURVEY  
FORMER COURT HOUSE  
MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM  
DATE OF INSPECTION: 30.7.87

EXTERIOR

GENERAL

Principal Materials of Construction

Hand made brick walls laid in English bond. The west facade is rendered and ruled in ashlar. The side and rear walls are rendered up to about 1100 mm above floor level. This is later work than the front render and may have been done to disguise damage to the lower bricks. There is an exposed sandstone base course on the south and part of the east side. The roof is slate and the gutters quad profile g.i.

Features of Particular Interest

A prefabricated building containing a second court has been added at the rear of the building connected by a narrow link to the original back door. The addition is narrower than the original building and to some extent its size is not apparent from the front.

Condition of Site, Outbuildings, Fences and Gates

The site is clean and tidy. There is a timber framed and timber clad toilet building at the back of the extension which is dirty but in working order. There are timber paling fences to 3 sides of the site which are in fair condition.

DEFECTS

BRICK COURT HOUSE

North Side

Roof and Stormwater Drainage

Slate roof appears to be in good condition from an on ground inspection but it should be checked for broken or loose slates. The court room roof and back gutters are rusted out. The cast iron downpipes near Window 4 is loose and discharges into the same drain as a basin and sink waste.

Walls

There appears to be a damp problem in the wall below and around Window 4, where some of the brickwork is fretted badly and the render paint is peeling. There are only 3 small subfloor vents to the court walls and none to the wall around Window 4.

East Side

Roof and Stormwater Drainage

Not visible



## Walls

The walls generally appear to be in good condition. The stone steps removed from Door 7 are lying under the addition. There are no subfloor vents in this wall. There is some minor fretting of brickwork at the north end of the wall.

## South Side

### Roof and Stormwater Drainage

The main court gutter is rusted out and has weeds growing in it. There are some loose slates and some of the lower branches of the tree at the front corner should be removed where they foul the roof.

### Walls

There is a small crack in the wall below the sill to Window 5.

## West Side - Main Road Elevation

### Roof and Stormwater Drainage

The entry roof appears good but there are some broken slates. There is grass growing in the south side gutter.

### Walls

The walls appear good. There is some cracking of the render. The worst location is the front s.w. corner of the porch plinth. The cracking in this location may only be in the render but could be caused by movement in the plinth stone possibly due to nearby tree roots. The concrete path leading to Door 1 appears to have partly been poured over the top of the bottom stone entry steps.

## REAR EXTENSION

The exterior of the rear extension is generally in good condition, however the wall cover strips which appear to be made of hardboard are deteriorating at the bottom in some locations. The extension requires painting. The roof could not be inspected but there may be a problem with the box gutter (see Rooms 7 and 8 below).

## INTERIOR

### GENERAL

#### Occupied

No

#### Furnished

The court room retains virtually all its furniture except for small chairs to the Magistrates and Clerks benches. The witness box is not original.

#### Accessible

The building is locked.



### Cleanliness

The building requires cleaning.

### Other

Apart from the original court room furniture which should remain in the court room there is an amount of miscellaneous office furniture, equipment and some court records which should be removed.

## DEFECTS

### ROOM 1 - ENTRY

#### Ceiling

Lathe and plaster painted with minor cracking only.

#### Walls (including mantel piece)

Hard plaster painted in good condition.

#### Floor

235 x 235 terracotta tiles in good condition. These should be retained.

#### Windows and Doors

Door 1 a pair of ledged battened and braced doors. These are replacements but in good condition. Door 3 pair of felt covered doors.

### ROOM 2 - COURT ROOM

#### Ceiling

The painted timber roof trusses are exposed. The original 150 mm wide tongue and groove boarded ceiling has been sheeted over with caneite, one sheet of which has fallen down.

#### Walls (including mantel piece)

Hard plaster painted in good condition. The mantel piece behind the bench has been removed and the opening sheeted over.

#### Floor

Linoleum over timber.

#### Windows and Doors

The windows are all 6 pane double hung sashes in good condition. Doors 2 and 4 are in good condition.

### ROOM 3

#### Ceiling

Lathe and plaster painted in good condition.



Walls (including mantel piece)

Hard plaster painted. There is a severe damp problem in the lower part of the north wall. A safe has been installed in the fireplace. There is no mantel piece.

Floor

Linoleum over timber

Windows and Doors

The doors and windows are in good condition.

ROOM 4

Ceiling

Lathe and plaster in good condition.

Walls (including mantel piece)

Walls enclosing lobby are timber framed sheeted in masonite and fibre cement.

Floor

Linoleum over timber

Windows and Doors

Door 5 is a plywood door. Door 7 framed and battened external door not original but in good condition. The top has been cut to form an opening panel. Door 6 is an original 4 panel door in good condition.

ROOM 5

Ceiling

Painted plaster in good condition.

Walls (including mantel piece)

Painted hard plaster in good condition. Some cracking next to Window 5. The fire place has been bricked up and plastered over.

Floor

Linoleum over timber 150 mm pine tongue and groove boarding. The linoleum is not complete.

Windows and Doors

Good

ROOM 6 - LOBBY

Ceiling

Good but with some water staining at a location where a gas wall furnace flue appears to have been removed.



### Electricity

Connected but turned off. Electricity in the original building is generally run in exposed conduits or ducting.

### Gas

Gas bottles removed.

### Heating

Gas wall furnace to court no. 2; 4 wall mounted radiators to court no. 1

### Telephone

Disconnected

### Toilets/Sewer/Septic Tank

There is a building at the rear containing male and female sewerer toilets.

## PRIORITIES

### 1. Roof

broken slates and refixing loose slates.  
Repair downpipes. Replace gutters with new ogee profile gutters. Check extension box gutter.

### 2. Rising Damp

The wall near to Window 4 is suffering from rising damp and fretting of the brickwork. This may be a long standing problem with this building, to which the attempted remedy or disguise has been the rendering of the external side and rear walls up to about 1100 mm above floor level. The problem is still occurring at the point where the external ground level is highest and the subfloor ventilation is the least. The causes could be reduced by (1) lowering the external ground level along the north side of the building. (2) Eliminating any leakage from the downpipes, waste pipes and drains near Window 4. (3) Installing more sub-floor vents in the external and internal walls. (4) The installation of a sub-surface agricultural drain along the north side of the building.

If the damp persists following these works, then it may be necessary to consider installation of a new mechanical or chemical damp proof course at the base of the affected wall.

### 3. Site/Stormwater Drainage

Check drainage of pipes near W4. Ensure that downpipes drains to stormwater and waste pipes drain to sewer.

### 4. Floor/Sub-floor ventilation/Termites

Increase sub-floor ventilation particularly to external walls of Room 3.



5. Brickwork

Repair fretted brickwork and replace damaged bricks with good bricks to match.

6. External Painting

Repaint exterior timber to original building. Repaint exterior of extension.

7. Electrical

Arrange an inspection and assessment by a licensed electrician and rewire if necessary.

8. Plasterer

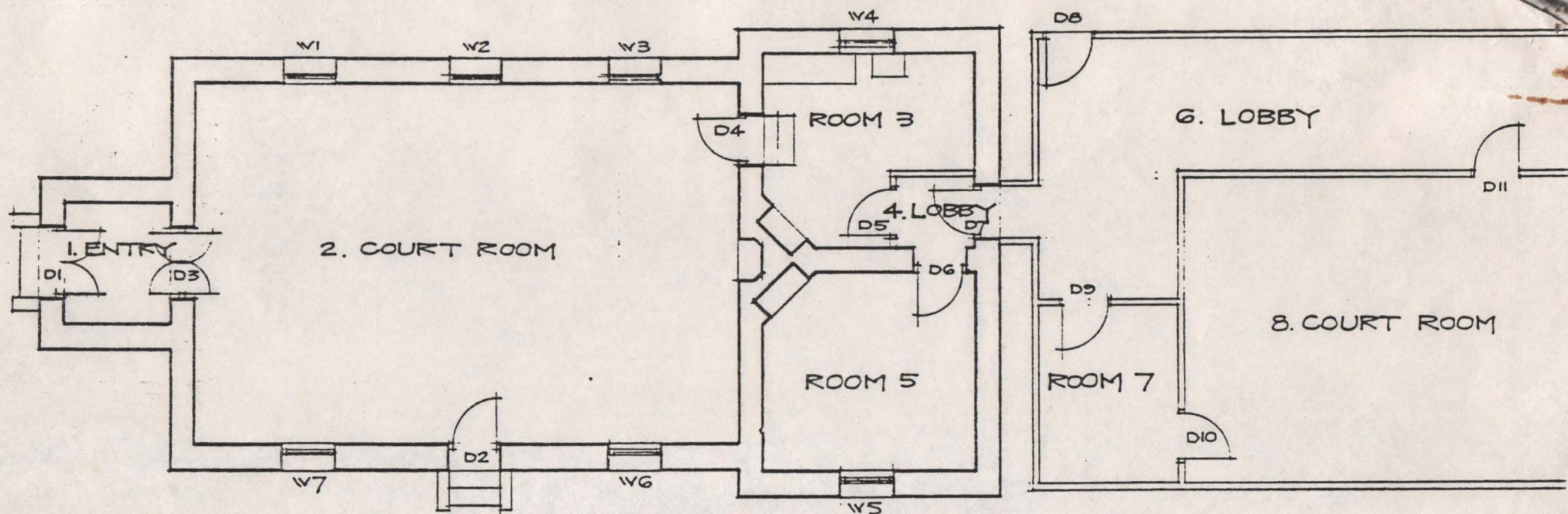
Replaster damp affected wall to Room 3 after wall has dried out.

9. Internal Painting

Repaint interior to original building.

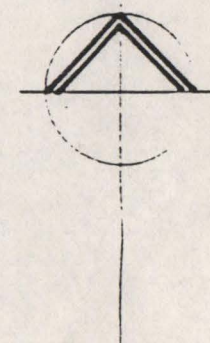
CHRIS SMITH  
HISTORIC PLACES SECTION  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, FORESTS AND LANDS  
JULY 1987





FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1:100



FORMER COURT HOUSE, MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM



04863



Your Ref To Lee Carbines.  
 Our Ref At Eltham Youth Resource Centre.  
 Date 17.5.88. From Chris. Smith.  
 At Historic Places Section. Phone 412 4299.  
 Subject Eltham Court House.

1. The person to contact at the Attorney General's Department is Bruce Crowe, Buildings and Services Section, phone 603-4360. He will be able to help you regarding both the records and the furniture (loose furniture that is).

2. My analysis of the paint schemes is attached. As discussed the building or rather the court room interior has had several different schemes.

I would recommend that the earliest of the schemes be adopted since basically the significance of this building lies in its early date.

The recommended colours are therefore those with an asterisk \* beside them.

For the exterior, after we looked at the colour for the render I forgot to write down the name of the matching colour. I think it was BEIGE.

You could check this against the chart I left.

When you have a ladder check the fascias, eaves, rafters etc. for traces of earlier colours. If this proves difficult you could use a colour scheme such as this.

- |            |                                       |   |                |
|------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| OUT SIDE { | • WINDOWS, DOORS, FASCIAS AND GUTTERS | — | INDIAN RED     |
|            | • RAFTERS                             | — | BEIGE          |
|            | • EAVES LINING                        | — | REGENCY WHITE. |

CS



3. As you are aware this building is on the Government Buildings Register and comes under the jurisdiction of the Historic Buildings Act 1981 (as amended). It is therefore necessary to obtain approval from the Minister for Planning and Environment for all works. Before starting work you should set down on paper the things you want to do. The schedule of work prepared by me and the recommended paint colours would form part of the list. You can forward the request for approval to us, at the Historic Places Section, CFL and we will arrange approval through the Ministry for Planning and Environment.

If you have any queries please contact me.

Chris Smith



# RIC PLACES BRANCH TMENT OF CONSERVATION FORESTS & LANDS

## PAINT ANALYSIS.

BUILDING ELTHAM COURT HOUSE

BY CS.

DATE 17.5.88

SAMPLE LOCATION.	COAT N°.	COLOUR DESCRIPTION	MUNSELL COLOUR MATCH	COMMERCIAL COLOUR MATCH.
COURT ROOM INTERIOR.				All colours from Dulux "Traditional Australian Colours" chart unless noted otherwise.
WALLS				
Fill above dado line	1.	stone	—	PORTLAND STONE *
	2.	pink	—	STONEWARE.
	3.	beige	—	WARM GREY
	4.	off white		
	5.	off white		
	6.	cream		
Dado line	1.	stone	—	PORTLAND STONE *
	2.	dark brown	—	CHOCOLATE.
	3.	beige	—	WARM GREY
	4.	red	—	Taubrans ATHERTON RED.
	5.	off white		
	6.	cream		
Dado	1.	stone	—	PORTLAND STONE *
	2.	pink	—	STONEWARE.
	3.	mid brown	—	IRON BROWN.
	4.	apple green	—	APPLE GREEN.
	5.	off white		
	6.	off white		
	7.	cream		



# RIC PLACES BRANCH TMENT OF CONSERVATION FORESTS & LANDS

## PAINT ANALYSIS.

BUILDING ELTHAM COURT HOUSE.

BY CS.

DATE 17.5.88.

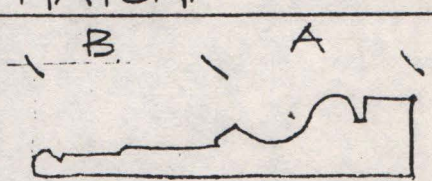
SAMPLE LOCATION	COAT N°.	COLOUR DESCRIPTION	MUNSELL COLOUR MATCH	COMMERCIAL COLOUR MATCH
COURT ROOM INTERIOR (cont)				
SKIRTINGS.	1.	brown.		EARTH *
	2.	stone.		BATH STONE.
	3.	red brown.		possibly TERRACOTTA.
	4.	mid to dark brown.		
	5.	apple green.		APPLE GREEN.
	6.	off white.		
	7.	Red brown.		
	8.	Grey undercoat.		
	9.	Red brown.		SIENNA STONE.
DOOR AT BACK OF COURT ROOM.				
Stiles and Rails	1.	mid stone.		SANDSTONE ? *
	2.	Terracotta.		TERRACOTTA.
	3.	off white.		
	4.	off white.		
	5.	off white.		
	6.	white.		
Panels.	1.	mid stone.		SANDSTONE. *
	2.	light stone.		BATH STONE.
	3.	salmon pink.		SALMON PINK.
	4.	off white.		
	5.	off white.		
	6.	off white.		
	7.	stone.		



ELTHAM DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION FORESTS & LANDS

PAINT ANALYSIS.

BUILDING ELTHAM COURT HOUSE BY CS DATE 17.5.80

SAMPLE LOCATION.	COAT N°.	COLOUR DESCRIPTION	MUNSELL COLOUR MATCH.	COMMERCIAL COLOUR MATCH.
COURT ROOM INTERIOR (cont.)				 <p>ARCHITRAVE PROFILE</p>
<p>WINDOW AND DOOR ARCHITRAVES.</p> <p>• Outside edge "A"</p>	1.	brown.	—	EARTH *
	2.	light stone.	—	BATH STONE.
	3.	terracotta.	—	TERRACOTTA.
	4.	apple green.	—	APPLE GREEN.
	5.	off white.		
	6.	off white.		
	7.	white.		
<p>• Inside edge "B" and window reveal.</p>	1.	mid stone.	—	SAND STONE. *
	2.	gray.	—	WARM GREY.
	3.	salmon pink.	—	SALMON PINK.
	4.	off white.		
	5.	off white.		
	6.	off white.		
	7.	white.		
CEILING.	1.			polished timber.
	2.			Paint:
				* Paint ceiling brown to match polished timber.



TORIC PLACES BRANCH  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION FORESTS & LANDS

PAINT ANALYSIS.

BUILDING ELTHAM COURT HOUSE

BY CS

DATE 17.5.83

SAMPLE LOCATION	COAT N <sup>o</sup> .	COLOUR DESCRIPTION	MUNSELL COLOUR MATCH	COMMERCIAL COLOUR MATCH
COURT HOUSE	EXTERIOR			
WALLS.				
• Render to front and sides including window sills.	1.	light stone		BIEGE *
DOWNPIPES RAILWAY HEADS.	1.	brick colour		to match brickwork *
FASCIAS, RAFTERS EAVES LINING				to be checked for ladder





SKILLSEEKER teacher Brian Gunst (kneeling) and course members help restore the Eltham Court House.

## Courthouse renovation

By JODIE HAYTHORNE

**T**HE former Eltham courthouse is being restored to its original 19th-century splendor.

Work started on the 130-year-old site in Main Rd earlier this month and is due for completion by Christmas. The Historical Buildings Management Committee is funding the \$18,000 project.

The secretary of the Eltham Historical Society, Mr Russell Yeoman, said it was important to preserve Eltham Shire's history.

"There are not many buildings from that era in Eltham and we do need to keep some visible remnants of our history, particularly public buildings," he said.

"The courthouse is a visible remnant of our past and they are rare in Eltham as there are very few old public buildings. It has much historical value and it is in need of restoration."

The courthouse, listed by the National Trust and Historical Buildings Society, was closed about six years ago.

"It was used as a courthouse from 1860 up until not that long ago," Mr Yeoman said.

Mr Yeoman said the courthouse had served the community throughout its 130-year history.

"It was used last century for an overflow of classes from Eltham Primary School," he said.

"It was also used as an election venue and we have saved old photos of people standing outside the courthouse on election day. It was also a popular meeting place."

The courthouse is being used as a training venue for the Skillseekers group.

Skillseekers project manager, Mr Damien Adams, said Eltham residents would benefit from the project.



## Court House - Eltham

**Court House - Eltham**

730 Main Road  
Eltham VIC 3095

**File No:** B3253

**Category:** BUILDING

**Melway/Vicroad Ref:** 21 J7

**Place Type:** Court House

**Class:** State

**Classified:** 20 Oct 1977

**Citation Type:** Trust

**Extra Location Info:**

**Municipality:** Nillumbik Shire

**Region:** Middle & Outer Melbo

**CITATION**

An example of the simple form of early brick courthouse with gabled roof and porch constructed in 1860.





28 February 2002

Mr Harry Gilham  
7 Leonard Crescent  
ELTHAM VIC 3095

Nauru House  
Level 22  
80 Collins Street  
Melbourne 3000

Telephone (03) 9655 6519  
Facsimile (03) 9655 9720

[www.heritage.vic.gov.au](http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au)  
[www.doi.vic.gov.au/heritage/](http://www.doi.vic.gov.au/heritage/)

Dear Mr Gilham

**RE: ELTHAM COURT HOUSE (H 784)**

This letter is in regards to our recent telephone conversation concerning the replacement of the Eltham Court House stand.

Unfortunately we have not been able to locate any photographs or diagrams of the original stand but we have enclosed diagrams of typical stands built around the 1880s. We have also included a list of Court Houses that were built around the same time as Eltham which might be worth while paying a visit to.

A book entitled 'Court Houses in Victoria' has recently been published which should be available at your local library.

We wish you all the best with this project.

Yours sincerely

**ANGELIQUE WARD  
PERMITS COORDINATOR**



Kyneton Court House  
Hutton St, Kyneton

Avoca Court House  
Ballarat-Avoca Rd, Avoca

Bacchus Marsh Court House  
123 Main St, Bacchus Marsh

Gisborne Court House  
Hamilton St, Gisborne

Mornington Court House  
2 Main St, Mornington

Port Melbourne Court House  
113-119 Bay St, Port Melbourne





**Heritage**  
VICTORIA

**With Compliments**

Harry,  
Could you please contact our  
office before any works begin to  
discuss permit requirements.

Regards  
Angelique

Nauru House  
Level 22  
80 Collins Street  
Melbourne 3000

Telephone (03) 9655 6519  
Facsimile (03) 9655 9720

[www.heritage.vic.gov.au](http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au)  
[www.doi.vic.gov.au/heritage/](http://www.doi.vic.gov.au/heritage/)



INFRASTRUCTURE



# There's still order in this stately court house

A petition asking for better police protection resulted in the building of the Eltham courthouse and former police residence beside it.

In 1857 five Eltham residents petitioned the licensing magistrates of Heidelberg district.

They pointed out that Eltham had two hotels, a population of about 1000, and many strangers employed on the public roads.

The nearest police were at Heidelberg, eight miles away, or at the Caledonia Diggings 21 miles away.

The courthouse and former residence near the corner of Main Rd and Brougham St were built in 1859/60.

The National Trust classifield the courthouse in 1977 and the Eltham Shire Council which manages the former residence has arranged for it to be preserved.

The courthouse, which was built by a Mr Duncan for £536, is a neat, narrow, oblong building painted cream in front with its handmade orange bricks evident at the sides.

Its gabled roof and porch are covered with brown slate tiles and the windows at the side are 12-paned with decorative fan-like brickwork above.

Inside, the roof is peaked and the court is still ventilated by oblong slits near the roof.

### *Original*

Most of the fine carved wooden and upholstered furniture is original.

One mark of the passing time is the original prisoners' door leading from the former police station to the dock which is now permanently closed.

The former residence next door also has a brown slate roof and its handmade bricks have been painted white.

The front veranda roof is made of corrugated iron as is the roof of the back weatherboard extension.

But the original two-storey stable still stands at the back in its pristine state of orange brick.

The application for police protection was approved within a few months and the police operated from a cottage rented at 10-shillings a week owned by William Jarrold.

This was probably the one at the corner of Main Rd and Dalton St called Jarrold or White Cloud cottage (see earlier entry).

In 1858 a second constable was appointed to Eltham following a fight in Mr Warren's hotel.

Builder, Langridge Wright and Witney constructed the station and residence for £1150 and seven shillings.

The lock-up behind the residence, and the brick stables, were built at about the same time.

Later the lock-up was demolished following the relocation of the police to a new station in about 1952.

The police office was timber and situated at the building's side on the existing driveway.

Records show court cases were held at Eltham before the courthouse was built, but the location is unknown.

### *Polling*

The courthouse was more widely used than it is today.

Inquests were held there rather than centrally as today.

It was probably used as a polling place as indicated by old photographs of election day crowds outside.

The building was also used for Eltham Road Board meetings from the early 1860s until 1868 when the board transferred to Kangaroo Ground.

Also during the same period the courthouse was used as the road board secretary's office until 1867 when this was transferred to the secretary's home at Wingrove Cottage.

The courthouse was also used as an overflow classroom for the Dalton St School in 1875 which probably resulted in the new school building in 1876.

The two buildings can further link us with Eltham's early days through police department correspondence.

The first constable in charge was George Reid.

In 1860 a letter to the 'Argus' newspaper signed "A Sufferer" declared the Eltham police were not sufficiently active in their duties.

The writer suggested that the "very snug" police quarters were too comfortable, and he detailed various incidents including one of an alleged breaking into the road board secretary's home.

But a letter to the Police Department from the board secretary, C. S. Wingrove, said he refuted the 'Argus' letter and that he had received full co-operation from Sen. Const. Peter Lawler.





● The neat courthouse has well weathered the passage of time.



4/11/2004

[Simple search](#)[Advanced search](#)[Listings](#)**ELTHAM COURT HOUSE****730 MAIN ROAD ELTHAM**

VHR Number	H0784
File Number	603111
Year Construction Started	1860
Municipality	Nillumbik Shire
Extent of Registration	The building and land shown hatched in Attachment A and known as Crown Allotment 1A, Section 4, Parish of Nillumbik, Attachment A held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
Architect/Designer	Scurry, Alfred
Architectural Style	Victorian Period (1851-1901) Free Classical
Spatial Information	-37.7239, 145.14477
Heritage Act Categories	Heritage place

*Click on the arrow below to view the Item Categories.*

**Item Categories**

Item Group	Item Category
Law Enforcement	Courthouse

*Click on the arrow below to view the Statement of Significance. Note: Some records may not yet have a Statement of Significance.*

**Statement of Significance**

1. The **Eltham** Court House dates from the time when the town was largely self-contained. It was initiated in response to itinerant gold prospectors who turned to crime when their quest was unsuccessful. This type of localised solution is characteristic of the self reliance preserved in **Eltham** today. The court house is an important symbol of the spirit which makes **Eltham** distinctive as a community. 2. The nature of the court house planning and use of architectural devices make the building's function easily interpreted. The arrangement of rooms, with public entry and clerical rooms to the rear, and the use of raised floor levels throughout these spaces to signify relative rank is easily perceived. The distinction in entries, public, magistrate and person-in-custody, and the existing court furniture enhances appreciation of this building. 3. The **Eltham** Court House, built in 1860, is one of only two intact examples in the state of this simple design with projecting entry. 4. The building is of architectural significance because it retains intact early features. These include use of handmade bricks, simple decoration, roof trusses, timber ceiling boards, original windows, doors and associated hardware and a collection of court furniture. Additions to the court house have been done in a manner which did not interfere with the fabric of the original building.

*Click on the arrow below to view the Images. Note: Some records may not yet have images.*

**Images**

*Click to view image at full-size.*



ELTHAM 1860  
FORMER COURT HOUSE  
730 MAIN ROAD  
ELTHAM

Collated by Eltham District Historical Society Incorporated  
2005



## Establishment of Eltham Victoria

The name "Eltham" was used for the Parish of Nillumbik's Village Reserve from 1848. It is widely believed that the name came from that of Eltham, a town on the outskirts of London. The Eltham Village Reserve is marked on an 1840 map and the name was officially gazetted in 1851. The 1850 Sydney map shows the Eltham Village Reserve, still covering a large acreage on the Yarra, divided by the Diamond Creek. To the west is the Plenty River. Parish vegetation noted includes stringy bark, peppermint, box and gum.<sup>1</sup>

The original Eltham town centre was not established on the Village or Township Reserve, where land proved difficult to sell, but on allotments on the Main Road to the north in Section IV. Purchased in 1850 by Josiah Morris Holloway, these allotments were often described as "the first private land developed in Eltham". Holloway subdivided his land into residential allotments and small farms and offered it for sale. Allotments in "Little Eltham", as Holloway called his subdivision, sold more readily than those in the government township. A village began to emerge there, which dictated the location of the future town centre.<sup>2</sup>

Located on the road to the Caledonia diggings, this small township became a service centre for the surrounding mining areas. In this period Eltham had two hotels, a brewery and tannery on the Diamond Creek, a scattering of shops along Main Road (known in the 1850s as Maria Street) and a steam flour mill operated by Henry Dendy.<sup>3</sup>

A little Eltham School, No. 371, was built in 1853 near Swan Street (closed 1872) and a second, Eltham Primary School, No. 209, was built in Dalton Street in 1856 within the government township boundaries. This was replaced on the site in 1875 by a new State School constructed of local sandstone, which forms part of the present building.<sup>4</sup> Other public buildings constructed at this time were a *Court House* and a *Police Station* in Main Road in 1860, north of the government township.<sup>5</sup>

As in all Victorian colonial towns, church building was not neglected. A Primitive Methodist chapel, a small brick structure, was built on the corner of Susan and Bridge Streets in 1860. The following year, 1861, St Margaret's Anglican Church, designed by the notable Melbourne architect, Nathaniel Billing, was built in Pitt Street. It is the oldest intact church building in Eltham Shire.<sup>6</sup>

In 1865 St Marys Catholic Church was opened on its site at the junction of Fordhams Road and Maria Street (Main Road) in Eltham's Village Reserve.<sup>7</sup>

Another church, the 1881 Wesleyan chapel (now the Uniting Church), stands on the east side of main Road south of Bridge Street. A cottage, which still stands near Pitt Street (now the Living and Learning Centre) can be identified as well as the 1860 *Court House* in Main Road and Police Quarters in Main Road.<sup>8</sup>

Most of the surviving early Eltham township buildings are within the "Little Eltham" subdivision. Those in this area include the Eltham Court House and former Police Station in Main Road. The former is the oldest surviving public building in Eltham



and, in its early days, was the meeting-place and office of the Eltham District Road Board and an overflow classroom for the local school during 1875.<sup>9</sup>

## ELTHAM COURT HOUSE

This 1860 building was established as a Court of Petty Sessions with a rostered calendar of visits by a Magistrate to deal with licences/permits/electoral roll matters of the area.

Local 'on call' Justices of the peace (JP's) dealt with the misdemeanours such as vagrancy, drunkenness, street offences, minor assaults and breaches of minor Local and Government By-laws and Regulations.<sup>10</sup>

Police Magistrates in dealing with more serious offences against the law could have the 'offender' transported in a horse drawn vehicle to Melbourne Gaol after the preliminary hearing at Eltham.

## HISTORY:<sup>11</sup>

Original Use:	Court of Petty Sessions.
Other Uses:	Eltham Road Board meetings Road Board Secretary's office(1860s) Overflow classroom for Dalton Street School (1875)
Original Owner:	Victorian Government
Architects:	Public Works Department of Victoria
Builder:	Mr Duncan 1
Cost:	Five hundred and thirty-six pounds.

This building, and the former police residence beside it, were constructed as a result of a petition by five Eltham residents in 1857. The nearest police were at Heidelberg eight miles away, or at the Caledonia Diggings 21 miles away. After the construction of the Court of Petty Sessions at Eltham in 1859-60 (which was designed by the Public Works Department 1 and built by a Mr Duncan for a cost of five hundred and thirty-six pounds) it was used for a variety of purposes. Eltham Road Board meetings were held there until 1868 when the Board was transferred to Kangaroo Ground and as the Road Board Secretary's office, until this was transferred to Wingrove Cottage in 1867. It was used as an overflow for the Dalton Street School in 1875.

## CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:<sup>12</sup>

This building is a fine example of a very early small brick country court house which retains its furnishings and has important associations with the early history of the Eltham township. It was used for Eltham Road Board meetings in the 1860s and later to provide additional school accommodation. It is the oldest public building remaining in Eltham and forms an important group in historic and streetscape terms with the adjoining former police residence. The survival of the furnishings (of unknown origins) is of particular significance given the building's age.



According to National Trust records, the Eltham Court House is a relatively rare building type. There are only six other known examples of similar small brick country court houses in the State which have small projecting entry porches and a gabled form. These are Avoca (1858), Omeo (1859-61), Mornington (1860), Smythesdale (1860), Bright (1861) and Chiltern (1865). All seven are listed on the National Trust Register.

DESCRIPTION: <sup>13</sup>

Style mid Victorian.

Design standard.

Plan rectangular with projecting front porch.

Single storeyed.

Walls solid face brick and quoins.

Roofs gabled with eaves, slate clad.

Features are the modest scale of the building, the Italianate style eaves and exposed timber purlin ends, symmetrically placed central front porch with its roundheaded toplit front door, oculi gable end vent, twelve pane windows, plinth and chimney.

SOURCES: <sup>14</sup>

Carlotta Kellaway 'Environmental History of the Shire of Eltham' 1992

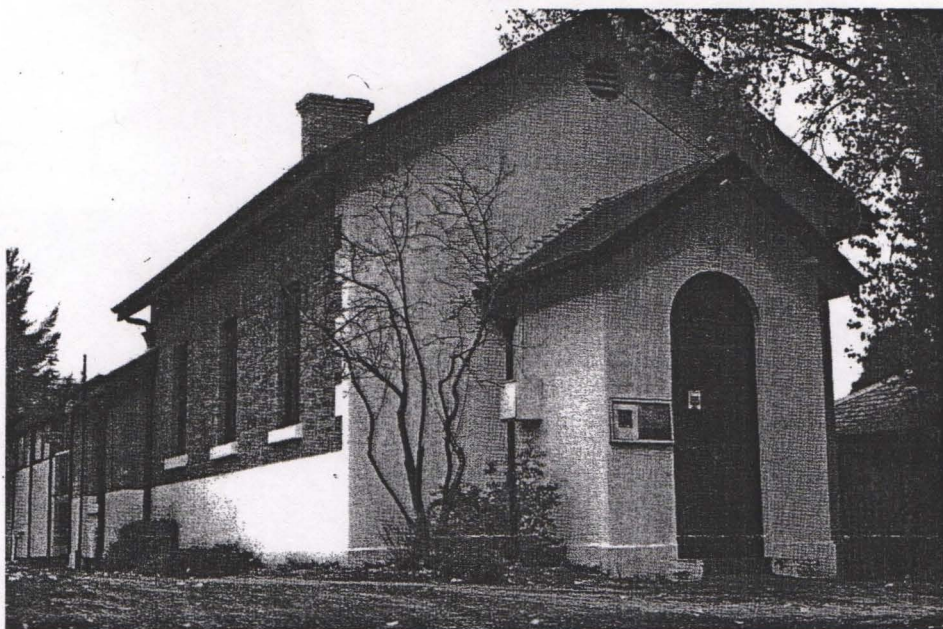
1. abid p1
2. abid 1
3. abid 1
4. abid 1
5. Chronology Eltham District Historical Society publication 1856
6. Environmental History 2
7. Chronology Eltham District Historical Society publication 1865
8. Environmental History
9. abid 2
10. Michael Challinger 'Historical Court Houses of Victoria' (Palisade Press 2001)

David Bick "Shire of Eltham Heritage Study" (1990-1994)

11. History
12. Cultural Significance
13. Description
14. Sources



## ELTHAM



*Main Road, Eltham. Built: 1860.  
Architect: A.T.Snow. Cost: £557.*

THIS court house is the oldest public building in Eltham. Similar to those at Omeo and Mornington, it features a round-headed, toplit front door and twelve-pane windows. The Eltham bench heard the usual range of claims and summary offences: carrying a gun on a Sunday—£2 fine; illegally detaining a fiddle—ordered to return the fiddle or pay £2 10s 0d; stealing a coat, shirt and opossum-skin rug—three months' gaol; stealing from a quartz mill—one month's gaol.

During the 1860s the court house was also used for meetings of the Eltham Roads Board which managed the district's roads. Road tolls were fixed at a farthing for each sheep, a penny per head of cattle, threepence for horses, and sixpence and upwards for each 'gig, chaise, coach, chariot or carriage'. Members of Parliament were exempt from paying tolls, as were soldiers in regimental uniform, persons going to or from funerals or Sunday church, and wagons carting manure. But tolls were unpopular and determined evaders used bush tracks to by-pass the tollgates, while daring horsemen were known to hurdle them.

The law empowered toll collectors to seize the horse or carriage of anyone refusing to pay, but attempts were apt to meet resistance. One defendant at Eltham in July 1862 had a previous conviction for assaulting the toll collector at the Lower Plenty tollbar. His prior history, though, was not held against him: charged this time with highway robbery, he was given a caution and had his knife returned to him! In August 1863 Henry Porter was convicted here of refusing to pay a toll and of resisting a policeman; he was fined an aggregate of £4 and ordered to pay £1 damages for tearing the constable's trousers.

By 1870 Victoria had 123 tollgates and 67 check gates on minor roads to coax wheeled traffic onto the main road. Tolls did spread the costs of road maintenance among road users, but some tollgates were a lucrative proposition, the one on Plenty Road at Northcote bringing in over £3000 a year. Parliament abolished tolls in 1874 and they were finally phased out by 1877, until re-invented over a century later.

Eltham Court was closed temporarily in 1985 but never reopened. The court house is now occasionally used for community purposes.



Historical  
Court  
Houses of  
Victoria

Michael Challenger



## Courthouse rich with history

THIS building is a fine example of a very early small brick country court house which retains its furnishings and has important associations with the early history of the Eltham township.

It was used for Eltham Road Board meetings in the 1860s and later to provide additional school accommodation.

It is the oldest public building remaining in Eltham and forms an important group in historic and streetscape terms with the adjoining former police residence.

The survival of the furnishings (of unknown origins) is of particular significance given the building's age.

This building, and the former police residence beside it, were constructed as a result of a petition by five Eltham residents in 1857.

The nearest police were at Heidelberg eight miles away, or at the Caledonia Diggings 21 miles away.

## A Journey In Time

A column about Nillumbik's history



**LAW AND ORDER:** Eltham courthouse is one of only a handful of buildings of its type in Victoria.

After the construction of the Court of Petty Sessions at Eltham in 1859-60 (which was designed by the Public Works Department and built by a Mr Duncan for a cost of 536 pounds), it was used for a variety of purposes.

Eltham Road Board meetings were held there until 1868 when the board was transferred to Kangaroo Ground and as the Road

Board Secretary's office, until this was transferred to Wingrove Cottage in 1867.

It was used as an overflow for the Dalton Street School in 1875.

According to National Trust records, the Eltham Court House is a relatively rare building type.

There are only six other known examples of similar small brick country court houses in the

state which have small projecting entry porches and a gabled form.

These are Avoca (1858), Omeo (1859-61), Mornington (1860), Smythesdale (1860), Bright (1861) and Chiltern (1865).

All seven are listed on the National Trust Register.

**Harry Gilham**  
**Eltham District**  
**Historical Society**  
**Ph 9439 1175**



Received 24/4/05  
(by hand)

**Notes from Crown Reserve File Rs 12128  
Municipal Buildings (Local Community Welfare Reserve) at Eltham  
Department of Sustainability and Environment**

Original file reference C96050? (later document states that this file commenced in 1956. Could not be located in 1976).

*21 December 1954 Sec of Lands to Police Commissioner Victoria Police*

Notes that Police buildings at Eltham corner of Maria and Brougham Streets are now vacant. These could be used for Depot for Vermin and Noxious Weeds if site is not wanted. Adds that search at the Office of Titles shows that the land in question was transferred to Her Majesty Queen Victoria on 20 November 1860 (see further notes on this).

*File note: c1960s*

File C96050 is now a Vermin and Noxious Weeds Board File No. 036 Eltham Office?  
File reference on subsequent documents is C99065

*1960s – deviation of road on corner of roads - Maria and Brougham Streets*

Road now described as Eltham – Yarra Glen Road resulted in a number of searches of titles relating to allotments.

*1963 Search carried out on original sold allotment:*

Allotment 12 Section IV Parish of Nillumbik (no Township), Area of 316 acres, original grantee J. M. Holloway. Notes that there are no details of transfer to Crown on the original plan. "It would appear that area is Crown land in Title to the Board of Land and Works".

*1971 Further searching of titles*

Notes from file: There is a pen (biro) sketch of a plan of subdivision on file. Notations is "sketch taken from info on application 3182. Lot numbers refer to very early General Law Subdivision" copied sketch plan dated 24/11/71.

Site of Court House is shaded in pink and notated: Lot 155 Her Majesty Queen Victoria Book 101 Mem 64

Site of Police Station is shaded in green and notated: Board of Land and Works Book 97 Mem 35

Blocks measure 198 ft x 50 ft.

*Details of title:*

Book 97 Memorial 35 Registered 5 January 1860.

Release to the Honourable James Goodall Francis and Charles Parley, Members of the Board of Land and Works of part of allotment 12 section 4 Parish of Nillumbik  
Goes on to describe boundaries.

Book 101 Memorial 64 Registered on 12 November 1860. Conveyance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria for part of Allotment 12 section 4 Parish of Nillumbik.  
Goes on to describe boundaries.



File reference now L11-1087

Parish of Nillumbik plan shows Police reserve gaz 54/7381 Rs 7312, area of 36 p  
Pryor Road with extension gazetted 60/2338? CA 13 of 4

*1981*

Future of site under consideration. File notes: recommended that PWD/the  
Government Buildings Advisory Committee might establish whether the brick  
building or the stable are of historical value. 10/3/81

*5 June 1981 Shire of Eltham to Sec of Lands*

Shire considers that brick buildings on reserve are of historical significance and  
should be retained on the National Estate Register. Eltham Historical Society has  
been asked to assess the suitability of the site for museum purposes.

*15 June 1981 Public Works Department to Lands Department, Government Buildings  
Advisory Committee*

History of Police site:

Purchased by Crown in 1860.

Contract records at the PRO establish that:

Police buildings at Eltham: £1150 7 shillings

Acceptance: 31/8/1859

Signing: 15/9/1859

Completion: 24/12/1859

A search of the Bourke Division Police correspondence file for 1859 revealed no  
reference to the Eltham Police Quarters

Police seemed to have used the site continuously from 1860 to 1954, after which  
Vermin and Noxious Weeds occupied site.

An early photograph (undated) in the possession of the Shire of Eltham shows the  
double fronted brick residence with a weatherboard police office on the Brougham  
Street site with the police sign. The office is now attached to the rear of the residence  
having been relocated at some time.

There is a brick stable with loft above to the rear of the site. There are asbestos  
cement sheeted additions to the east and north sides of the stable building.

There is evidence of removal or demolition of previous buildings between the  
residence to the front of the block and the stable at the rear.

Both the stable and residence are constructed of bricks consistent with construction in  
1859/60. The 12 light double hung windows to the residence also indicate an early  
construction date. The original contract drawings have not been located.



Law Department indicates that may be interested in site as adjunct to existing court, although a new court house for the area may be constructed at Hurstbridge or Greensborough.

Buildings at 728 Main Road are of historical significance at local level and may well be suitable for the accommodation of a local community service group, inappropriate to dispose of property by sale to public.

*15 June 1982 Shire of Eltham to Dept Crown Lands and Survey*

Requests the Department to reserve the land for municipal purposes (community purposes) and that the Shire become COM over the land. Desire community support service to occupy the building.

*27 July 1982 Lands Department to Shire*

Lands Department will seek to reserve site and appoint Shire of Eltham as CoM. Council will be required to retain the buildings and maintain them in good order and conditions, having regard to their historical significance.

*7 December 1982 Order in Council*

Temporary reservation for Municipal buildings being Crown allotment 1, portion 12 of section 4, parish of Nillumbik. Rs 12128 VGG 15 December 1982.

*12 January 1983 Appointment of Committee of management*

Shire of Eltham appointed as Committee of Management, gazetted.

*11 August 1983 Government Buildings Advisory Council*

Refers to attached schedule of buildings formerly designated pursuant to the Government Buildings Advisory Council At 1972, which includes Police Buildings at Eltham. Act now repealed and brought within purview of Historic Buildings Act, Register of Government Buildings now coming under section 32A of the Act.

*File note: 21/11/1984*

Council is interested in total refurbishment of building to it's original conditions. Departmental advice to check whether buildings is on 'special list of preserved buildings.' Shire will check before undergoing any works.

*C 1986*

Shire carried out works on police building and demolished rooms 6 and 7, exceeding the approval granted by the HBC. In future Department will require that any works will have to be approved by Regional Manager, Melbourne and Historic Places Branch. In addition works will be supervised by a conservation architect. Report on building required.

*29 April 1986*

On site meeting. Noted that site is being used as parks and gardens depot.

*10 November 1987 Planning Department*

Notice that site is to be rezoned from Residential C zone to Eltham Gateway zone. File note that new zone will provide stronger controls to protect character in the zone.



*25 January 1989 Dept to Shire*

The shire advised that an old timber "outbuilding" was being refurbished by the Council at an approximate cost of \$25,000. During renovation the building was apparently damaged by vandals to the extent that the Shire proposed that it would be more cost effective and safer to demolish the building. Note HPS note that origins and purpose of building are not known.

*4 July 1990 Shire of Eltham to CFL*

Shire is pursuing option of demolition and has sought approval from HBC to do this (24 December 1989). As yet not considered, pending approval from CFL. Would CFL support the application based on a replica building being on east side of brick building.

HPS would not object, subject to the Shire obtaining approval from the HBC.

*3 February 1995 Land Assessment Officer, Port Phillip Area to HPS*

Former Eltham Police Station was assessed as part of the Government's Property Rationalisation Program. Possibility of use as Departmental office flagged, Shire might relocate it's office staff.

*7 November 1996 Nillumbik Shire to CNR*

Nillumbik is seeing this building fall into disrepair and would be pleased to form a new committee of management on a long term lease arrangement.

Council would propose that several community groups be given the use of the building including the Eltham and District Historical Society, the Eltham Concert Band and the Eltham Living and Learning Centre.

File closed.



# Historic building upgrade

ELTHAM'S heritage-listed courthouse is to receive a \$140,000 makeover to attract more visitors.

The improvements to the outside of the building and its grounds will be carried out by 12 unemployed local young people through the State Government's Community Jobs program.

The courthouse, one of the oldest buildings in the shire, opened in 1860 next to the former police station soon after the establishment of two hotels at Eltham.

"Suddenly there were problems with drunk and disorderly people and with prospectors going to find gold at St Andrews, and they found there was a need to have members of the law on hand," Eltham District Historical Society president Harry Gilham said.

In 1875 the courthouse was briefly used by Eltham Primary School while it waited

for a new building after the sandstone walls of the school collapsed.

Prosecutions at the court dried up after 1982 when the present Heidelberg Magistrates' Court opened and the building is now used as a meeting place for community groups and, more recently, as a venue for plays and poetry readings.

The Government will provide \$98,820 towards the upgrade, with Nillumbik Council contributing a further \$40,000.

Eltham state Labor MP Steve Herbert said the old courthouse was one of Eltham's prominent historical sites, but was desperately in need of improvements to its profile and use.

"Funding will allow historical and tourist activities to develop further," Mr Herbert said. "Equally important, it will give 12 unemployed local people a chance to learn new skills while earning a wage."

DVC Aug 3 2005 p 17



# Courthouse regeneration secures boost

MORE than \$140,000 will be pumped into landscaping works at the Eltham Historical Courthouse in a bid to beautify the site.

The heritage-listed building will undergo a facelift of sorts as 12 unemployed young people from the local area work to improve the site's profile and usage.

Almost \$100,000 of funding has been allocated under the State Government's community jobs program, with Nillumbik Shire contributing an additional \$40,000 to see the project through.

Eltham MP Steve Herbert said since Nillumbik began managing the site in early 2004, the shire had worked alongside Eltham District Historical Society towards its regeneration.

"Improvements to the external features of the site, which are now guaranteed through this funding, will allow historical and tourist activities to develop further," Mr Herbert said.

"Just as importantly, the funding will give 12 unemployed young local people a chance to learn new skills while earning a wage in a work opportunity they might not have previously had.

"Each participant will receive accredited training and genuine employment skills. I was pleased to assist in the process of applying for the original funding."

Nillumbik Mayor Greg Johnson also welcomed the funding.

"The aim of the project is to make the old Eltham courthouse site more attractive and open to the public, as part of a broader plan to increase public use of this valuable historical precinct, while also creating training and employment opportunities in the area," Cr Johnson said.

Eltham District Historical Society (elthamhistory.org.au)



**Hard work:** Eltham Historical Society president Harry Gilham prepares for some landscaping with Greg Johnson and Steve Herbert.

Picture: Darren Howe



# Poets are summonsed

*DVL 22 Feb 2006 p 37*

POETRY readings are back at the Eltham Courthouse.

Works by poets Banjo Patterson, W.H.Auden and William Blake were recited at the old Eltham Courthouse last week to kick off this year's poetry season.

Convener of the courthouse readings, Helen Lucas, said two local actors would perform on the third Thursday of every month, with an open floor for budding poets.

"It's an opportunity for people who have written something to share their work," Ms Lucas said.

Poets stand in the prisoner's dock of the old courthouse to read their work.

Next month's line-up will include philosopher Matt Hetherington and Sandy Jeffs, whose poetry focuses on mental illness.

Entry: \$5. For details, phone Helen on 9439 9732.



**Helen Lucas at the Eltham Courthouse.**

N33DV302





Rob Hulls and Eltham MP Steve Herbert talk to students.

N35DV491

# Sharing a love of legalities

IT WAS a trip down memory lane for Attorney-General Rob Hulls last week when he met legal studies students from across Nillumbik.

"I can vividly remember when I was a legal studies student and I loved the subject," he said.

"I just hope that these young kids love it as much as I did."

Mr Hulls spent an hour with students from Eltham College, St

Helena's Secondary College, Eltham High School and Catholic Ladies College in Eltham's historic courthouse.

He answered questions on changes to defamation laws, the issue of mandatory sentencing and told the students to be passionate about trying to achieve what they wanted in life.

Afterwards, Mr Hulls said the students had kept him on his

toes. "I think there are definitely some future lawyers among this group," he said with a smile.

"There are certainly some judges and some barristers, but hopefully not too many defendants."

Year 11 Eltham College legal studies student Monique Hardine said she was interested in pursuing a career in law and had enjoyed Mr Hull's speech.





## Tender No. 2021-33

Building Restoration Works  
- Old Eltham Courthouse

The Council is seeking responses to this Request for Tender (RFT) 2021-33 for Building Restoration Works - Old Eltham Courthouse.

The Old Eltham Courthouse is state heritage listed on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) (H0784) and any works to the building will be subject to a Heritage Permit and requires contractors with experience working with similar heritage buildings, significant fabric and related technologies.

Tender documentation detailing the scope and service for the tender is available to download at [nillumbik.vic.gov.au/tenders](http://nillumbik.vic.gov.au/tenders)

The closing date for tender submissions is 2:00PM on Thursday December 3 2020

Agreed  
7 Nov 2020



POLICE OFFICER'S RETURN TO A WARRANT OF DISTRESS.

IN THE COURT OF PETTY SESSIONS AT  
IN THE

BAILIWICK

Complainant.  
Defendant.

Date of Complaint: The day of 196  
Nature of Complaint:

I, of a member of the Police Force of the State of Victoria,  
do hereby certify to one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the Bailiwick, that  
by virtue of this Warrant I have made diligent search for the goods and chattels of the within-mentioned defendant and that I can find  
no sufficient goods and chattels of the said whereon to levy the sums within-mentioned together  
with the costs of and occasioned by levying the same. I certify that I necessarily travelled miles from the Police Station  
at to execute this Warrant of Distress.

WITNESS my hand this day of 196

Justice of the Peace

No.

IN THE COURT OF PETTY SESSIONS  
AT

Date Issued / /196

Complainant

Defendant

WARRANT OF DISTRESS

£

Station.

WARRANT returned.....executed by me this  
day of.....196..... and the amount of  
£ : : paid on demand.

I necessarily travelled.....miles to execute this  
Warrant.

Constable No.....



The Complainant requires the issue of this Warrant of Distress to levy a total of £ : : .

Defendant's address is—

Dated the                      day of                      19 .

No.

Solicitor for the Complainant whose address is—

Hearing

JUSTICES ACT 1958.—SECOND SCHEDULE.—FORM 16.

WARRANT OF DISTRESS UPON AN ORDER FOR PAYMENT  
OF MONEY.

IN THE COURT OF PETTY SESSIONS AT

IN THE

BAILIWICK

Complainant

Defendant

Date of Complaint :    The                      day of                      196

Nature of Complaint :

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE of the State of Victoria.

THE above-named defendant having been, on the hearing of the said complaint, ordered to pay to the said complainant the sum of £                      for debt and £                      for costs and the said defendant having made default to the extent of £

These are therefore to command you in Her Majesty's name forthwith to make distress of the goods and chattels, money, bank notes, cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes, bonds, specialties, or securities of money of the said defendant and

Debt	£
Costs	£
Amount of Order	£
Paid since Order	£
Due under Order	£
Cost of Warrant	£
Fee on Warrant	£
Total	£

(1) If after the making of the distress the said defendant consents in writing to the distress being sold otherwise than by public auction and if within the space of five clear days next after the making of such distress the said sums together with the costs of this Warrant and reasonable charges of taking and keeping the said goods and chattels shall not be paid that then you do sell the said goods and chattels so by you distrained in accordance with the said consent or

(2) If after the making of the distress the said defendant consents in writing to the distress being sold without the publication of the advertisement referred to in Section 115 (2) of the Justices Acts and if within the space of five clear days next after the making of such distress the said sums, together with the costs of this Warrant and reasonable charges of taking and keeping the said goods and chattels shall not be paid that then you do sell the said goods and chattels so by you distrained by public auction ; or

(3) If after the making of such distress and the publication of the said advertisement the said sums together with the costs of this Warrant and reasonable charges of taking and keeping the said goods and chattels and the cost of the publication of the said advertisement shall not be paid before the expiration of five clear days at least from the publication of the said advertisement then you do sell the said goods and chattels so by you distrained by public auction.

And that you do pay the proceeds of the sale of the said goods and chattels and such money and bank notes so distrained unto the Clerk of Petty Sessions at                      in the said State, and that you do as by law empowered hold and realize and, if occasion require, sue on the said cheque, bills of exchange, promissory notes, bonds, specialties, or securities of money, and do pay the money realized or recovered on the same unto the said Clerk of Petty Sessions that he may pay and apply the same as by law is directed, and if no such distress can be found then that you certify the same unto a justice, to the end that such further proceedings may be had thereon as to the law doth appertain.

Dated at                      the                      day of                      196

Clerk of Petty Sessions.



Childrens Court

Maintenance Order

Maintenance disobedient security

Maintenance Warrant Summons

Order for bail appearance at trial

Information for an offence - recognisance

Information for an offence punishable  
summarily and summons thereon.

Bicycle + Carts - no lights

Information for Bicycles + Carts - No lights

Information for Motor Car requirements

Information for drivers Wrong side of road etc

Defaults Summons upon a complaint for  
a civil debt.

Summons upon a complaint not being a  
complaint for an offence.

Warrant of distress upon a conviction  
for a penalty

Warrant of distress for costs upon a conviction

There are 48 "Pigeon" holes  
in this cabinet

HEADING



47 Emergencies Order to pay agent

48 Judiciary Certificate of Judgement  
Process Act. 1901-1928.

Tabacco Sellers Act 1928

Petty Sessions and Magistrates Business.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Licensed Persons Convictions.

Return of Maintenance

Oral examinations

Order for payment of money to be levied  
by distress.

Certificate for the Supreme Court

Certificate of Summary Conviction or Order

Fees in Courts of Petty Sessions.

Application Collectors licence Carriers licence

Application Real Estate Agent Act



Penalty in the first instance.

Warrant Remanding a prisoner.

Warrant To apprehend.



# Historic Eltham Courthouse reopens

THE HISTORIC Eltham Courthouse has been officially reopened following a major \$385,000 restoration

Mayor Cr Frances Eyre opened the former courthouse, which is Nillumbik's oldest public building, at celebrations, which were also attended by Wingrove Ward Councillor Geoff Paine and Edendale Ward Councillor Natalie Duffy

The building, part of the Eltham Justice Precinct in Main Road, is home to the Eltham and District Historical Society and Eltham U3A, whose members were also in attendance

The works were undertaken by Ducon Building Solutions and RBA Architects and Conservation Consultants and involved meticulous restoration inside and out including repairs to the exterior render, repainting, replacing slate roof tiles and replacing the subfloor

RBA provided a history of the building

*The courthouse was built in the context of a rapidly developing Eltham in the mid-19th century – then awash with capital and people drawn to the nearby Caledonia goldfield*

*As the population swelled with the diggers and the desperate, the preservation of law and order became a far more pressing issue*

*The bricks and mortar solution to keeping the peace and encouraging respectability was the construction of a new courthouse*

*In 1860, a contractor, a 'Mr Duncan,' laid sturdy sandstone footings for a modest building, its walls*

*constructed of hand-made bricks topped by a gabled roof clad in slate*

*The designer was Alfred T Snow, then a clerk of works within the prolific Victorian Public Works Department, who was also responsible for other civic and justice projects in the period across Victoria*

*Embellishments were sparse but conspicuous a rendered principal façade with tooled ashlar lines, a small porch displaying a vermiculated keystone and glazed fanlight, an oculus (Latin 'eye') vent, sandstone window sills, and plush internal joinery, including a magistrate's bench, cupboard, desks, and offender's dock (all still extant)*

*The courthouse continued to accommodate the Eltham Court of Petty Sessions into the mid-1980s.*

The original furniture, including the magistrate's desk, dock, pews and cabinetry have been refurbished and the courthouse returned to how it would have looked when it first opened in 1860. Cr Eyre commended the restoration with its meticulous attention to detail.

"The former courthouse is a landmark building in the Shire and, in fact, the oldest public building in Nillumbik," Cr Eyre said.

"Keeping our history alive for future generations is vital."

Eltham District Historical Society President Jim Connor thanked Council for helping to honour and preserve the Shire's significant local history.

"The restoration of the historic Eltham Courthouse



is an excellent example of a community responsive project undertaken by Nillumbik Shire Council," Mr Connor said.

The building is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and is one of only two intact examples of its design in the state.

The restoration was funded by Nillumbik Shire Council through the Facility Maintenance Renewal Program.

For more information about the Eltham Courthouse and the history of Eltham, please go to the website of the Eltham District Historical Society.

[www.elthamhistory.org.au](http://www.elthamhistory.org.au).

**DAWSON'S**

Eltham District Historical Society ([elthamhistory.org.au](http://elthamhistory.org.au))



**YAPPA**

MoN Bulletin April 2022 p22.

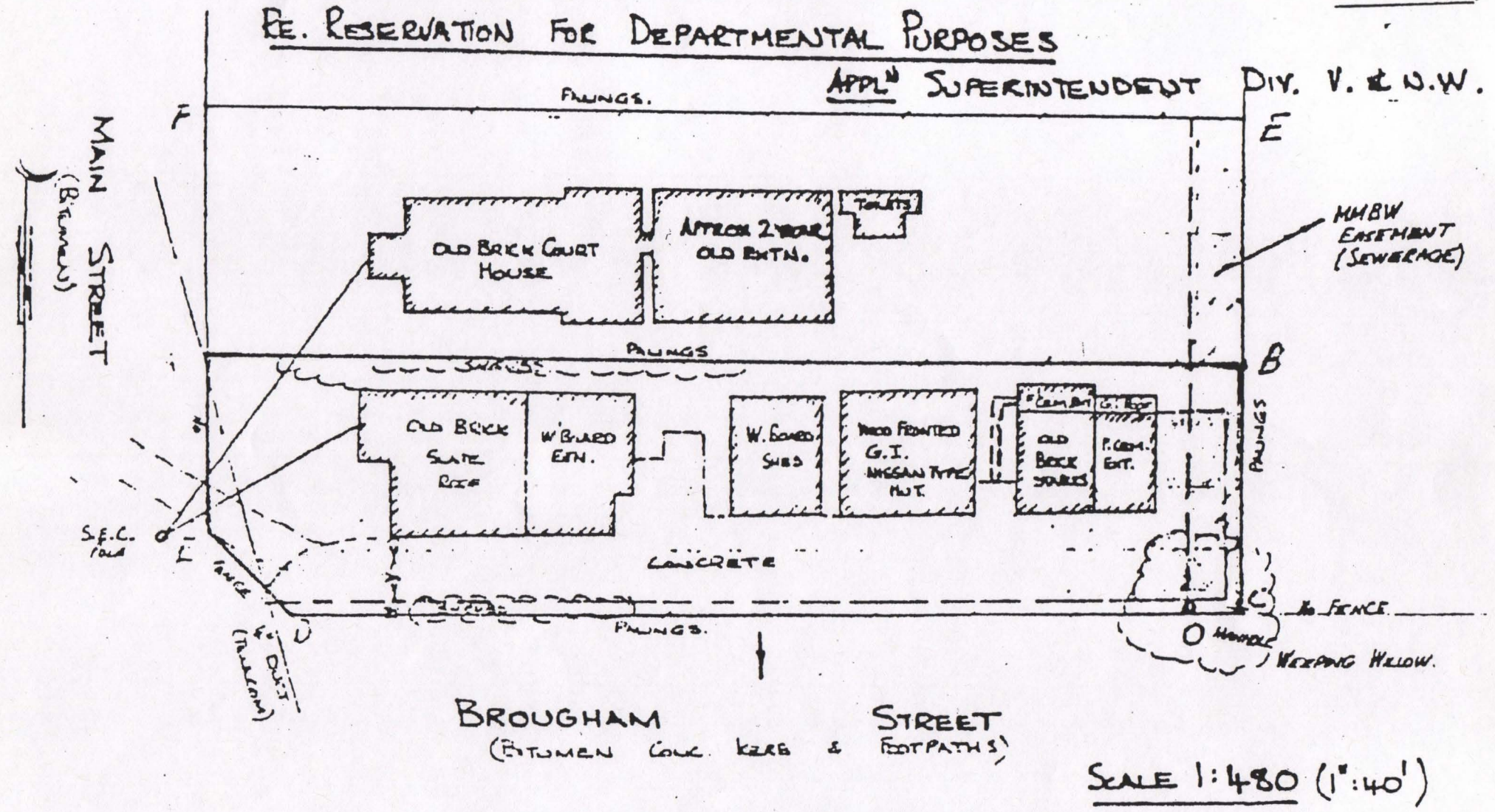


Date 1971

RE. RESERVATION FOR DEPARTMENTAL PURPOSES

APPL<sup>N</sup> SUPERINTENDENT

DIV. V. & N.W.



1971 SURVEYORS PLAN OF 728 MAIN ROAD AND THE ADJOINING COURTHOUSE



# Shire of Eltham

895 MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

POST OFFICE BOX 21, ELTHAM, VICTORIA, 3095

'THE EVERGREEN SHIRE'

Telephone: 430-1122

PLEASE QUOTE: KLF/LIL

251501

REFER:

K. Forbes

Mr. R. Yeoman,  
Secretary,  
Eltham Historical Society,  
86 Bridge St.,  
ELTHAM 3095.

5th June, 1981

Dear Mr. Yeoman,

At its meeting held Monday 1 June, 1981 Council considered advise from the Department of Crown Lands and Survey that the former Vermin and Noxious Weeds Office, cnr. Main Road, and Brougham Street, Eltham is no longer required and that the Department has requested the Public Works Department to investigate any needs it may have for the building.

The Department of Crown Lands and Survey has been advised that the Council is of the view that the building is of historical significance and part of the heritage of the community of Eltham and should be retained in the National Estate.

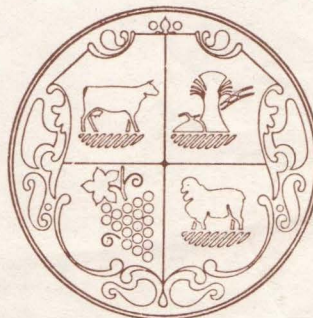
The Council has requested that the Historical Society give consideration to the suitability of the existing buildings on the site for historical purposes for example, a local museum.

Your advice on the matter in due course would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



D. I. Owens,  
Administration Manager.





## 3C/3.6 ELTHAM COMMUNITY FESTIVAL - 1981 (Cont.)

It was also suggested that the Shire Picnic held in March be combined with the October Festival, and that entertainment normally associated with the Shire Picnic be used say on Friday night as part of the Festival Opening.

Officer's Recommendation:

1. That the Council determine the level of financial support it is prepared to give to the Eltham Festival in 1981.
2. That application be made to the Arts Council of Victoria seeking subsidies towards the conduct of the Eltham Festival 1981.
3. That the Council charge its normal rental to organizations associated with the Eltham Festival and an amount equal to rentals received throughout the Festival period form part of this Council's funding allocation for the Festival.
4. That the Council investigate the purchase of appropriate signs which can be erected promoting the Eltham Festival during the month prior to the Festival taking place.
5. That the Council agree to the 1981 Festival being conducted over three days, viz. October 16, 17 and 18, 1981.

RECOMMENDATION 3C/3.6

1. That the Council allocate an amount of \$7,000 together with an amount of approximately \$3,000 in Council resources (staff time, facilities, etc.) towards the Eltham Community Festival 1981.
2. That application be made to the Arts Council of Victoria seeking subsidies towards the conduct of the Eltham Festival 1981.
3. That the Council investigate the purchase of appropriate signs which can be erected promoting the Eltham Festival during the month prior to the Festival taking place.
4. That the Council agree to the 1981 Festival being conducted over three days, viz. October 16, 17 and 18, 1981.

3C/3.7  
(251501)  
(KLF)

FORMER VERMIN & NOXIOUS WEEDS OFFICE, CNR. MAIN AND BROUGHAM ROADS, ELTHAM

Verbal advice has been received from the Department of Crown Lands and Survey that the former Vermin and Noxious Weeds Office, corner of Main Road and Brougham Street, Eltham, is no longer required, and that the Department has requested the Public Works Department to investigate any needs it may have for the building.

Officer's Comments:

The Eltham Historical Society is of the opinion that the building is of historical value as the first police station constructed in Eltham. The building is not classified or recorded on any list of historic buildings although no application has been made.

It adjoins the Court House which is classified under the National Trust and may assume some significance as part of an historical building group.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council support the Eltham Historical Society in a request to the Crown Lands Department to ensure preservation of the building for its historical significance.

RECOMMENDATION 3C/3.7

1. That the Department of Crown Lands and Survey be advised that the Council is of the view that the Land Office Building, Cnr. Main Road and Brougham Street, Eltham is of historical significance and part of the heritage of the community of Eltham, and for this reason should be retained in the National Estate.
2. That the Eltham Historical Society be requested to advise Council of the suitability of the existing buildings on the site for historic purposes, such as a local museum.

'C' 18/5 CM 1/6/81



MINUTES --Committee Meeting--10th June. 1981.

President -Mrs. K. STEPHENSON, opened the meeting; & welcomed members.

Present---Messrs--BASSET-SMITH: R. SMITH: C: SPRIGGS: J. SIDWELL: J: BELI: B. NESS  
& Mr. A. BAKER.

APOLOGIES\*\* --Mrs. O. SMITH: MESSRS---R. YEOMAN: G. BEYER:

Mr. C. SPRIGGS--accepted the temporary role of Secretary ; & read the minutes of the last committee meeting.

moved- B. Ness; sec-- .R. Smith.

Correspondence read -copy of Lower Yarra Manual of Fire Brigade-manual of operating procedures;-donated to the Society by-Mr. P. Basset-Smith.

letter from Mrs. Fletcher of DROUIN-- accompanied by a donation of \$5.00 for Society; this lady is keen to become a member; her brother lives at Doncaster. ( president to write to Mrs. Fletcher )

Nullimbik Historical news letter-as mention is made in letter, that Mrs. F. SPICER \*--a member of Eltham Soc. -has had an accident, President was asked to send her a Get-well-card from the Committee. (President told members that she had tried to ring Mrs. Spicer several times ; with no success).

letter from Australian Post .re. latest stamps of paintings by S.T. GILL, of Gold rush days.

Correspondence to be accepted --

moved--J. Sidwell; sec--P. Basset-Smith.

As Treasurer had told President that he would be present, & did not come to the meeting-delayed -evidently-there was no report of Treasurer's account. President will pay the donation of \$5.00. into the State Savings Account--

President rang G. BEYER, whose new house is not far away; & will leave the cheque there for Treasurer to fix up.

General Business.

President to write to Council showing interest in this building - former Vermin & Noxious Weeds Office-cnr. Main Road, & Brougham Streets--& asking that the members would be very pleased to look over the building, at an early date; to mention the possibility of the Society using this building as its headquarters; & as a possible museum;

Moved-K. Stephenson; sec--B. Ness.

President asked to write to Council , about it making certain that the cable used in the fence of the creek-between Beard St; & Parson's Road-is retained;

B. Ness told members that the cable was from the old cable trams-used by the trams when in service in Melbourne. Mention was made of the old horse trough, at the corner of Main Road, & Warrandyte road; -Eltham. The Society regretted the loss of the one in the Main Road, near where the present stand of taxis is.



President to tell Council that the Society is most keen that this trough to be retained so that the Society can include it in its array of historical items- now stored here & there, at places looked after by members.

moved -- ~~P.~~ P. Basset-Smith; seconded -- ~~B. Ness.~~ J. Ebeli

Discussion on the future visit to Williamstown took place; Mrs. K. Stephenson told members that she had the names of a Mr. Mrs. Phillips; from Yarraville-who were a keen supporters of the Williamstown Historical Society-& were now living in Judge Book Village; & she -K.S.- intending visiting this couple in the near future to ask them to join the Eltham Historical Society at the July meeting;

more discussion of this future ~~meeting~~-outing to be discussed at next meeting;

Mr. Basset -Smith agreed to organise a history of Henry Dandy's life -in Eltham-to be sent to the local newspaper-The Diamond Valley News.

Moved--P. Basset-Smith. Sec. -B. Ness-that a record be made of the excellent exhibition -the high standard -put in the windows of State Wide building, Main Road. Society is very grateful for the Secretary's efforts on their behalf in this display.

President closed meeting; supper was served.

10/30pm.

meeting left building in excellent order; all lights & heaters were switched off.



ED.H.S. - Old Police Residence.

References to #17 March 1981 - Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction  
Residence. Section of the Department of Crown  
lands and Survey

# 19 July 1981. - former police station and residence



Opened in Bourke District 1857

VPG

1930

From

1930

Victoria

Police

Gazette

**ELTHAM (G.P.).—***Strength.*—One 1st Const. (mtd.)*Population.*—2,600*Telephone No.*—Greensborough 91*Distances from adjoining stations.*—

Heidelberg, 6 miles; Diamond

Creek, 4 miles; Hurstbridge, 13

miles; Warrandyte, 9 miles; Don-

caster, 7 miles

*Five-roomed brick dwelling, slate roof,**on land 50' x 290', good repair**Distance from street.*—30'*Water and electric light laid on**Reserve.*—1 acre 2 roods*Fencing.*—Station, good repair; re-*serve requires repairs**Rooms.*—

1. 12' x 14', plaster and paper

2. 12' x 14', plaster and paper, ceiling lined

3. 12' x 14', plaster and paper, ceiling lined

4. 12' x 10', plaster and paper

*Kitchen.*—12' x 10', lined, painted*Pantry.*—6' x 8', lined*Wash-house and bathroom.*—10' x 8', lined, two*troughs; iron bath, shower**Hall.*—27' x 4', plaster and paper*Office.*—10' x 12' detached, W.B., iron roof*One W.C.**Stabling.*—One stall, good repair*Lockup.*—Two cells, good repair*One private hospital**Chemist visits daily**Doctors at Greensborough, 3 miles**Diamond Creek,**One State school**One R.C. school**One Higher Elementary school**Prosecuting Officer, Shire, £10 p.a.**Inspector of Factories, £6 p.a.**Acting Clerk of Petty Sessions, £12**p.a.**Electoral Registrar, Legislative**Council, £17 p.a.**Summoning Officer, Education, Nil*

4/3/1990 LOCATED IN HOTEL (YARRA) DISTRICT, DIVISION 2.



## Cubby haven

A QUAIN little cubby house has emerged on the front lawn of Eltham's Parks and Environment depot.

And cubby is quite an apt description for the building which has become a lunchroom for the shire's outdoor workers.

But as dainty as the building appears, its resemblance to the town's original police station will always be recognised.

The council was given approval to construct a replica of the police station which was built on the site during the 1860s.

And as similar as it is in appearance, the only crooks housed in the new building are weary workers trying to steal an extra five minutes for lunch or raiding petty cash for some more milk money.

Historian Russell Yeoman said the police station operated on the site until it moved to its current site in Pryor St in the 1950s.

Parks and Environment has occupied the old police residence on the site for six years.



218MF313

MONIKA Roitinger and Garry Bartlett outside the replica of the Eltham police station.

Eltham District  
Historical Society  
Inc. A0016285F  
P.O. Box 137, Eltham, Victoria 3095



# Environment office up for sale?

**THE PARKS and Environment Office, located at 728 Main Road, Eltham, may be sold in the ensuing months.**

It is expected that, once staff relocate to the Greensborough office in July/August, the office will be surplus to the Council's needs.

Despite Chief Executive Officer, Mr Barry Rochford,

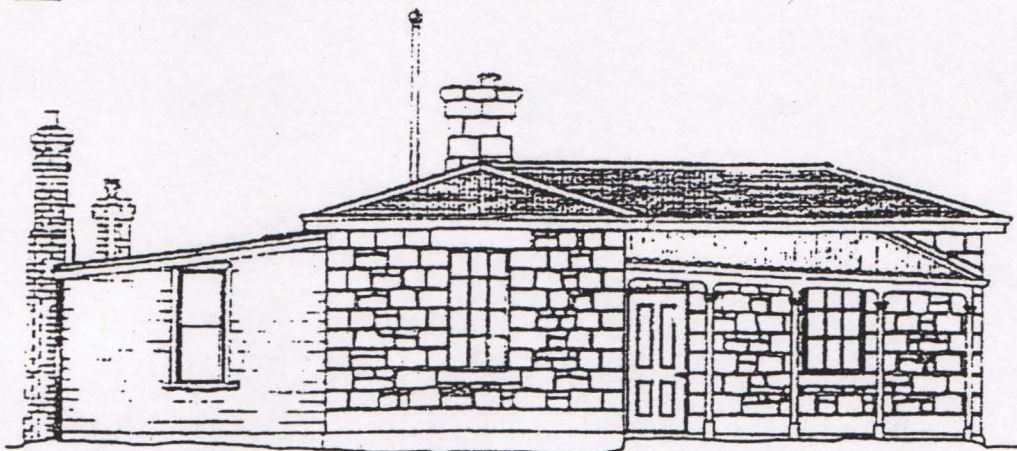
saying that the future of the building is yet to be determined, it is expected that the sale will be made and could raise between \$150,000 and \$200,000.



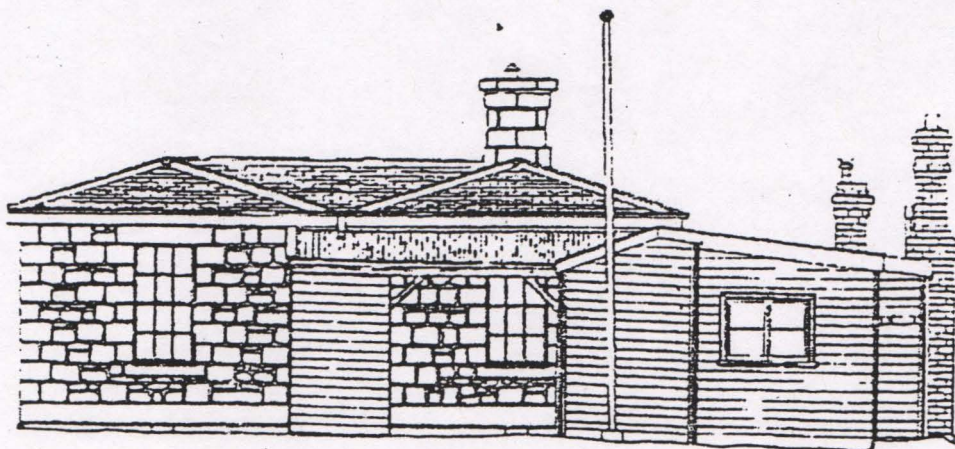
## Police Rescue

The National Trust has received some very welcome assistance from the Heidelberg Police, they have rebuilt the rear fence of the former Heidelberg Police Residence which is one of our smaller tenanted properties. The bluestone police residence is, with Eltham Police Residence, the oldest known police residence in the Metropolitan area. We wish to thank Senior

Constable Bolton of Heidelberg Police, who coordinated the donations and the works. Thanks also to Danahers Timber and Hardware for posts, rails and cement and Bunnings Hardware for palings and nails. Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE very kindly provided labour to build the fence. **Janet Burne**



JIKA STREET ELEVATION



BACK ELEVATION (WEST)

*National Trust  
Feb 1998 edition*

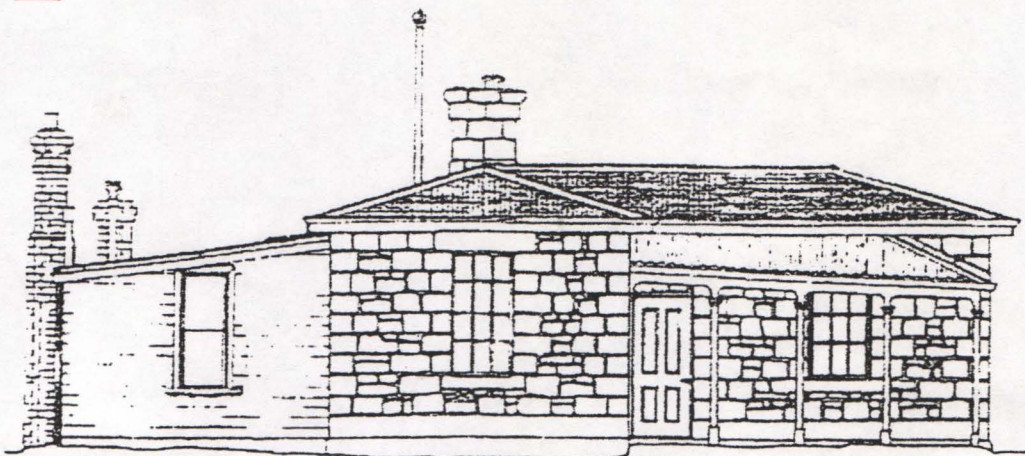
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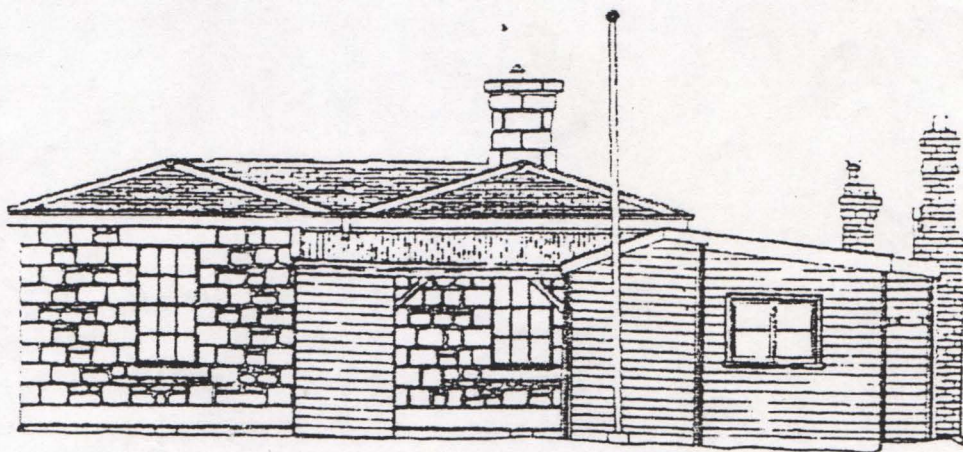
## Police Rescue

The National Trust has received some very welcome assistance from the Heidelberg Police, they have rebuilt the rear fence of the former Heidelberg Police Residence which is one of our smaller tenanted properties. The bluestone police residence is, with Eltham Police Residence, the oldest known police residence in the Metropolitan area. We wish to thank Senior

Constable Bolton of Heidelberg Police, who coordinated the donations and the works. Thanks also to Danahers Timber and Hardware for posts, rails and cement and Bunnings Hardware for palings and nails. Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE very kindly provided labour to build the fence. **Janet Burne**



JIKA STREET ELEVATION



BACK ELEVATION (WEST)

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Feb 1998 edition*

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National  
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Feb 98  
edition

New

## Great Lime Revival

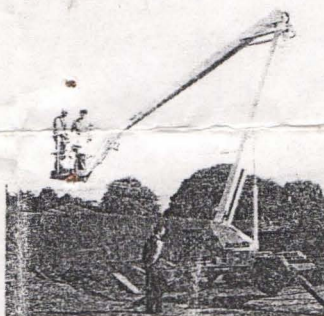
The Great Lime Revival conference, organised by International Specialised Skills and supported by the National Trust, was held at Ormond College at Melbourne University on the 21st and 22nd of November. The keynote speaker was Bob Bennett from the Lime Centre in the UK. The conference focused on the many and varied uses for lime, made by burning limestone then rehydrating it by a process known as 'slaking', which has been the principal binder in mortars, renders, plasters and wash finishes for thousands of years. The conference was a timely

reminder of the benefits of this traditional and versatile material, used by architects, engineers, fresco painters, plasterers, stonemasons and many other craftsmen. Bob Bennett was a lively and enthusiastic speaker, with extensive practical experience in the use of lime. He consults extensively to heritage practitioners in the UK and we are hoping he will be able to visit Australia again soon to conduct workshops on the use of lime which will provide heritage practitioners with some 'hands on' experience. **Janet Burne, Conservation Architect**

## Birds Eye View

Trust staff at Rippon Lea and Mulberry Hill were given the opportunity to cast an eagle eye over the roofs of these properties recently. Using a cherry picker lift, the Conservation Architect, Jan Burne, and Rippon Lea property Manager, Richard Heathcote, were able to gain a new perspective on the Rippon Lea roof. This was particularly useful for confirming the roof's condition and establishing the best way to access the high

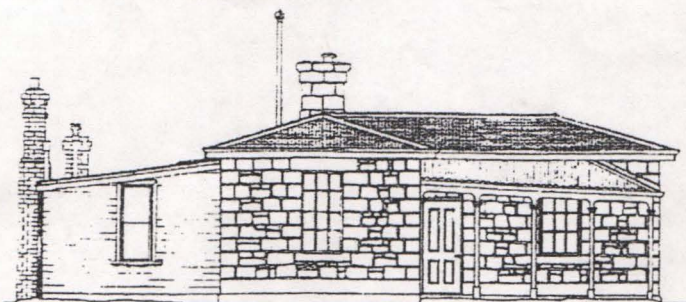
levels of the building for conservation works. Many thanks to Tam Pierce, Bu Conservator, for driving to and to Mal Chambers, of Snorkel Work Elevating Platforms Pty. Ltd., who kindly lent the equipment two days. Rippon Lea was able to take a current photograph of the mansion from the exact height and location that a photograph taken from the windmill (removed) in 1902.



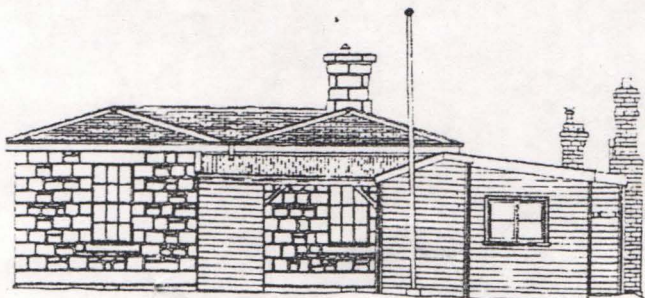
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JIKA STREET ELEVATION



BACK ELEVATION (WEST)

## Green Corps at it Again!

Australian Trust for Conservation *Green Corps* volunteers continued their program of conservation partnership with the National Trust last November, this time at the Trust's historic 1930s property Mulberry Hill, where repairs and reconstruction were carried out to timber gates and

fences dating back to the early days of Lindsay ownership. Mulberry Hill committee members Bruce Robinson and John Vale also donated large amounts of time and invaluable experience to the project.

*Green Corps volunteer Rafael Heale at Mulberry Hill*



National Trust  
Feb 1998 edition



# A Journey in Time

A column about Nillumbik's history



THEN: Eltham Police Station in 1903.

## The first police office

THE police residence, the stables, the court house, the three cell lock-up and a weather board office were built beside the Eltham Court House at 728 Main Road about 1860.

This photograph (above) shows a facsimile of the first police office which stood in the same place in an early 1900 photograph.

The Eltham Council built this replacement structure as a lunch room come office for its parks and garden department in the late 1980s.

The cut bluestone front garden edging blocks were part of the 1860 lock-up which was demolished in the late 1950s. Other blocks from the building are still visible to those in the know, who were around during the cleaning up of the site.

Also during the late 1950s, there was a call by the public to have the police move to a more central site in Eltham township.

A house and property were purchased in Pryor Street, refurbishment and alterations took place over a period of time as recent local press articles show.

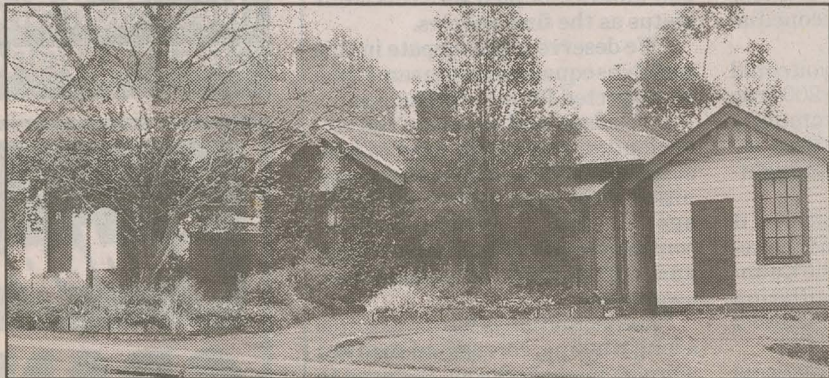
In the backyard at 728 the brick stable house still stands but the wooden wash house and pan serviced out-house went their way when the sewerage pipes of Eltham came to pass by.

Current residents of this Nillumbik Shire managed property are: Society for Growing Native Plants, Nillumbik Garden club, Eltham Concert Band and Music Library, Eltham District Historical Society Inc. Research Centre.

It is still a public property to visit, but not for its original purposes.

The address is 728 Main Rd (corner of Brougham St) look for the sign.

**Harry Gilham, Eltham District Historical Society, phone 9439 1175.**



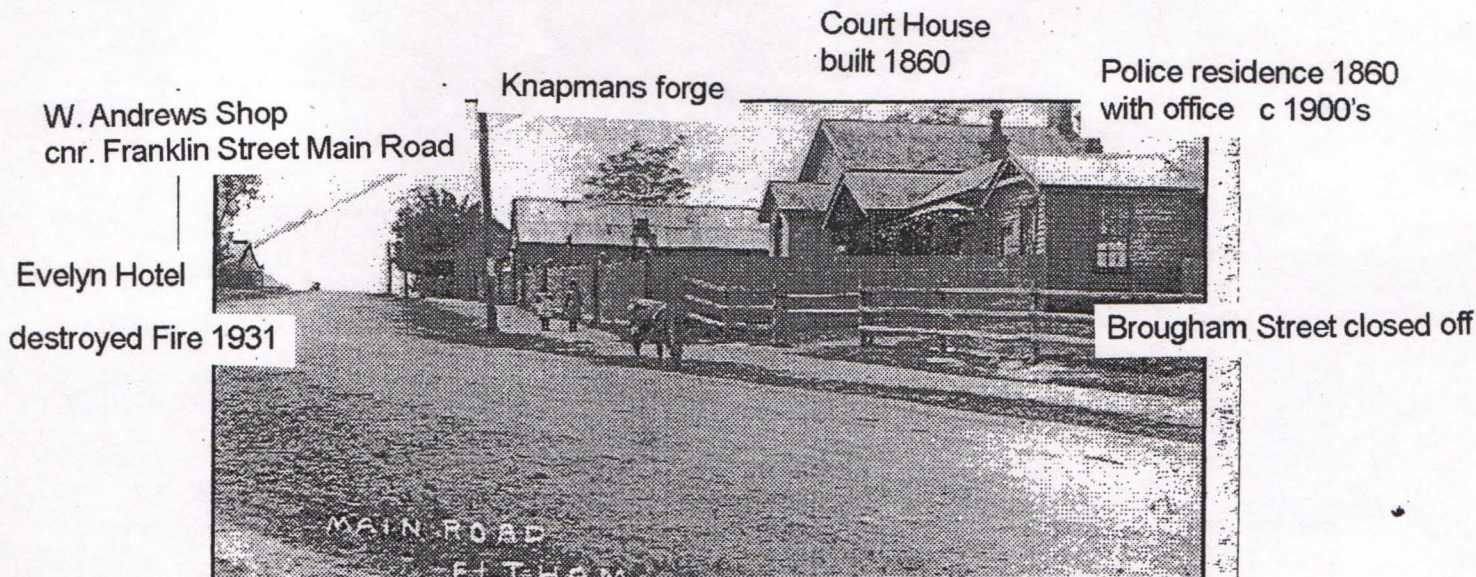
NOW: The former police station as it is today



# A Journey in Time

A column about Nillumbik's history

December 13, 2000



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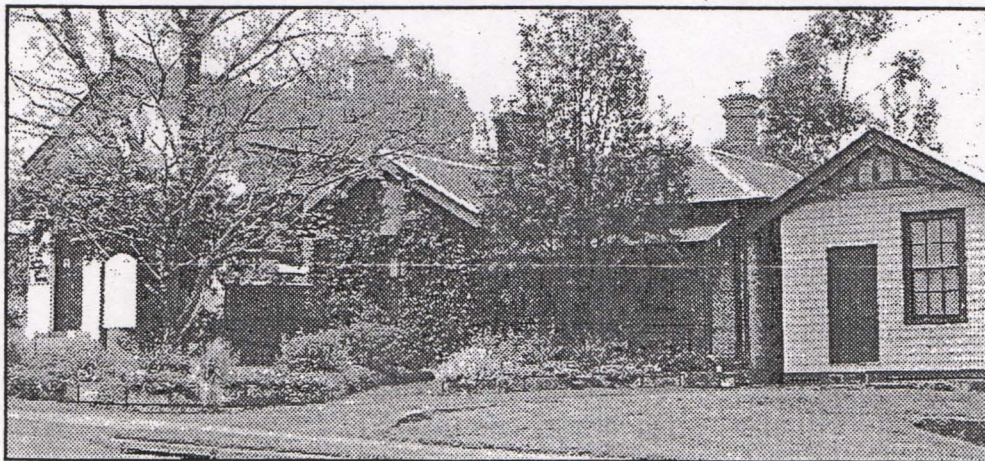
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NOW: The former police station as it is today



728 MAIN ROAD ELTHAM.

*lunch*

The Police Residence, the stables, the out houses, the 2 cell, bluestone lock-up and a weather board Office were built beside the Eltham Court House around 1860.

This photograph shows a facsimile of the first Police Office which stood in the same place in an early 1900 photograph.

The Eltham Council built this replacement structure as a lunch room cum office for its Parks and Garden Department in the late 1980's. The cut bluestone front garden edging blocks were part of the 1860 lock-up which was demolished in the late 1950's. Other blocks from the building are still visible to those in the know, who were around during the cleaning up of the site.

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Current residents of this Nillumbik Shire Council Managed property are:

Society for Growing Australian Plants

Nillumbik (formerly Montmorency) Garden Club

Eltham Concert Band, music library.

Eltham District Historical Society Inc. Research Centre.

It is still a public property to visit, but not for its original purposes.

The address 728 Main Road (corner of Brougham Street)-look for the sign.

Harry Gilham  
E.D.H.S. Inc.  
Ph. 94391175.

Compiled Dec. 2000.





Our Ref: 13-1-2 272/02

VICTORIA POLICE

Office of the Chief Commissioner  
Corporate Communications Division  
Police Historical Unit

S/Sgt. John Scully  
Eltham Police Station  
DX 21 1674

Victoria Police Centre  
637 Flinders Street,  
Melbourne 3005  
Victoria, Australia  
DX 21 0063  
Telephone (61 3) 9247 5214  
Facsimile (61 3) 9247 5215

Dear John,

PO Box 415  
Melbourne 3005  
Victoria, Australia

I am writing in response to your E-mail of 12 September 2002, in which you requested a list of O/Cs of the Eltham Police Station.

I am pleased to be able to advise the following members have been In Charge of the Eltham Police Station:-

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REG. NO.</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SERVED</u>
LAWLOR, Peter	668	S/Const.	1857 to 1872
LYONS, Myles Archibald	673	S/Const.	1872 to 31.12.1889
DUNGEY, Arthur Eggston	2859	S/Const.	01.01.1890 to 15.05.1893
WILLIAMSON, Ebenezer	3667	Constable	15.05.1893 to 27.10.1896
ROBERTS, Richard	3155	Constable	08.02.1897 to 13.02.1900
MAHER, Thomas	3472	Constable	13.02.1900 to 22.10.1902
BOXHALL, James	4396	Constable	14.11.1902 to 28.04.1904
STEVENS, Isaac Newton	3829	Constable	29.04.1904 to 01.05.1911
CONE, John Thomas	3935	Constable	01.05.1911 to 09.07.1922
SARGEANT, William Charles	4625	Constable	01.08.1922 to 01.03.1927
FITZPATRICK, James Francis	5974	Constable	24.03.1927 to 08.08.1930
STANTON, Bertie	6509	Constable	21.08.1930 to 01.11.1936
O'DONNELL, Samuel	7843	1 <sup>st</sup> Const.	18.12.1936 to 25.09.1940
SHIELDS, Harold	7759	1 <sup>st</sup> Const.	17.10.1940 to 28.04.1946
MARTIN, Charles Thomas	9058	1 <sup>st</sup> Const.	07.08.1946 to 01.01.1949
KING, Samuel James	8698	1 <sup>st</sup> Const.	26.01.1949 to 18.05.1952
BRIANT, Charles	8101	1 <sup>st</sup> Const.	04.09.1952 to 03.06.1955
DRAPER, James Chester	8281	1 <sup>st</sup> Const.	10.06.1955 to 27.11.1958
McGOUGH, John Stanley	9214	S/Const.	15.12.1958 to 29.08.1962
BRUCE, Ian William	10572	S/Const.	18.09.1962 to 04.10.1964
GLOVER, Albert Frederick Charles	10740	S/Const.	05.10.1962 to 18.12.1966
LITTLE, Sidney Frederick	9764	S/Const.	16.12.1966 to 24.08.1969
FENTON, Allan	10282	S/Sergeant	25.08.1969 to 10.07.1973
BATEMAN, John Stuart	12305	S/Sergeant	25.07.1973 to 23.05.1976
CRISFIELD, Robert Harry	10854	S/Sergeant	24.06.1976 to 05.07.1977
FRY, Robert Llewellyn	13446	S/Sergeant	24.08.1977 to 18.09.1979
JOYCE, Graham Vincent	13452	S/Sergeant	22.10.1979 to 01.09.1982
O'TOOLE, Gerard Joseph	12646	S/Sergeant	29.09.1982 to 15.02.1987
McPHAN, Clyne Harold	16069	S/Sergeant	19.03.1987 to 01.07.1991
SCULLY, John	18243	S/Sergeant	22.07.1991 to .....



4/11/2004

[Simple search](#)[Advanced search](#)[Listings](#)**FORMER POLICE QUARTERS****728 MAIN ROAD ~~ELTHAM~~**

VHR Number	H1539
File Number	601759
Year Construction Started	1859
Municipality	Nillumbik Shire
Extent of Registration	All of the place known as FORMER POLICE QUARTERS 728 MAIN ROAD <del>ELTHAM</del>
Architect/Designer	Public Works Department (Architect not known)
Architectural Style	Victorian Period (1851-1901) Italianate
Spatial Information	-37.72404, 145.14475
Heritage Act Categories	Heritage place

*Click on the arrow below to view the Item Categories.***Item Categories**

Item Group	Item Category
Law Enforcement	Police station
	Staff Accommodation

*Click on the arrow below to view the Statement of Significance. Note: Some records may not yet have a Statement of Significance.***Statement of Significance**

**RECOMMENDED STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: NOT YET ENDORSED BY THE HERITAGE COUNCIL** This notional statement was produced as part of an Online Data Upgrade Project October 2003. The project resulted in draft statements of significance. This is a recommendation only and has not been gazetted.

What is significant? The Former Police Quarters, **Eltham** are part of a larger police complex designed by the Public Works Department and were 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 c. 1950s. The existing detached weatherboard building, located close to the residence, is a c.1980s 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. How is it significant? The Former Police Quarters, **Eltham** is historically and architecturally significant to the State of Victoria. 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 **Court House** which together form an example of an early justice precinct. The residence and stables are also important for their association with the earliest development of **Eltham** township. 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.

*Click on the arrow below to view the Images. Note: Some records may not yet have images.***Images**



ELTHAM 1860  
FORMER POLICE QUARTERS  
728 MAIN ROAD  
ELTHAM

Collated by Eltham District Historical Society Incorporated  
2005



## ELTHAM POLICE QUARTERS

Opened in the Bourke District in 1857 reads the report by the Bourke District Police Inspector wherein it recommends that approval be given to the Eltham Communities application for a police station and court house to be established in "Little Eltham". He also advised the Commissioner of Police that he could obtain a cottage with a two stalled stable with a fenced paddock of four acres, for the sum of ten shillings a well.

A further report in May 1858 records that Constable Quirke is stationed at Eltham and the Police Department as 'renting indefinitely at ten shillings per week the cottage of William Jarrold.

The Police Quarters construction began in 1859 on the land adjacent to the Court House in Main Road by occupying the corner block of Brougham Street and Main Road (formerly Maria Street). Police Department Records show the following details of the site and buildings in the 1920's.

A five-roomed brick dwelling with a projecting front room and verandah, a slate roof on land 50 feet x 290 feet depth.

Rooms	12 feet x 14 feet plaster and paper
	12 feet x 14 feet plaster and paper and lined ceiling
	12 feet x 14 feet plaster and paper and lined ceiling
	12 feet x 10 feet plaster and paper
Kitchen	12 feet x 10 feet lined, painted
Pantry	8 feet x 10 feet lined
Wash-house and bathroom	10 feet x 8 feet lined
One W.C.	— formerly a pan service
Stabling	- one stall
Lock-up	- bluestone 22 feet x 8 feet — 2 cells — one trance.

The single stall brick stable with a loft is located at the rear of the residence. A Police Office building of weatherboard and corrugated iron roof was positioned beside the house and appears in photographs from around 1907. The current facsimile office was constructed on the original site in October 1991 by Eltham Shire Council when its outdoor/garden staff occupied the site.



●  
FORMER 1) POLICE RESIDENCE AND  
2) REAR STABLE,  
PARKS OFFICE,  
728 MAIN ROAD,  
ELTHAM

BUILT:

1860<sup>1</sup>

2 BLUESTONE CELL BLOCK AT  
REAR DEMOLISHED

1980S REPLICA OF ONE ROOM  
TIMBER POLICE STATION  
CONSTRUCTED

THEMES ILLUSTRATED BY THIS  
PLACE:

THE ORIGINAL ELTHAM  
TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT

BASIS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

HISTORY  
ILLUSTRATION OF THE THEMES  
ARCHITECTURE  
STREETSCAPE

DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE:

LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

EXTENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

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

RECOMMENDATIONS:

ADDITION OF ALL OF THE  
BUILDINGS AND LAND TO THE  
HISTORIC BUILDINGS  
REGISTER AS PART OF THE  
CURTILAGE OF THE COURT  
HOUSE, GIVEN THEIR VERY  
CLOSE HISTORICAL AND  
PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIP

REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL  
ESTATE

LOCAL PLANNING PROTECTION

CONSERVATION AREA – ELTHAM  
GATEWAY



1) Former Police Residence and 2) Stable, 728 Main Road cont'd.

## CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

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 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century residents knew. The rear stable is one of the just two 19<sup>th</sup> century stable buildings in the Municipality (the other being the local stone one at Sweeney's Cottage in Sweeney's Lane)

## HISTORY:

Original Use:	Police residence <sup>1</sup>
Later Use:	Lands Department's local office <sup>2</sup>  Parks and Environment Section, Eltham Shire, office <sup>2</sup>
Original Owner:	Police Department <sup>1</sup>
Later Owners :	Public Works Department <sup>2</sup>  Shire of Eltham
Designers:	Public Works Department (Victoria) <sup>1</sup>
Builders:	Langridge, Wright and Witney <sup>3</sup>

A Court of Petty Sessions and Police Residence were built in Eltham's Main Road in 1859-60 following residents' demands for better police protection. A small timber police office, which was free-standing on the southern side of the Police Residence, may have been incorporated into additions at the rear of the house, later demolished. A lock-up at the rear has also been demolished, but the altered old stables have been retained. After relocation of the police station, the former residence was used for many years as the local office of the Lands Department and, more recently, has been renovated for the Eltham Council's Parks and Environment Section.



●

1) Former Police Residence and 2) Stable, 728 Main Road - cont'd.

DESCRIPTION

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.

SOURCES:

1. National Trust file No. 3253.
2. "Eltham Heritage Walk", Heritage Week 1989, Russell Yeoman.
3. Diamond Valley News, June 1982.

David Bick "Shire of Eltham Heritage Study" (1990-1994)

Built

History

Cultural Significance

Description

Sources



# Eltham District Historical Society

Incorporated No. A0016285F

## Local History Centre

728 Main Road (PO Box 137) Eltham Victoria 3095 Australia

Email: [edhs1@bigpond.com](mailto:edhs1@bigpond.com) Website: [www.tinyurl.com/elthamdhs](http://www.tinyurl.com/elthamdhs)

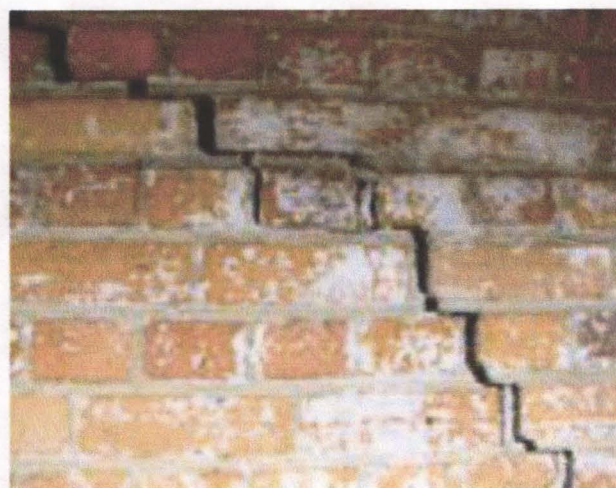
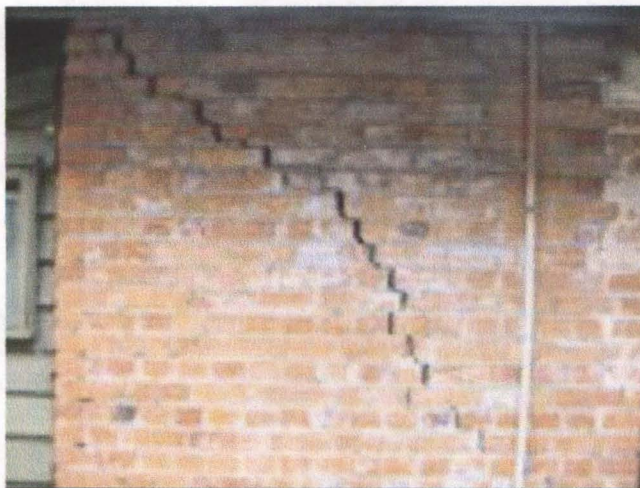


**Report to:** Jenny Baker, Coordinator, Living and Learning Nillumbik 739 Main Road, Eltham

Further to your recent email of 18 March 2010 regarding our concerns about structural and maintenance issues of the building at 728 Main Road, Eltham we thought that the following information may assist in identifying and reporting to Council the urgency of the work required.

### Structural cracks in external and internal walls

There is significant cracking in the external/internal walls to the extent that daylight can be seen from inside the building. The severity of a number of these cracks has increased recently and it would appear that some urgent maintenance is necessary to prevent further structural damage.



### Deterioration of external brickwork

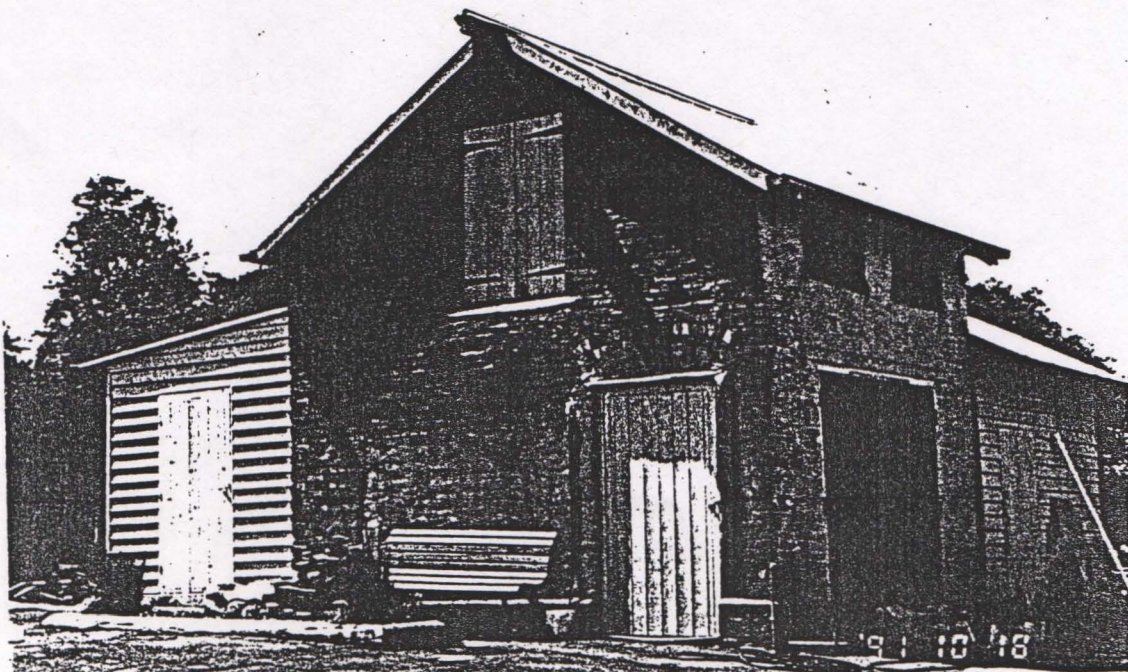
The surface of some individual bricks or sections of bricks in the external walls are deteriorating. While this has previously been evident the rate of breakdown of the brick surfaces seems to have increased in recent times. Major repairs would appear to be required to rectify this damage.



The Eltham District Historical Society asks that early attention be given to these problems, as we are concerned that the building at 728 Main Road, Eltham may become a risk or unsafe to occupy.

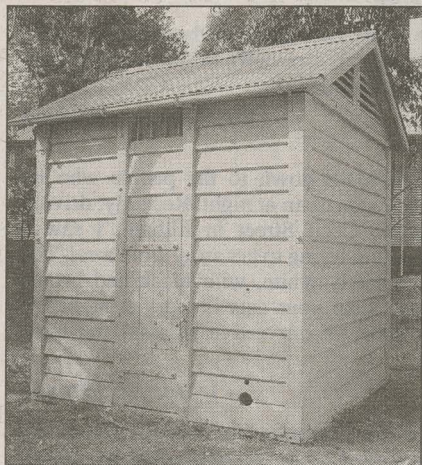
14 April 2010







# Heritage permit bid



**Listed:** the timber lock-up in Youth Rd.

A LITTLE piece of Eltham from the 19th century is waiting to be moved to the former police residence and courthouse in Main Rd.

Nillumbik Council has applied for a permit to move the portable timber lock-up from its present site at the end of Youth Rd, Eltham, to the Heritage Victoria-listed former police residence.

Spokesman Justin Napier last week said the council needed approval from the heritage authority to move the structure to the Main Rd site.

He said the permit, expected to be issued by next month,

would be advertised in case there were any public objections. The work would be carried out by specialist removalists.

Eltham Historical Society president Harry Gillham said the cell would complete a story told whenever school children were taken on a historic tour of the buildings.

“We think that even portable buildings ought to be part of our history,” he said.

It is believed the single-cell lock-up was built in the late 1800s.

## Eltham Library tops

STAFF at Eltham Library are feeling proud at the moment, as winners of the inaugural John Marshall award for customer service.

“We’re delighted. It was a close decision,” assistant manager Hilda Gregory said.

The award, begun by former Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service chief executive officer John Marshall, is open to the seven branch libraries in the municipalities of Whittlesea, Banyule and Nillumbik.

Ms Gregory said a “mystery shop-

Eltham District Historical Society (elthamhistory.org.au)

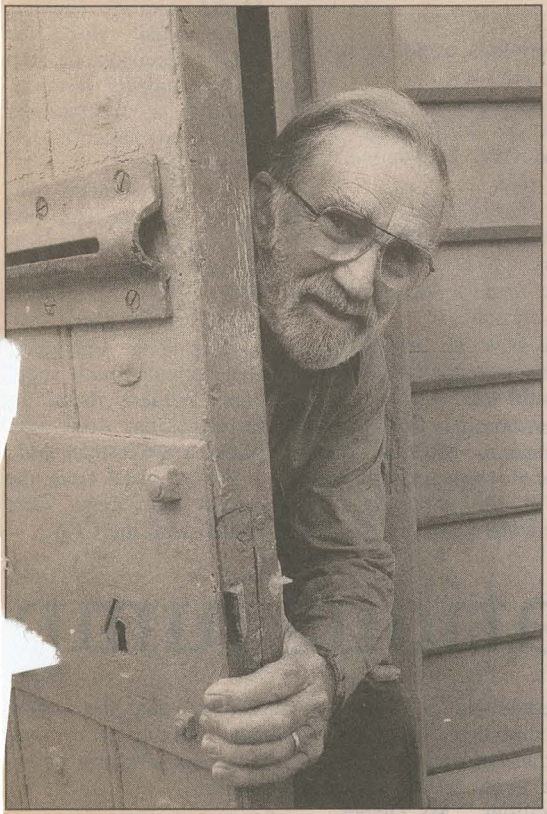
per” visited each library three times, asked specific questions, and then rated the service accordingly. Assessment covered joining up a new borrower, introduction to the service, finding information and lending and return of books.

Ms Gregory said the Eltham Library had about 15,000 people walk through the door each month. In addition to books and magazines, the library provided CD Roms, tapes and Internet access, she said.



21/3/2001

# Old lockup in new site



**Contemplation:** Harry Gilham tries out Eltham's historic lockup at its new home. N38DV207  
Eltham District Historical Society (elthamhistory.org.au)

ELTHAM miscreants had better look out – the suburb's historic lockup is back in use. But its inmates are more likely to be students soaking up a bit of atmosphere than parents who fail to send their children to school.

But that wasn't always the case.

Eltham historian Harry Gilham said the 100-year-old records showed parents who failed to have their children vaccinated, or who did not send them to school, were sentenced to a few hours in the lockup.

The portable lockup was moved on March 9 by crane and truck from Youth Rd, Eltham, where it had been used as a store-room for the past 20 years, to the old courthouse site on the corner of Main Rd and Brougham St, Eltham.

Mr Gilham estimated it was about 100 years old and said it was probably brought to Eltham be-

cause "they were concerned about the drunk and disorderly from the two pubs up the hill".

"The term 'lockup' means it wasn't a jail, it was an overnight thing," he said.

The lockup was designed to be portable and came in kit form. "Lockup No. 17 Walls" and "Lockup No. 17 Ceiling" can still be read on the inside.

"I don't see a nail in the whole thing," Mr Gilham said. "The whole darn thing just locks together."

But that didn't mean the 3m square structure was flimsy. Its walls, floor and ceiling were about 8cm thick. Concealed 2.5cm-thick piping runs vertically down the walls through the boards and can be seen through holes in the wall cut at some later stage.

To arrange a tour of the lockup, call 9439 9717.

ALL THIS FOR THE FAMILY

25% OFF!

<p><b>Bakers Delight</b></p> <p>6 pack hot cross buns. Freshly baked daily.</p>	<p><b>Marchio's Deli</b></p> <p>Footy Frankfurts Cocktail Frankfurts. Were \$5<sup>99</sup>kg.</p>
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VICTORIA POLICE

Our Ref: 13-1-4 79/01

Office of the Chief Commissioner  
Corporate Communications Division  
Police Historical Unit

Mr Harry Gilham  
Eltham District Historical Society  
P.O. Box 137  
ELTHAM VIC 3095

Victoria Police Centre  
637 Flinders Street,  
Melbourne 3005  
Victoria, Australia  
DX 21 0063  
Telephone (61 3) 9247 5214  
Facsimile (61 3) 9247 5278

PO Box 415  
Melbourne 3005  
Victoria, Australia

Dear Harry,

I am writing in response to your letter of 8 March 2001, in which you requested a laser print copy of a photograph of the Eltham Police Station cell block taken in 1963.

I am pleased to be able to enclose a copy of this photograph, which I hope will be of some assistance.

If you feel I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact this office again.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Powell  
for  
Peter Free  
MANAGER  
Police Historical Unit  
20 March 2001







ELTHAM POLICE STATION - CELL BLOCK - 1963.  
(23 Prison ST).



**ASSOCIATED CRANE TRUCKS PTY LTD**

**833 MAIN ROAD**

**HURSTBRIDGE VICTORIA 3099**

**PHONE :9718.2100**

**FAX :97181780**

**ACN :069 442 404**

FAX

SENT BY: *Graham Black*

TO: *Harry Gilham*

DATE: *26-2-99*

ATT: *Nº 7 Leonard Cres*

FAX NO: *03 - 718 1780*

FAX NO: *Eltham*

REF: *Police lock up*

NO OF PAGES: *1* *3095*

*Harry, I have checked out the building  
for moving from Eltham Park to  
Brougham St.*

*I estimate that I can move  
it for \$1080-*

*We will need some timber to block  
it up on at Brougham St. to make  
it level. I intend to lift the lock  
up over the trees to load it, and  
will lift it over the fence from Brougham  
St onto the back yard of the site*

*I hope the whole thing works out for you*

*Regards  
Graham Black.*





# VICTORIA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

Published by Authority.

No. 165.]

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7.

[1858.

Crown Law Offices,  
Melbourne, 29th November, 1858.  
**CLAIMS AGAINST THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S  
DEPARTMENT.**

It is particularly requested that all Claims for the current year against the above Department may be forwarded to the offices without delay. Officers of the department are expected to exert themselves fully with the above request.

By His Excellency's Command,  
H. S. CHAPMAN.

Office of the Chief Medical Officer,  
Melbourne, 4th December, 1858.  
**CLAIMS AGAINST THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.**

It is particularly requested that all claims against this Department, for the current year, for medical attendance, examinations, examination of lunatics, the supply of medical stores, &c., may be forwarded to this office during the next month, in order that all accounts for the service of the year may be settled within the year.

W. McCREA,  
Chief Medical Officer.

**VICTORIA STEAM NAVIGATION BOARD.**  
16 VICTORIA No. 25.

**NOTICE.**

Owners and Masters of Steam Vessels trading to or from any Port, Harbor, Creek, or River in Victoria.

OF HIGH AND LOW PRESSURE STEAM VESSELS FOR HALF-YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1859.

NOTICE is hereby given that under the fifth clause of the above cited Act the owner of every steam vessel employed as stated is bound to have the vessel and the whole of the machinery surveyed by the Engineer and Shipwright appointed for that purpose by the Victoria Steam Navigation Board, in the manner and at the times following.

*Franchise.*—Vessel and machinery—June and December.

*Franchise.*—Vessel—June and December.

*Franchise.*—Machinery—March, June, September, and December.

The owners and masters of steam vessels are requested to send that in future the Fees of both Surveyors are to be paid to the Secretary at the office of the Board before the Surveyors are appointed.

No Fees whatever are to be paid to the Surveyors. Declarations of the Surveyors having been obtained, the same are to be transmitted within fourteen days from the date of the survey to the Secretary of the Board, addressed to the Steam Navigation Board, King street, Melbourne. A penalty of £5 is fixed by the Act for every day that the sending of any such declaration is delayed beyond fourteen days.

By Order,  
CHARLES B. PAYNE,  
Secretary.  
Steam Navigation Board,  
Department of Trade and Customs,  
Melbourne, 25th November, 1858.

Public Lands Office,  
Melbourne, 2nd December, 1858.  
**MELBOURNE LAND SALE.—30TH DECEMBER, 1858.**

In reference to the Proclamation contained in the Government Gazette of the 26th November last, relative to the sale of certain Public Lands to be held at Melbourne on the 30th December instant: Notice is hereby given that lots of land have been withdrawn from the said sale.

By His Excellency's Command,  
C. GAVAN DUFFY.  
DECEMBER 7TH, 1858.—1.

Crown Law Offices,  
Melbourne, 6th December, 1858.

**NOTICE TO CLERKS OF PETTY SESSIONS.**

THE attention of Clerks of Petty Sessions is directed to the instructions contained in a Circular, dated the 16th of October last, and issued from the office of the Gold Receiver, Melbourne, calling upon them to make application for forms of Pawnbrokers', Refreshment, Night, Billiard, Hawkers', and Slaughter-yard Licenses, and to forward to the Gold Receiver's Office all forms of licenses in their possession, with the exception of the refreshment licenses then recently supplied to them. Those clerks who have not already complied with the directions contained in the third paragraph of the aforesaid Circular, are requested to do so without further delay.

HENRY G. ARCHER,  
Secretary.

Chief Secretary's Office,  
Melbourne, 4th December, 1858.

**ARARAT AND STAWELL ESCORT.**

IT is hereby notified that on and after the 10th of December instant, the Gold Escort will leave Stawell on alternate Fridays, and Raglan on alternate Mondays, reaching Ballaarat the same day; returning from Ballaarat to Raglan the following Wednesdays, Thursdays to Ararat, and Fridays to Stawell.

By His Excellency's Command,  
H.9936. JOHN O'SHANASSY.

Chief Secretary's Office,  
Melbourne, 29th November, 1858.

**MINING SURVEYOR.**

HIS Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to appoint

MR. THOMAS E. THORNELY

to be a Mining Surveyor in and for the mining district of Beechworth, vice Mr. Michael Herbert, resigned.

By His Excellency's Command,  
G.9755. JOHN O'SHANASSY.

Crown Law Offices,  
Melbourne, 7th December, 1858.

**PETTY SESSIONS, INDIGO.**

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor has appointed

THE INDIGO GOLD FIELDS, in the mining district of Beechworth,

to be a place whereat a Court of Petty Sessions shall be holden, under the authority of the Act of Council 3 William IV. No. 3, sec. 17.

By His Excellency's Command,  
H. S. CHAPMAN.

Crown Law Offices,  
Melbourne, 7th December, 1858.

**PETTY SESSIONS, ELTHAM.**

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor has appointed

ELTHAM, in the county of Evelyn,

to be a place whereat a Court of Petty Sessions shall be holden, under the authority of the Act of Council 3 William IV. No. 3, sec. 17.

By His Excellency's Command,  
H. S. CHAPMAN.



921. Ditto.—Amherst ...	(5.) Anderson, Nicol, Meadows, Hunter, Bourke	Warden's office, Back Creek, Amherst	Three hundred and seventy-five pounds (£375)	George Anderson ...	No ...	...	...	...	30th August, 1859 (in lieu of contract 655, cancelled J. Stabb having failed to take up the contract) — C.61   257	No. 86   59. Division 26.—Warden's office, Amherst.
922. Ditto.—Gipps Land	(3.) McArthur, Addison, Bowden and Co.	Repairs, &c., police buildings at Livingstone Creek, Tongeo Mungee, and Tambo	Four hundred and ninety pounds (£490)	P. McArthur ...	No ...	...	...	...	30th August, 1859	No. 86   59. Division 31.—Police buildings.
923. Ditto.—Ditto ...	(2.) Geddes and Smith, Platt	Repairs, &c., police buildings at Sale and Stradbroke	Two hundred and fifty-four pounds (£254)	Geddes and Smith...	No ...	...	...	...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
924. Ditto.—Eltham ...	(8.) Langridge and Co., McCarter, Baillie, Nicol and Co., Chadley, Amos and Co., Cameron, Payne	Police buildings at Eltham...	One thousand one hundred and fifty pounds seven shillings (£1150 7s.)	Langridge, Wright and Withey	No ...	...	...	...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
925. Ditto.—Pahran ...	(1.) ...	Extra work on contract No. 881, police buildings, Pahran	Fourteen pounds twelve shillings and sixpence (£14 12s. 6d.)	Wm. Mewburn ...	Yes ...	...	Satisfactorily	6th September, 1859	Ditto.	
926. Ditto.—Melbourne	(20.) Cunningham and Co., Amos and Co., Nicol and Co., Chadley, Cornwell, McKenzie, Bell Brothers, Linacre, Lawrence, Black and Co., Glaister, Mitchell, James, McLean, Ireland, Brown, Maver and Co., Jarvis, Teale and Co., Gracie and Co.	Turnkeys' quarters, Central Gaol, Melbourne	Eight thousand five hundred pounds (£8500)	Cunningham and Holtom	Yes ...	...	Satisfactorily	30th August, 1859	No. 86   59. Division 32. Gaol, Melbourne.	
927. Ditto.—Ballarat	(1.) ...	Additions and alterations, New Gaol, Ballarat	Five thousand (£5000)...	Evans and Barker...	Yes ...	...	Satisfactorily	Ditto ...	No. 86   59. Division 34.—Gaols, Ballarat, &c.	
928. Ditto.—Ditto ...	(1.) ...	Quarters for the matron, Ballarat Gaol	One hundred and forty pounds (£140)	E. Chambers ...	Yes ...	...	Satisfactorily	Ditto ...	Ditto.	

\* James Lawrence agreeing to carry on the work beyond the quantity included in the present plans and specification (in accordance with the schedule of prices attached to his tender), as far as the available funds will allow.  
 † Alexander Blair agreeing to carry on the work beyond the quantity included in the present plans and specification (in accordance with the schedule of prices attached to his tender), as far as the available funds will allow.



POLICE STATION  
ELTHAM.



[illegible]

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CRIMINAL SESSIONS.  
MELBOURNE.

IT is ordered that a Criminal Session and General Gaol Delivery of the Supreme Court of the Colony of Victoria be holden at the Court House, La Trobe street, in the city of Melbourne, on Monday, the fifteenth day of October, now next ensuing, at the hour of Ten o'clock in the forenoon, at which all parties concerned are requested to give their attendance.

Dated this twenty-fourth day of September, A.D. 1860.

WILLIAM F. STAWELL,  
Chief Justice.

REDMOND BARRY,  
ROBT. MOLESWORTH,  
ROBERT WILLIAMS POHLMAN.

MEETING TO APPOINT A POUNDKEEPER.  
**T**HE Poundkeeper at Casterton having this day tendered his resignation, it was agreed to accept the same, and to appoint a successor on Monday, the 8th of October ensuing, at a Special Court of Petty Sessions to be held at Casterton for that purpose, of which all interested are required to take notice.  
**CUTHBERT FETHERSTONHAUGH,**  
 Police Magistrate.

KULKYNE, LOWER MURRAY.  
MEETING TO APPOINT A POUNDKEEPER.  
NOTICE is hereby given that the General Meeting of Justices for the purpose of appointing a Keeper for the Pound at Kulkynie, Lower Murray, has been adjourned to Monday, the 15th October next, at Noon.  
Applications for the appointment will be received by the undersigned until Ten a.m. of the same day.  
(By Order) J. A. G. FORBES,  
Clerk of Petty Sessions.  
Court House,  
Swan Hill, 18th September, 1860.

Court House,  
Swan Hill, 20th September, 1860.



**ELTHAM AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 1998**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The past year between our Annual General Meetings has had several highlights worth recording.

Our six general meeting, two of which were preceded by buffet dinners, seven committee gatherings and two excursions made for a busy year. Again their planning by Secretary Russell Yeoman, deserves the societies thank for his pivotal role in our programme.

Now that the Society has the keys to old Police House, 728 Main Road, Eltham, (corner of Brougham Street) for our historical materials storage, display and research facility, we hope to attract the public's attention. We will be able to publicise the venue when organised and display items of historical value to other like minded people. We will then be able to preserve more items, either by copying and returning or storing with the donors names, and become a true community resource.

Nillumbik Council asked the Society to take on the role of organiser/landlord with three other tenants groups who use other, lockable, parts of the site. Eltham Concert Band has its music library in the Police Office and the stables and storage sheds are being used by the Nillumbik Garden Club and the Society for Growing Australian Plants.

This mix of community groups coming and going through the site will support the security of all tenants.

With around \$1,000 from the Nillumbik Community Funds grant program we have purchased a second hand photo copier, tables, chairs, and various types of storage cabinets and shelving. We also have the ongoing service costs of electricity, water/sewerage and the \$100 yearly payment to the Shire Council to face up to each year.

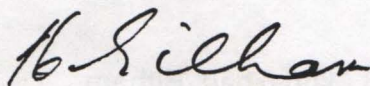
Working Bees are planned and, in time, rosters will be needed for the open days of displays for schoolgroups, people and special events such as the Eltham Festival weekend.



Another item worth reporting is that Mick Woiwod and I have been working on the Kangaroo Ground advisory committee. This committee is an advisory committee to the Council which, in time, will seek finance to upgrade the land and building of the Tower which is the Shire of Eltham's War Memorial, it is now 71 years old. (Opened 1926). For those visitors who cannot or do not wish to climb the steep stairs in the tower, we hope to convince council to add viewing platforms and seats at ground level outside the trees so the views can be enjoyed, access will be from a path from the carpark.

Let me finish this report by sharing with members the wording on the letterhead of our friends the (English) Eltham Historical Society :

*Preserving the past  
Conserving the present  
Protecting the future.*



Harry Gilham  
President, 1993-1998



July 1998

## ELTHAM LOCAL HISTORY CENTRE - OFFICIAL OPENING

Our new headquarters at 728 Main Road Eltham is to be officially opened on Sunday 12 July. It will be open from 2pm to 5pm with the opening ceremony at 2.30pm. We have sent out invitations to a number of people. Members and their friends should consider this as their formal invitation to attend. There will be a representative display of items from the Society's collection of documents and photographs.

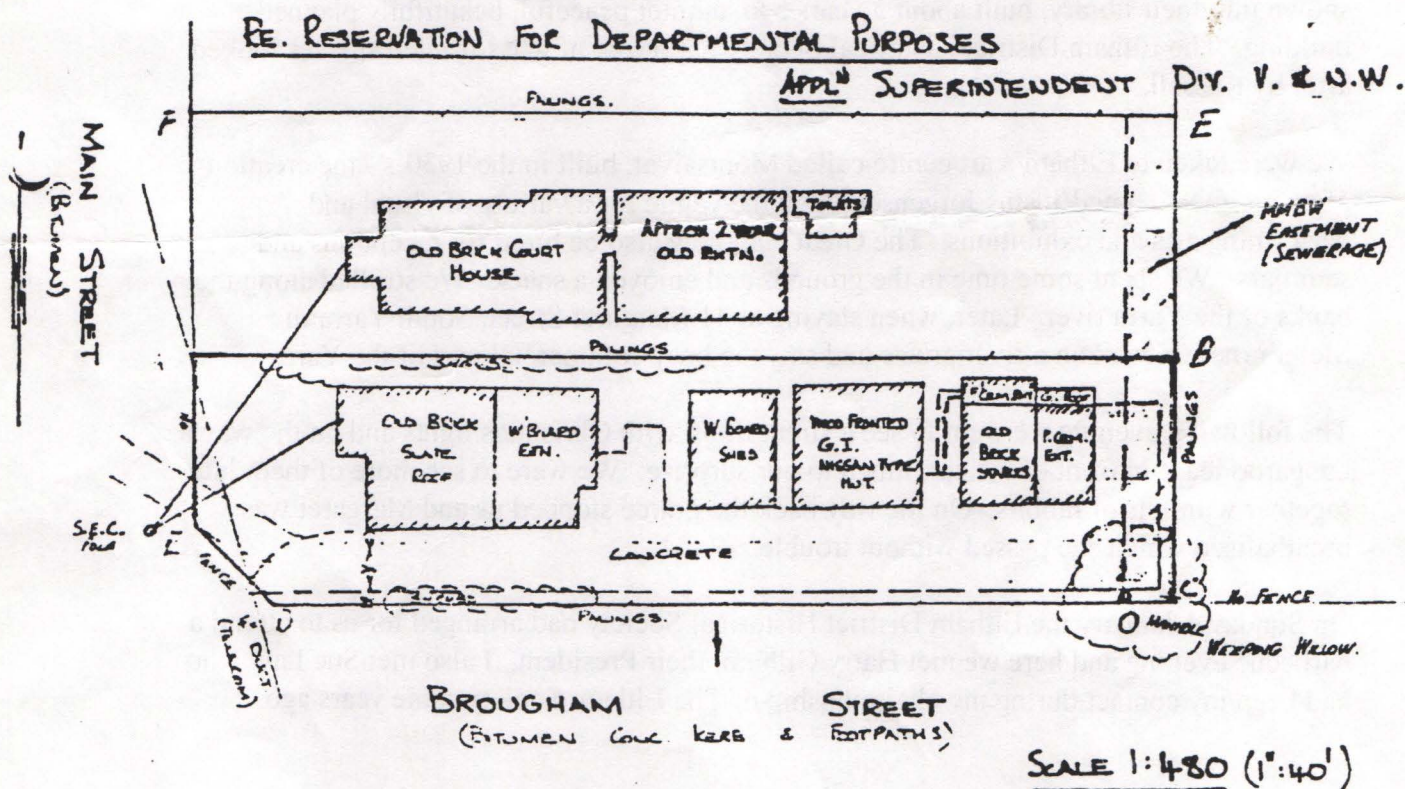
After consideration of a number of options we have settled on the Eltham Local History Centre as the name for our premises. The times that it will be open have not been finalized but it will be available for research at least by appointment. Displays of Society material will be arranged for special occasions and hopefully the centre will be open on a limited but regular basis.

A brief history of the building was included in Newsletter No. 117. Originally it was the Eltham Police Residence and dates from 1860. The police office alongside the residence was demolished but has now been replaced by a replica building. The lock-up at the rear has also been demolished but the stables in the back yard remain.

Since closure as a police station in the 1950's the house has been used by the State Lands Department, Community Youth Support Scheme and Eltham Council's Parks and Environment Section. It is included in the Victorian Heritage Register.

Storage facilities external to the house are now used by the Eltham Concert Band (replica office), Nillumbik Garden Club and Society for Growing Australian Plants (both in the stables).

This is an important event for our Society and an excellent social occasion for members. We hope that most of our members will be able to attend. Ring Russell Yeoman or Harry Gilham for more information.



1971 SURVEYORS PLAN OF 728 MAIN ROAD AND THE ADJOINING COURTHOUSE



Dec. 2000

## UNVEILING OF 728 STREET SIGN

This former Eltham police residence, along with a single office, lock-up and stables served the area from 1860 to the late 1950's when the current police station was built in Pryor Street.

Since then the bluestone lock-up has been demolished (and indeed, some of its wall holds up this garden).

Also (*pointing*) the Eltham Council built this replica of the police office over here on its 1900 site.

Since this is also a public building, it has also been used by:

-The Department of Crown Lands and Survey for a Vermin and Noxious Weeds office

- A Community Youth Support Service (C.Y.S.S)

-The Parks and Environment section of the former Eltham Council

-And since 1998 to the present day, the tenants are the Eltham District Historical Society Inc.

The National Trust has recognised this building as being one of two 'oldest known police residences' in the metropolitan area (the other one is in Heidelberg)

On behalf of Nillumbik Shire Council, as well as past and present members of your 33-year old society, I have the pleasure in unveiling this public sign, and wish you all well in your endeavours to 'keeping in trust' the historical background of the Eltham District since 1835.

*by Councillor  
Diane Bullen*

*Photographs  
in album*



# JOHN SHARP SIGNS PTY LTD

Unit 4/4 Brisbane Street

ELTHAM 3095

Phone 9439 4647

Fax 9439 6321

A.C.N. 006 567 451

A.B.N. 65 026 119 209

Bill To:

## TAX INVOICE

Eltham District Historical  
728 Main Road  
ELTHAM VIC 3095

INVOICE NO. 00003551

DATE: 24/10/2000

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Supply & Install front sign	\$430.00
COMMENT:	
	Sale Amount \$430.00
	GST: \$43.00
	Total Inc GST: \$473.00
	Amount Paid: \$0.00
TERMS: STRICTLY NET 7 DAYS	Balance Due: \$473.00

Please tear off this section and return with payment to:  
John Sharp Signs Pty Ltd - 4/4 Brisbane Street, Eltham 3095

Eltham District Historical  
728 Main Road  
ELTHAM VIC 3095

## REMITTANCE ADVICE

INVOICE NO: 00003551

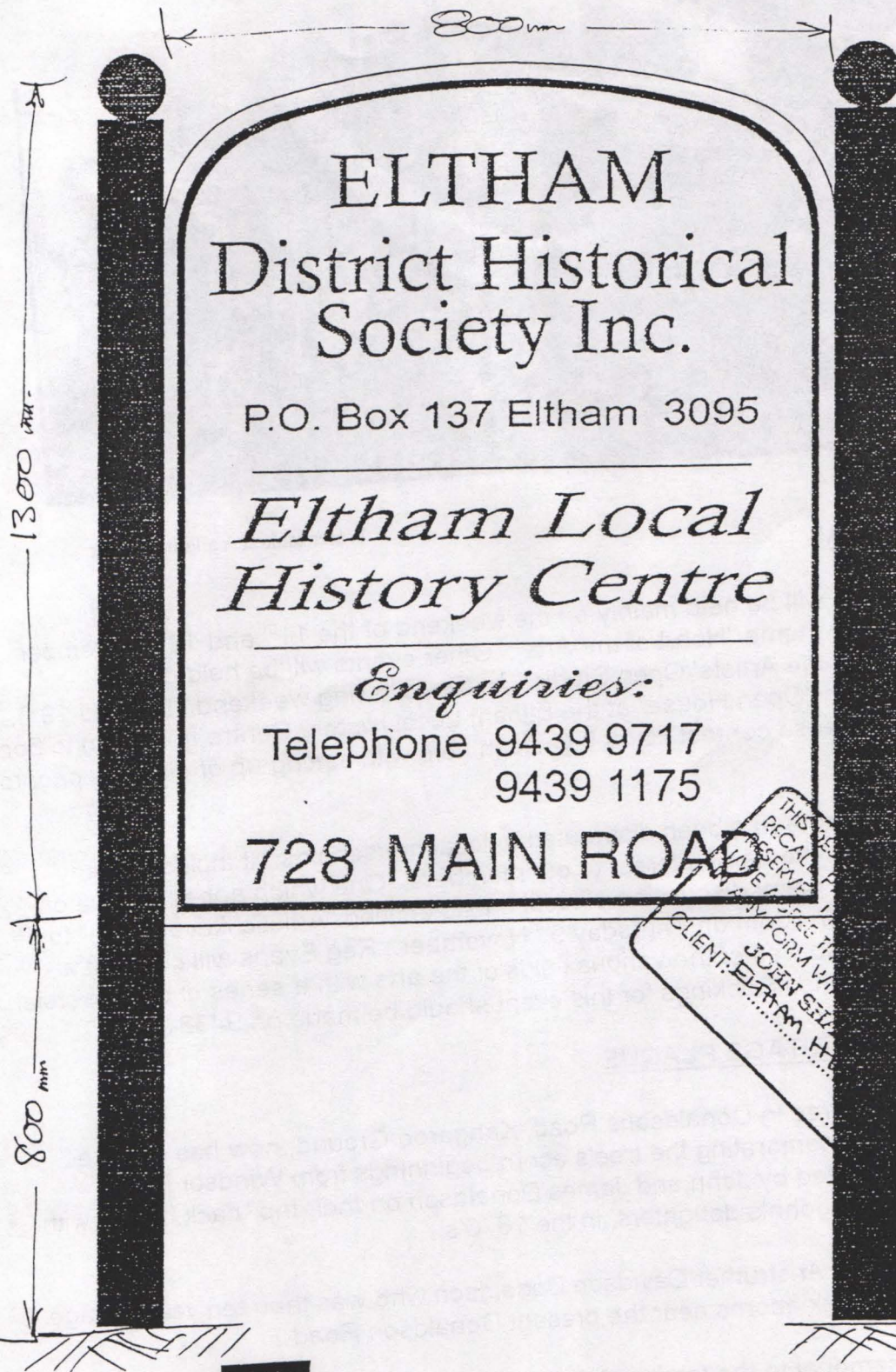
INVOICE DATE: 24/10/2000

BALANCE DUE: \$473.00



THIS IS A:

Single sided sign (S.S.S.)



Natural  
Ground  
level  
(N.G.L.)

Actual Burgundy

Actual Green.

Working drawing of our new sign.  
You have to look at the real thing  
to see what is Actual Burgundy  
and Actual Green.



Letter to :

Jenny Baker  
Co-ordinator,  
Nillumbik Shire Council Living and Learning Centre  
739 Main Rd, Eltham, 3095.

Dear Jenny,

**Community Jobs Program – Historic Eltham Court House precinct**

I am delighted to know that the Nillumbik Shire Council is proposing to seek funding support via the Community Jobs Program to landscape, enhance and open up the grounds of the old Eltham Court House, Police Station, stables and lockup.

Mercer's Restaurant, as the next door neighbour to the Court House, is rated by the Age as one of Melbourne's most highly regarded restaurants. We are pleased to be located next to such a fine building as the Court House, but like other members of the local community, are sad to see it underused, cut off from the adjacent old police station, and with gardens and grounds in such a poor state of repair. It is a facility that has much to offer the local community, and I believe that the Council's CJP proposal offers the opportunity to realise the full heritage value of the two sites.

I understand that the Living and Learning Centre is managing the site for the Council, and that you have established a Committee to oversee the ongoing development of the site. I would be pleased to accept your invitation to be a member of that Committee, for your occasional meetings.

To see the sites open to and used much more by the public would be a great reward. We could look forward to regular use from schools and community groups of all kinds, involving anything from historical activities to art and floral exhibitions to plays to legal re-enactments, or just Sunday strollers taking in the beauty and history of the site, with an element of appropriate commercial activities to provide further enrichment and variety.

I strongly support your application for funding from the Community Jobs Program to integrate and enhance the sites, and wish you well in the process.

Yours sincerely

etc

Sue / Harvey

It would be good if your letter did not use the same words as this possible letter from Stephen Mercer, so that the letters aren't the same.



**Title: Historic Eltham Courthouse precinct landscaping**

The proposal is to apply to the state gov't for funding under the Community Jobs Program to landscape and enhance and integrate the grounds (not buildings – that can be done at later stages) of both the Courthouse and the police station sites. State gov't funding would be about \$95,000 supplemented by about \$25,000 from the Shire.

If successful, the project would employ 12 people full time for 15 weeks, plus a supervisor to manage the day to day work of the team. The team would be involved in training for 1-2 days per week for the period of the project, doing accredited horticulture and landscaping studies through NMIT.

The Council would project manage the project, supported by a management group, on which it would be good to have a member of the Historical Society.

To enhance the chances of success we will put in a landscape plan with the project submission (due by Fri this week Oct 29), but we would not be locked into the detail of the plan. The plan is being developed by the Shire's Landscape designer, Matthew Cornford. 9433 3196.

As the project is not due to start until the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of next year, we have adequate time to work through the detail of the design, and to develop other aspects of planning which are outside this landscape proposal. Eg buildings use, ongoing grounds maintenance, buildings maintenance or removal or replacement (eg recent ugly buildings like the toilet block and the training room).

Once the project is completed we hope that council will take on an expanded maintenance role, to ensure that the grounds remain attractive. Over the next 9 or so months we need to persuade council of the need for this.

Please ring me with any queries.

Rod Grant  
9430 1302 or 0409 829 086

*draft concept plan.*



**ELTHAM DISTRICT  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

**Incorporated**

No. A0016285F

04890  
728 MAIN ROAD (PO BOX 137) ELTHAM 3095

28 October 2004

Jenny Baker  
Co-ordinator  
Nillumbik Living and Learning Centre  
739 Main Road  
ELTHAM VIC 3095

Dear Jenny

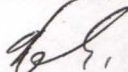
Community Jobs Program – Eltham Court House Historic Precinct  
Thank you for involving our Society in the discussions regarding the on-going management of the Court House and the historic precinct around it. As you know, the Society occupies the adjoining former Police Residence at 728 Main Road which we use as the Eltham Local History Centre. We are grateful to the Council for use of this building which is excellent for its current purpose of storing our collection of local history records. Although it does not form part of our official responsibilities, we have been maintaining the site and have re-established the garden areas. This has been largely the work of one volunteer who takes some pride in what she has achieved.

We have recently become involved with the idea of a project under the Community Jobs Program to re-furbish both sites to enhance their historic value and to provide a better community resource. Certainly the important Court House site has been badly neglected and warrants funding for significant works. We support the idea of an integrated site development plan for both sites. We would ask however that the Society be involved in the final detailed plans for the work at 728 Main Road. We think that there are landscape, security and operational issues where our input is relevant. Other tenants of outbuildings on the site should also be consulted.

The Society has been making limited use of both sites for our local history activities including a significant number of visits by school groups. Refurbishment of the grounds would certainly add to the value of the precinct for this purpose. We support the application for funding which would enable these improvements to proceed in the shorter rather than the longer term.

I am happy to speak to anyone involved in this application if further information is required. Please ring me on 9 439 1175.

Yours sincerely



Harry Gilham – President.





## Department of Sustainability and Environment

Level 3  
#8

Corner of  
Nicholson St  
+  
Victoria Rd.  
Diagonally  
from Carlton Gardens

3/8 Nicholson Street  
East Melbourne 3002

Telephone: 9412 4965  
Facsimile: 9412 4392  
ABN 90 719 052 204

Our Ref: NP/02/1475

28 February 2005

Mr H. Gilham  
President  
Eltham Historical Society  
PO Box 137  
Eltham VIC 3095

Dear Harry,

### **Eltham Court House/Former Police Quarters**

I am writing to confirm that the Historic Places Section is now preparing a draft Conservation Plan for the court house and police quarters at Eltham. Since these buildings are located adjacent to each other and the Eltham Historical Society has an interest in managing and using both buildings, we will be looking at the court house and police sites as a "precinct" and developing our conservation recommendations based on the complex of buildings, rather than the court house as a single building.

As part of the Conservation Plan, we are required to prepare a history of the building(s). This usually involves a brief general history of the location (i.e. Eltham), a contextual history of building type (i.e. court houses and police stations) and a detailed history of the buildings. We have a file on the more recent history of the court house and police site but not much information on the early history of the site. Given time constraints that Ivar Nelsen and I have over March and April (leave commitments), it may be more effective for your Society to put together a brief history of Eltham (say 4-5 paras?) and if possible a couple of pages on the court house and police quarters, with references. Given that you are the experts on Eltham and the court house and police buildings, I think this will be a better use of everyone's time and resources. Don't worry about the contextual history of the building type as we have this covered.

With regard to early photos and plans, we have copies of the original PWD plan for the court house but not the police station. We also have a copy of the basic plan for the portable lock up (Casterton type, later portable lock up). Would it be possible for the Society to make copies of any early photos of the court house or police station available. Scanned images would be ideal, if this is possible. Perhaps you could let me know what you have available and we could discuss arrangements for obtaining copies.

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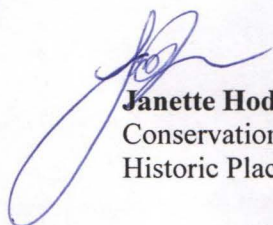
Prepared By: Janette Hodgson  
Conservation Officer  
Historic Places  
Phone: 9637 9885 Fax: 9637 8592  
Email: Janette.Hodgson@dse.vic.gov.au





I will be away this week (from 1 - 4 March) but will be back next Monday if you have any queries about the Conservation Plan process or the history. Otherwise, feel free to contact Ivar Nelsen on 9637 9886.

Yours sincerely



**Janette Hodgson**  
Conservation Officer  
Historic Places



Police Magazine (B2331), Police Residence (B2332) and Police Lock Up (B2333).  
1969

### 1.3 Definition of the Property

The Avoca Court House is located on Crown Reserve No. Rs 13716, reserved temporarily for Historic buildings.

## 2.0 EVIDENCE

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### 2.1 Historical Summary

#### 2.1.1 Government Camps and Court Houses

##### Government Camps

After the discovery of gold in 1851 gold seekers flowed into the new colony of Victoria. With seven separate police forces and few effective police officers left available, the Government faced a crisis of law and order.<sup>1</sup> The Goldfields Commission was established in early 1852 to licence mining and keep order on the goldfields. In January 1853 the Victoria Police was formed, providing the first centralised police force in Victoria. While the Victoria Police followed the model of the British Police system, early Victorian police lived a para-military life, as the police force was organised along military lines.

Government camps were quickly set up by the regional Gold Commissioners as goldfields were discovered and rushed. They usually occupied a strategic location on the goldfields, often securing a central position with a view and access to water supplies.

The first camps were made up of tents and other temporary structures – log or slab buildings - providing living quarters for the Commission officers and police. Mounted troopers and foot police were usually accommodated in barracks and tents and ate in communal ‘mess’ facilities. There were additional tents for gold related activities such as licensing and gold storage, and for post offices and court hearings.<sup>2</sup>

After 1853, more permanent structures could be built in camps on the larger, well-established goldfields. As various goldfields assumed more permanence, townships were surveyed and sites set aside for court houses and police stations, either on the camp reserve or at another location.<sup>3</sup> Many of the new camp buildings were pre-fabricated timber structures that could be moved to other sites if a goldfield failed to grow.<sup>4</sup>

The spread of settlement and the wealth generated from gold mining provided the impetus for an intensive public works program centred on the goldfields. The Public Works Department, established in 1856, began the construction of large numbers of courthouses, government offices and police barracks and gaols in goldfields towns. From 1858 more buildings were constructed in stone and brick, replacing the portable houses, offices and lockups.

By the 1860s, there was a move away from the para-military style of policing to establishing local ‘police stations’ for law enforcement in the community. Consequently police accommodation developed a more domestic scale as more separate police quarters/residences were built. Initially these quarters served as both residence and office.<sup>5</sup>



Typically, a police station would comprise a residence, lock up and stables. Sometimes separate police offices were provided, and outbuildings such as wood sheds and forage stores. The police complex generally occupied a sufficient area for grazing the police horse(s).

Police stations and court houses usually remained in close proximity, occupying a recognised 'justice' precinct. They were often located on the same Crown reserve or on adjacent reserves, set aside by the Government.

### **Court houses**

Prior to the discovery of gold, court facilities were few and mostly concentrated in the 'settled districts'. Justice was dispensed by a small number of paid magistrates, known as Police Magistrates, and using the traditional British system of unpaid local justices of the peace. Pastoralists often hosted travelling magistrates when necessary.<sup>6</sup> The rapid influx of people to Victoria and the apparent lawlessness of the goldfields and other settlements required the establishment of a new system of courts and the construction of many court houses.<sup>7</sup>

By the end of the decade more substantial court buildings were being erected to accommodate hearings at various levels, including the Supreme Court, County Court and Court of Petty Sessions.

The establishment of the Local Court system under the *Goldfields Act* 1855, also provided a further requirement for new court houses. Local courts, which operated between 1855-57, could hear cases and settle disputes relating to mining. Local Courts were replaced by Courts of Mines in 1857. The new Court of Mines heard cases in each mining district at fixed intervals in the major mining towns, generally using the existing court house building.

Only the larger towns required Supreme and County Court Services, conducted by travelling judges. For most towns a Court of Petty Sessions was sufficient, supervised by a local magistrate. This Court dealt largely with misdemeanours such as vagrancy, drunkenness, street offences, minor assaults and breaches of by-laws or regulations. It also granted licences for a range of business activities and reviewed electoral lists.<sup>8</sup> Only a small building was required for these hearings, usually comprising a central court room and one or more offices at the rear for the magistrate and a clerk. Initially, minimal facilities for the staff, witnesses and public were provided.

### **2.1.2 Establishment of Avoca**

Large pastoral runs were established in the Pyrenees in the early 1840s, displacing the original inhabitants of the land, the people of the Djadja Wurrung and Djab Wurrung language groups.<sup>9</sup> Gold had been discovered as early as 1849 in this region, however, publication of these early discoveries was discouraged by the authorities, to avoid disruption to the colony.

After the discovery of gold in Bathurst, early in 1851, Melbourne merchants feared an exodus to New South Wales and offered a reward for the discovery of gold in the Port Phillip District (Victoria). Gold was discovered officially, in July 1851. Rich alluvial gold fields were soon established in Clunes, Ballarat, Castlemaine and Bendigo.

history  
of  
area



In the Pyrenees district, gold was discovered along the Avoca River in 1853. In October that year, the Main Lead at Avoca was established and there were up to 200 miners on the field. By June 1854, the number of miners on the goldfield had jumped to 14,000.<sup>10</sup> The Avoca Goldfield was initially a rich field but the shallow alluvial gold was soon mined out. Nevertheless, many miners settled on the Avoca goldfield and continued to prospect the surrounding country.

By October 1854 the first town lots had been laid out in Avoca and some allotments had been sold. Soon after this, the town contained a number of substantial buildings including a Bank of Victoria, a Wesleyan Chapel, a National School, the Avoca Hotel and "two neat gold offices".<sup>11</sup>

Localities in the surrounding country, such as Redbank, Moonambel and Landsborough, experienced rushes throughout the early 1860s. However, Avoca maintained its dominant role as the administrative centre of the Avoca Mining Division.<sup>12</sup>

### 2.1.3 Avoca Government Group

The Avoca Police Camp was established in 1853. It was strategically located in what was then the centre of town and near the Avoca River, providing a secure water supply for the men and horses and a vantage point along the main street. Bounded by High Street, Creek Street, Camp Street and Rutherford Creek, the Camp encompassed a moderate area, augmented by a large adjoining police paddock, to the south west.<sup>13</sup> The Camp reserve and police paddock, not then gazetted, are shown in the Township Plan for Avoca prepared in 1859. Also shown are the allotments for the post and telegraph office and the court house (see Figure 1).

Initially, the camp was occupied by some 50 mounted troopers, accommodated in rough slab buildings. As Avoca consolidated into a major township and administrative centre, more substantial public buildings were commissioned. In 1858 a brick Gold Office, or Sub Treasury, was built. This was soon followed by the Avoca Gold Warden's Office, another brick building, constructed in 1859. Tenders for the erection of permanent police headquarters at the camp were also let in 1859. These comprised two 'police quarters' (houses), of four rooms each, designed by Public Works architect, Fred Kawareau. The contractors, Johnston and Steel, erected the buildings at a cost of £1,230.

By 1860, two portable timber lock ups augmented the early log lock up of 1854.<sup>14</sup> During this decade other buildings followed. In 1860 a brick powder magazine and a timber post and telegraph office were built. In 1867 a stone lock up was built beside the police quarters.<sup>15</sup> Police stables were also built on the Camp.<sup>16</sup>

By the mid 1860s, the commercial centre of Avoca had moved further along High Street but the Police Camp still accommodated a number of police and public officials. In 1868 there were five police officers, the clerk of courts, a sub-treasurer and a mining warden residing at the Camp.<sup>17</sup>

early  
history  
of  
site



Avoca was amongst seven police reserves gazetted in 1866 after a formal request from the Chief Commissioner of Police.<sup>18</sup> The police reserve at Avoca was reserved in three parts: the general camp area, two allotments occupied by the police inspector and part of the former police paddock.<sup>19</sup> The area sought by the police had been reduced are objection from the Mines Department.

An annotated plan on the Reserve file shows the area applied for by the police and eventually reserved (see Figure 2). This plan also shows the location of police buildings, the site of the first lock ups, the powder magazine, sub treasury, and mining warden's office and residence.

Over the years the Camp Reserve was to diminish as gold mining declined in the district and activity at the Police Camp waned. The first service to disappear seems to have been mining regulation, as the area occupied by the mining warden was sold, in 1861. In June 1872 the Police Department advised the Surveyor General that the police paddock was no longer required and arrangements were made to revoke this portion of the police reserve.<sup>20</sup> By this stage the police quarters in Napier Street were no longer occupied by the police and arrangements were being made to sell the property, which comprised the house, fencing, and three slab and bark buildings (a detached kitchen, stable and fowl house).

During the 1870s there were further changes in the Camp area. In 1872 the Post Office moved to a more central location in 1872. In 1876 the police residence at 25 Napier Street was sold. In the same year, however, the court house and sub Treasury sites were reserved for Public Purposes (an area comprising Crown Allotments 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of section 32)

The Powder Magazine closed in 1905. From this time on, portions of the Public Purposes Reserve, where the Avoca Court house was located, were steadily revoked, further reflecting the redundancy of Government activities in the former Camp area.<sup>21</sup> The Sub Treasury had become redundant in earlier years and the land it occupied was revoked in 1911.

By 1915, when Avoca had evolved into an agricultural community and the population had stabilised, only two constables were stationed at Avoca.<sup>22</sup> At this stage the police were accommodated in the police residence and a small timber office, built c 1900-10.

During the 1960s, the police moved from the former camp area to a Crown allotment adjacent to the court house and a Lands Department Depot moved to the police reserve; effectively a land exchange. From 1968 the former police residence was used by the Avoca Historical Society while the Lands Department continued to occupy the remainder of the reserve.

In 1979 the court house was closed and subsequently occupied by a local scout group and then the Avoca and District Historical Society. By this stage the heritage significance of this complex of buildings had been recognised by listing on the then Government Buildings Register (later to be incorporated in the Victorian Heritage Register) and by funding from the National Estate Grants Program. During the 1980-90s much work was carried out on the four major buildings of the complex: the court house, residence, lock up and powder magazine. Regrettably the Sub Treasury had been demolished earlier and the police office (c 1900-10) demolished in 1990.<sup>23</sup>



Most of the former Police Camp remains as Public land. The Police residence (1859), lock up (1867) and magazine (1860) occupy Crown Reserve Rs 7916, the Avoca Police Residence and Magazine Reserve, reserved for historic buildings and gazetted in 1995. Between the police buildings and magazine is a parcel of unreserved Crown land, used as a Works Depot by the Department of Sustainability and Environment. The stable is thought to remain on this site. The Court House occupies Crown Reserve Rs 13716, the Avoca Court House Reserve, also reserved for historic buildings and gazetted in 1989. A cream brick residence built in the 1960s for the police and a portable lock up remain on the block adjacent to the court house.

### 2.1.5 Avoca Court House

The Avoca Police Camp assumed a greater air of permanence with the construction of a small, brick court house in 1859, located with a frontage to High Street. In September 1858 a contract for £749 had been awarded to Smith and Scott, local contractors (Public Works Department Contract 58/40) for the construction of a court house at Avoca where Petty Sessions could be conducted. The court house was located adjacent to the first post and telegraph office reserve (1859), and in front of the sub-treasury.<sup>24</sup>

The architect of the Avoca Court House is unknown and the original plan is not known to exist.<sup>25</sup> In its original form, the court house comprised the entry porch, court room and magistrate's room at the rear. It was built using hand made bricks and had a slate roof.

The court house opened for hearings in 1859 and was upgraded to a Court of General Sessions in 1863<sup>26</sup>. In November 1863, Scott and Boyd were contracted to provide fittings at the court house. Further works were contracted in November 1869, when Johnston and Steel secured a £204 contract for additions and repairs. In these works a room for a clerk of court was added at the side and rear of the court room. As a result the original door leading to the magistrate's room was closed and a new door installed to provide access to both of the offices, via a small hallway.

With the decline of mining and as a result of changes in the role and activities of the Courts of Petty Sessions, hearings at Avoca waned over the years. However, the court remained in use until its closure on 1 April 1979.

Soon after closure, the court house was leased to a local scout troop. However, this arrangement failed to provide for the necessary maintenance of the building. Over the years the condition of the building had deteriorated. The main problems identified were damage to the original brickwork, a leaking roof, termite damage and poor drainage and sub floor ventilation. At some stage in the building's history, the exterior walls had been painted and deterioration of the paintwork contributed to its shabby appearance. Inside the building, repairs to joinery and replastering/painting were required. During the 1980s part of the original flooring in the Court Room was removed and replaced with chip board adding to the building's appearance of deterioration.

With a view to the future use of the court house, the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands prepared a schedule of Repairs and Maintenance (1987) and investigated a long term lease with an appropriate community group.<sup>27</sup>



In 1988 a lease between the Department and the Avoca and District Historical Society Inc. to occupy the court house for 20 years was signed (16 September 1988). The court house site was reserved for historic building purposes in March 1989, and is managed directly by the Department. It remains occupied by the Avoca and District Historical Society Inc.

During the 1990s, an ad hoc program of works was carried out with the assistance of various Government grants and as a result of the efforts of the Historical Society. In 1990 a National Estates Grant for \$2,000 was secured, to assist with repairs to the exterior wall of the original building (1859). In September that year the Department engaged a bricklayer to remove the damaged bricks and replace them with matching second-hand bricks. The interior of the court house was repainted in 1992, apparently based on an original colour scheme.

In December 1996 a grant of \$5,000 from the Government Heritage Restoration Program was obtained to replace the court house roof, in corrugated steel. At this time the Pyrenees Shire also financed the connection of sewerage to the block and a new picket fence, with grant of \$3,600.

The paintwork on the exterior brick work was removed after 1997 and a separate building – the Helen Harris Room – was constructed at the rear of the court house, connected by timber decking. The Helen Harris Room opened in May 2001.

The Historical Society alerted the Department to damage of the floor boards in the court room and magistrates room, resulting from termite infestation, in August 2003.

## End Notes:

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<sup>1</sup> Frances O'Neill, *Police Buildings in Victoria: Survey of Building Types* (Building Services Agency, 1997), 3

<sup>2</sup> Heritage Assets Branch, Building Services Agency (Department of Infrastructure), *Historic Public Buildings in Victoria: Materials, Methods and Styles: a cultural sites network background study* (Historic Places Section, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, August 1998), 2

<sup>3</sup> *ibid.*, 36

<sup>4</sup> *ibid.*, 15

<sup>5</sup> *ibid.*, 96 - 97

<sup>6</sup> *ibid.*, 42

<sup>7</sup> *ibid.*, 43

<sup>8</sup> Michael Challinger, *Historic Court Houses of Victoria* (Palisade Press, 2001), 15

<sup>9</sup> W. Jacobs, and K. Twigg, *Shire of Avoca Heritage Study*, (1995), Vol. 1, 2

<sup>10</sup> Wendy Jacobs and Karen Twigg, *The Avoca Shire Heritage Study 1864-1994*, Vol 1-3 (Feb 1995), Vol. 1, 4

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, Vol. 1, 26

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, Vol. 1, 4

<sup>13</sup> Department of Crown Lands and Survey, Township of Avoca plan, 18 October 1859; Jacobs and Twigg, *Shire of Avoca Heritage Study*, (1995), Vol. 3, File No. A151, Police Station/Residence

<sup>14</sup> Jacobs and Twigg, *The Avoca Shire Heritage Study* (1995), Vol. 3, File No. A152, Lock up

<sup>15</sup> *ibid.*, File Nos A151, A152, A155, A156, and Department of Sustainability and Environment, Historic Places Section, Historic Buildings and Sites Inventories (Police)

<sup>16</sup> No date available for the construction of the stables

<sup>17</sup> Jacob and Twigg, *Shire of Avoca Heritage Study* (1995), Vol. 3, File No. A151, Police Station/Residence

<sup>18</sup> Department of Sustainability and Environment (formerly Department of Crown Lands and Survey) File No. 061646.1 Avoca Police Reserve (formerly Rs 7916) Archived file letter dated 21 December 1865 requesting the formal reservation of certain land occupied by police.



<sup>19</sup> Temporary Reservation for police purposes, comprising an area of 2 acres and 1 4/5 perches, an area of 2 roods and 1 perch and an area of 50 acres. Total area of 52 acres, 2 roods and 2 4/5 perches. Gazetted 10 August 1866.

<sup>20</sup> The Police paddocks reserve was revoked on 18 July 1873 (Victorian Government Gazette notice).

<sup>21</sup> Starting in 1906, the various allotments making up the Public Purposes Reserve of 1876 were gradually revoked. Crown Allotment 9 was revoked first in December 1906, followed by Allotments 2 and 3 in 1911, Allotment 8 in 1916, and Allotment 11 in 1950. These Allotments were sold progressively with the exception of Allotment 11.

<sup>22</sup> *ibid.*, File Nos A151, A152, A155, and A156

<sup>23</sup> Sub Treasury demolished in the 1980s to accommodate a bowling green?

<sup>24</sup> *ibid.* Vol. 3, File No. A43, Avoca Court House and Department of Crown Lands and Survey, Township of Avoca plan, 18 October 1859

<sup>25</sup> Information supplied by Frances O'Neill, Heritage Victoria

<sup>26</sup> Jacobs and Twigg, *Shire of Avoca Heritage Study* (1995), Vol. 3, File No. A43, Avoca Court House. According to Challinger, *Historic Court Houses of Victoria*, 15, General Sessions of the Peace were the 'criminal counterpart' to County Courts. A judge and jury heard most indictable charges, excluding the more serious crimes of murder, arson and rape, which being capital offences, were reserved for the Supreme Court

<sup>27</sup> Department of Sustainability and Environment (formerly Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands) File: 87/19-4343-1 Resource Management – Avoca Court House

## Bibliography:

### Primary Sources:

- Department of Crown Lands and Survey, Township of Avoca plan, 18 October 1859
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (formerly Department of Crown Lands and Survey) File: 0616461.1, formerly Rs 7916 (Archived Reserve file) Avoca Police Reserve 1865 – 1994;
- Part 2, (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Public Land Administration) Crown Land (former Police Reserve) between Davy Street and Camp Streets, 1994 onwards
- Department of Sustainability and Environment File: 2005773 Police Purposes Reserve (formerly Rs 536); Archived file.
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (formerly Department of Crown Lands and Survey) File No. 0615646.1 Historic Purposes Reserve: Former Avoca Court House Archived file 1979 – 1994;
- Part 2 (Department of Natural Resources and Environment – Public Land Administration: Former Avoca Court House Historic Reserve, 1994 onwards
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (formerly Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands) File: 87/19-4343-1 Resource Management – Avoca Court House
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (formerly Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands) File: 87/2895, Court House and Police Buildings – Restoration Project.
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (formerly Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands) File: 90/3686 – 1, National Estate Grants – 1990 Former Avoca Court House – Restoration.
- Heritage Victoria (Historic Buildings Council) File: 602240A, Avoca Court House
- Heritage Victoria (Historic Buildings Council) File: 602950 DSE Box 8549 Historical Buildings Davey Street, Avoca, Former Police Residence
- Public Works Department Summary of Contracts Books, Vol. 1 "Court House" and "Police" listings, alphabetical for locality, VPRS 972 (original) and VPRS 2143 (microfilm)

### Secondary Sources:

- Beavis, M. and B, *Avoca, the early years*, (Warrnambool, 1986)
- Michael Challinger, *Historic Court Houses of Victoria*, (Palisade Press, 2001)
- Heritage Assets Branch, Building Services Agency (DOI), *Historic Public Buildings in Victoria: Materials, Methods and Styles: a cultural sites network background study*, prepared for the Historic Places Section, Department of Natural Resources and Environment, (August 1998)
- W. Jacobs, and K. Twigg, *The Avoca Shire Heritage Study 1864-1994*, Vols 1-3 (1995)
- F. O'Neill, *Police Buildings in Victoria: Survey of Building Types*, (Building Services Agency, 1997)
- D. McIntosh, and F. O'Neill, *Court Houses in Victoria: A Survey* (Historic Buildings Branch, Department of Planning and Housing, July 1991)



## Historic Places Group

As some of you may be aware, DSE's Land Stewardship & Biodiversity Division is undergoing a major re-structure in order to cut spending by about \$7 million. Of the proposed cuts to LSB, DSE management proposes to cut about 100 full-time jobs (20% of total LSB jobs).

Historic Places has been targeted as a saving opportunity and has not been included in the new structure, on the misunderstanding that our role duplicates that of Heritage Victoria, which is now located in the Built Environment Division of DSE.

Heritage Victoria has a focus on protecting and listing historic places across all land tenures, while Historic Places has a focus on managing historic places on public land. Protecting and managing heritage are two different things. In particular, Historic Places provides assistance to Departmental staff and directly to delegated managers, particularly committees of management. This assistance includes:

- advice and direction from Historic Places in regards to Crown land assessments;
- cultural heritage advice relating to the development and use of Crown land reserves, including the preparation of Conservation Management Plans and review of plans prepared externally;
- advice on funding assistance for heritage conservation
- advice and input into local government planning applications for, and proposed local government heritage listing of, historic places on public land;
- advice on appointment of Committees of Management;
- preparation of Heritage Impact Statements and Heritage Permits for Crown land historic places listed on the Victorian Heritage Register; and
- heritage advice and assistance to Committees of Management to ensure sustainable management of heritage places;

The Department of Sustainability and Environment is the single largest owner and manager of historic places in Victoria, with:

- over 6,400 historic places on public land managed directly or indirectly by DSE, including 1,500 places in State forest and 2,500 places in parks and reserves
- 110 historic and cultural features reserves
- 700 Crown land reserves containing historic sites/buildings

These historic places range from archaeological sites in State forest, to cattlemen's huts in national parks, to court houses in township reserves. The protection of these historic places is required by legislation and is reinforced by a range of Departmental policies and procedures.

The continued existence of Historic Places within LSB is essential if the Division is to continue to provide comprehensive and coordinated policy direction for public land stewardship in Victoria. Historic Places provides the cultural heritage policy skill base to help LSB deliver on its commitments as outlined in the LSB Strategic Plan and the DSE Outcomes Framework. Finally, Historic Places provides critical advice and support to DSE public land managers, including delegated managers, to ensure that LSB and DSE meets its statutory obligations under the *Heritage Act* 1995.

If you have relied on Historic Places for management advice in the past (and hope to do so in the future), then please communicate the message that a Historic Places Group needs to be retained in the Land Stewardship and public land management area in DSE.



Contact addresses:

Premier Steve Bracks  
Department of Premier and Cabinet  
GPO Box 4912VV  
Melbourne Vic 3001

Mr John Thwaites  
Minister for the Environment  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne Vic 3002

Mr Robert Hulls  
Minister for Planning  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne Vic 3002

Prof. Lyndsay Neilson  
Secretary  
Department of Sustainability and Environment  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne Vic 3002

Mr Kevin Love  
Dep Sec Land Stewardship & Biodiversity  
Department of Sustainability and Environment  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne Vic 3002



**ELTHAM DISTRICT  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**  
**Incorporated**  
No. A0016285F

728 MAIN ROAD (PO BOX 137) ELTHAM 3095

2 April 2005

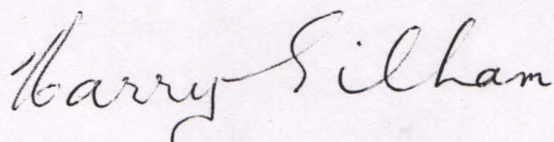
Ms Janette Hodgson  
Conservation Officer  
Historic Places  
c/- Department of Sustainability and Environment  
3/8 Nicholson Street  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Janet

The enclosed materials regarding the Eltham Court House and Police Quarters is in reply to you request NP/02/1475 of 28 February 2005.

Should you require additional material in 'specific terms' we may be able to focus on the item(s) concerned.

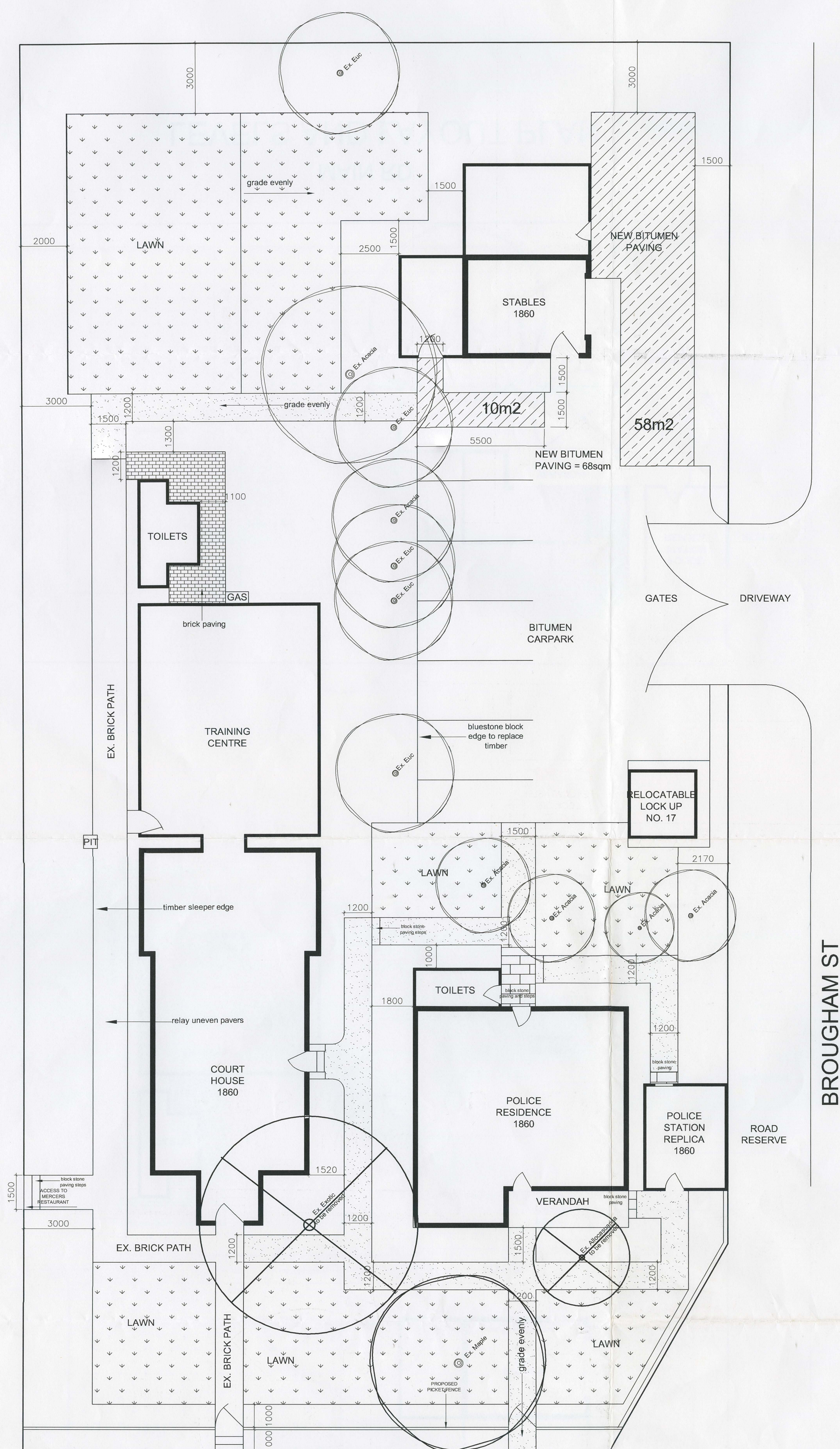
Yours sincerely



Harry Gilham  
President

Phone: 9439 1175





## QUANTITIES

**NEW BITUMEN PAVING** = 68m<sup>2</sup>  
**GRANITIC SANDS PATHS** = 85m<sup>2</sup>  
**LAWN** = 330m<sup>2</sup>  
**BRICK PAVING** = 15m<sup>2</sup>  
**GARDEN BEDS** = 613m<sup>2</sup> (to be rotary hoed)  
**TIMBER SLEEPER WALLS** = 34lm (TBD)  
**STONE STEPS** = (TBD)  
**GYPSUM** = 1kg per sqm





## Department of Sustainability and Environment

---

3/8 Nicholson Street  
East Melbourne 3002  
Telephone: (03) 9637 8000  
Facsimile: (03) 9637 8100  
ABN 90 719 052 204

12 September 2005

Mr H. Gilmore  
President  
Eltham Historical Society  
PO Box 137  
Eltham VIC 3095

Our Ref: NP/02/1475

Dear Harry,

### **Eltham Justice Precinct Conservation Management Plan**

Thank you very much for sending the copy of the photo of Maria Street, Eltham which shows the Eltham court house and police station c 1907. It is a good clear copy and we will include it in the historical photos of the buildings in the Conservation Management Plan. If you need it returned can you let me know?

Completion of the Conservation Management Plan has been a little delayed by Ivar's absence, working on another project. We are not far from finishing the Plan and I hope to have the completed draft sent to you soon. In the meantime, I'm sending you an extract on the history of the precinct and discussion of comparable buildings and precincts which you may like to have a look at, and comment on if necessary.

Yours sincerely



**Janette Hodgson**  
Conservation Officer  
Historic Places

Attachments: extract from Draft Eltham Justice

---

Prepared By: Janette Hodgson  
Conservation Officer  
Historic Places  
Phone: 9637 9885 Fax: 9637 9886  
Email: [janette.hodgson@dse.vic.gov.au](mailto:janette.hodgson@dse.vic.gov.au)



Document2

For further information about DSE contact the Customer Service Centre on 136 186 or visit our website at [www.dse.vic.gov.au](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au)



Hi Harry!  
Will be in touch about  
a meeting date shortly  
Cheers Jenny

Harry Gilham,  
President  
Eltham District Historical Society  
PO Box 137  
Eltham, 3095.

Feb. 2 2006

Dear Harry,

### Eltham Justice Precinct

You will no doubt have noticed or read about the recent grounds works at the old Eltham Police Station and Courthouse. These were done as part of a long term Council plan to increase public awareness and use of this fine historic precinct, while protecting and preserving its heritage value. This plan is supported by Heritage Victoria and the Eltham Historical Society, which has been an active partner in all recent activities.

It is in relation to this plan that I am writing to all current groups who have been using the buildings over recent years. Your group is one of these.

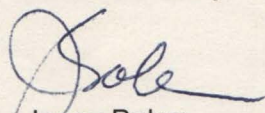
Although these buildings and grounds remain as property of the State government, responsibility for their management and use has been given to Nillumbik Shire Council. The Council has delegated this responsibility to the Committee of Living & Learning Nillumbik.

It is the intention of Living & Learning Nillumbik to form a Committee to advise on the use, maintenance, management and preservation of the two sites, to be known as the Eltham Justice Precinct. The Committee will have representatives from Living & Learning Nillumbik and the Eltham Historical Society, and up to three community representatives. Terms of Reference for the Committee are being developed, and in due course the community will be formally advised of the existence and purpose of the Committee. At that time applications for the positions as Community Representatives will be invited.

Part of the preparation for this Committee involves establishing contact with all ongoing users of the Precinct buildings, and getting a clear picture of the nature and frequency of their use. We would request that you complete the attached form about your organisation and its office bearers, and return it to me by February 24<sup>th</sup> if possible.

I look forward to meeting you in the future, as we work towards a steadily improved site with increased public usage.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Baker,  
Coordinator

February 2 2006

Eltham  
739 Main Road  
Eltham 3095  
Phone 9430 1313  
Fax 9439 5217  
[living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

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Diamond Creek  
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Diamond Creek 3089  
Phone 9438 5350  
Fax 9438 5351  
[living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



3/4/06  
amendments  
Jenny B + self

Meeting of a Task group to explore the establishment of a Committee  
to manage the Eltham Justice Precinct

20 December 2005

10am at Eltham Justice Precinct

Present: Adrian Cully, Rod Grant (L&LN), Harry Gillham (Eltham Historical Society 9439  
1175), Jenny Baker (L&LN) *one*  
Apologies: Sue ~~xx~~ Law. *1*

Items discussed:

1. It was agreed that a unified approach be adopted to manage the Eltham Justice Precinct and that a Committee which links to the Committee of Living & Learning Nillumbik will be established to do this.

Action:

- Rod to prepare a draft letter to the current occupants of the Police buildings. These included the Eltham Historical Society, the Nillumbik Garden Club; the Indigenous Tree Growers and Diamond Valley Plenty Orchestra who use one small building for storage. *of music sheets*
- Jenny to prepare a draft Terms of Reference for the Committee and distribute it to all attendees for comments
- Jenny to organise information to be included in Nillumbik News calling for expressions of interest for up to 3 community members to join the Committee.

2. It was agreed that all bookings for use of the Courthouse and training room will be made through Living & Learning Nillumbik's Eltham office. Ph 9430 1313. *1-8*

3. A maintenance schedule is required for the buildings and the grounds. Council and Volunteer work could be used. Things which need fairly urgent attention include:

- Tree to be removed once a planning permit has been obtained – Adrian to check the CJP budget
- Downpipes on stables require replacement *— one near stable door not "downpiped"*
- The west wall (especially) of the small office building requires painting
- The corner of the property at the Main Road and Brougham Street corner – Harry agreed to make temporary improvements, which may change once the full Committee is established. *To a permanent area.*
- The path near the Stable is too steep and is a hazard which requires attention
- Some loose bricks and paving require fixing *— Court house path - entry steps*

Action:

- Adrian to discuss a maintenance audit with the Depot *— Tom McKay*
- Jenny to explore with Community Corrections in January *— maintenance - supervision needed*
- Rod to send the Depot an email requesting small repairs to some of the above areas

4. Access to the parking area, security

Rod expressed concern about the gates and strongly recommended that they be removed. Harry expressed concern about security if the gates were removed. *— posts - barrier. lockable.*

Action:

- Jenny to arrange a quote for a security system for the buildings during January *— high \$1500 between building*

5. A number of other items will need to be addressed including insurance for current and future occupants and users; responsibility for payment of utilities such as electricity and water; keys and signage.

NSC. *Own insurance ~\$22 per group for year? each use*  
Diamond Creek Living and Learning Centre Inc and Nillumbik Shire Council Living and Learning Centres

(H) mentioned need of a plumber for 728 toilet unit. *Jenny to arrange*  
Eltham District Historical Society (elthamhistory.org.au)



*"Broken off" hinge on gate  
Could injure/damage etc.*

## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

The pathways around the Court House and our Local History Centre at 728-730 Main Road Eltham are under scrutiny for safer usage by people accessing the site and particularly the court rooms:-

1. With cars parking in the back yard the problem arises as to using the street for larger attendances using cars. Being ever mindful of our ageing members, I have had discussions with the Living and Learning Centre Manager as they have been asked to manage the whole 'precinct', as it is now known, on behalf of the Council.
2. The three entry doors to the Court House all require users to have assistance as they are "stepped" entries.
3. The pathway to the cars parked in the yard is steep with a sand like covering. These are negotiated by the disabled with helpers on each arm. "NOT GOOD ENOUGH" was heard loud and clear.
4. The darkness of the paths, especially between the buildings, was not very evident in the summer time. Now that we have all had to change our clocks back to "real time" lighting must be established as soon as possible. The works should be done at Council's expense and also be paid for through Council's meter in the Court House.
5. Use of the rooms at the Court House will be by booking them at the Living and Learning Centre.
6. The other "tenants" at 728 still remain as the two garden clubs and the Eltham Concert Band which still stores its sheet music in the weatherboard 'Police Office' facsimile beside the house.
7. Our Committee has sent a letter to the Living and Learning Centre Manager stressing the fact that a car access area should be maintained off Main Road for use by cars transporting goods and people to our gatherings for obvious reasons.
8. The steel gates off Brougham Street into the back yard should be replaced with a lockable barrier suitable for the wide opening that is there.
9. Looking at the Council plan it is obvious that all the pathways were not constructed. This is an issue for the community usage of the site.
10. Some other brief observations are as follows:-
  - Meanwhile, it is good to see that there are now downpipes from the stable roof.
  - The large tree between the house and court at the front is to be totally removed as it is causing damage to the foundations and slate roofs.
  - The timber 'leantos' on the brick stables are being repaired.
  - Our broken windows in the house have been repaired by Council.

*Bob Bruce - handrails needed on ramps etc.*

EDHS

*Gen Meeting  
also 11/5/06*



id	COMPONENT	CONDITION	MAIN YEAR	CYCL	EXP LIFE	CON FAC	QTY	COST	STATUS
<b>56</b>	<b>OLD ELTHAM COURT HOUSE</b>								
						Main Rd, Eltham			
	<b>Old Court House &amp; Rear Portable Building</b>								
1099	INTERNAL WALLS	Repaint interior walls to old court room and entry	2			2	110 M2	\$1,500.00	Y
1100	WINDOWS/DOORS	Repaint exterior doors and frames	2			2	3 No.	\$450.00	Y
1101	WINDOWS/DOORS	Repaint exterior windows to portable building	2			2	50 M	\$600.00	Y
1102	CEILINGS	OK				4			
1103	FLOORS	Replace vinyl floor to wash room/safe room	2			2	15 M2	\$800.00	Y
1108	FIRE SERVICES	Extinguishers inspected/tested				4			
1110	FENCING	Paling fences - OK				3			
1111	AIRCON/HEATING	Hitachi RAC units - OK				3	2 No.		
4662	SWITCHBOARD	Replace old fuse board to court room entry foyer and check wiring	2			2	1 No.	\$3,500.00	Y
4663	SWITCHBOARD	Email circuit breaker switchboard - OK				3	1 No.		



id	COMPONENT	CONDITION	MAIN YEAR	CYCL	EXP LIFE	CON FAC	QTY	COST	STATUS
4664	EXTERIOR WALLS	Repaint exterior AC walls to rear classroom building	2			2	60 M2	\$900.00	Y
4665	EXTERIOR WALLS	Repaint exterior rendered walls to old courthouse building	2			2	96 M2	\$1,400.00	Y
4666	INTERIOR WALLS	Repaint walls to safe room	2			1	25 M2	\$400.00	Y



# Eltham Justice Precinct - Notes from meeting with Eltham Historical Society reps

Present: Harry Gilham, Sue Law, Jenny Baker, George Katsikas  
 Date: Tuesday 26 September, 9.30am

Item	Action
1. HG presented Expressions of Interest document from 2000, relating to the historical basis for the relationship between the precinct and the NSC. This document has parts which are still relevant, although the relationship is slightly different now. The sites are now under the Department of Sustainability and Environment, and NSC is now named as the 'Committee of management' for the precinct. The Living & Learning Nillumbik Committee is carrying out this task for the Council. A guidebook for Committees of Management sets out the scope of this role. The DES has prepared a Conservation Management Plan to assist in the management of the reserve.	JB to obtain a copy of the Conservation Management Plan prepared by the DES
2. Management of the precinct needed to be made clearer and a better understanding of who was responsible for what – <u>terms of reference</u> & the role of JB & the L&LN Subcommittee	JB to prepare a diagram setting out responsibility relationships  Terms of Reference for the Committee of the EJP to be completed and presented for discussion at the next meeting.
3. JB outlined works undertaken by L&LN on behalf of the NSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Garden design and redevelopment</li> <li>ii. Disability assessment/survey of the site</li> <li>iii. Ongoing maintenance</li> </ul> Lack of funds restricts the amount of work which can be done. One role of the Committee is to seek funds for works	
4. Building and grounds concerns which need to be addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Rear gates need to be removed</li> <li>b. Front tree is damaging the buildings and needs to be removed</li> <li>c. Roof gutters need cleaning / slate tiles</li> <li>d. Rear of stable appears to be sinking</li> <li>e. Disability access to training room needs to be addressed</li> <li>f. The lack of a Fire exit in training room is an urgent OHS issue which needs to be addressed</li> <li>g. Signage is needed for all buildings</li> <li>h. Security lights are required at the front and rear of the buildings</li> <li>i. Gas bottles at the rear of the training room should be removed as rental is being paid for them</li> </ul>	JB to arrange for Tom McKay to visit the site and do a maintenance check
5. Concerns raised by HG over public liability insurance – is it covered by NSC / at the moment NHS have their own policy - although I was not clear about what this policy covered exactly.	JB to find out whether or not NSC public liability insurance covers the precinct
6. The system for booking the Courthouse and training rooms needs to be tightened up and communicated to potential users.	JB to ask LT to set up a bookings system – room names to match those in the Conservation management plan.
7. <b>Next meeting:</b> Monday 27 Nov 2006 at Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham 9.30 am.	

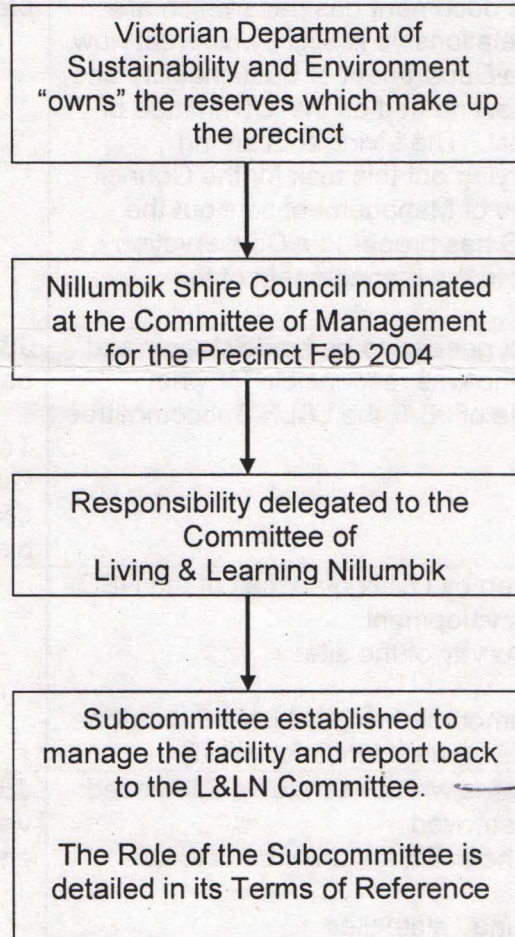
February 5<sup>th</sup> 2007



Responsibility for management of the Eltham Justice Precinct  
738-730 Main Road Eltham 3095

2

September 2006



*Minutes then to be attached to the Council.*



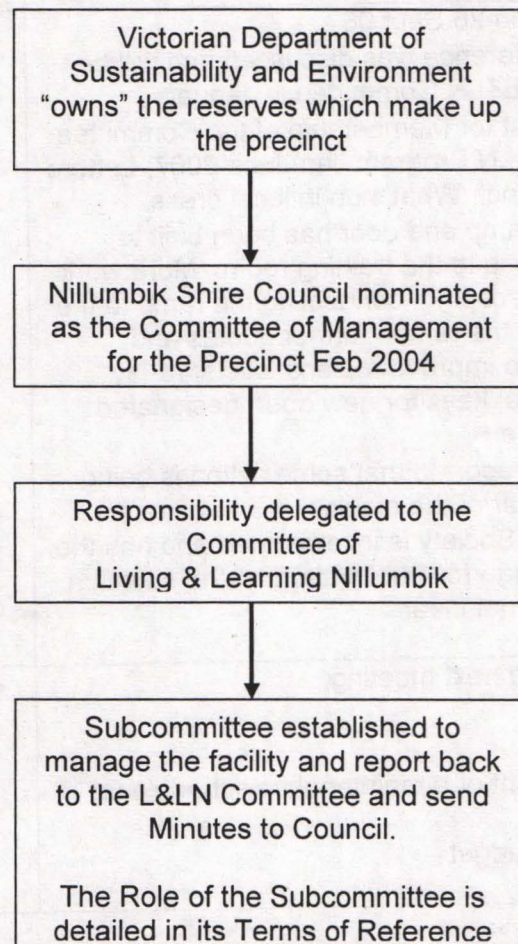
**Notes from meeting Monday 27 November, 9.30am at Living & Learning Nillumbik Eltham****Present:** Harry Gilham, Sue Law, Jenny Baker**Apologies:** George Katsikas

Item	Action
<p>1. Minutes of the last meeting 26 Sept 06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised Terms of Reference was discussed and will be recommended to the L&amp;LN Committee in January</li> <li>Expressions of interest for Membership of the Committee to be advertised in L&amp;LN Program Jan-June 2007; Letters to tenants of the precinct; What's on in local press</li> <li>Disability access - a ramp and door has been built to provide disability access to the training room. More work to be done on re-landscaping, connecting the ramp to the pathway, lighting over the ramp; further quotes and funding to be sought to improve/replace toilets; re-lay brick pathway; signage; keys for new door; designated disability parking space</li> <li>Maintenance – Harry reported that some action is being taken regarding the rear of the stables</li> <li>Insurance – Historical Society is incorporated and has the required \$10 m coverage for Public Liability; the situation of the other tenants is not clear.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes and invitation to express interest in joining the Committee to be distributed to tenants and stakeholders, Council</li> <li>Jenny to seek Disability assessment report, with diagrams if possible from Council officers</li> <li>Removal of tree, cleaning gutters, removal of gates, security lighting to be followed up</li> <li>Query re insurance to be included in the above invitation to tenants</li> </ul>
<p>2. Items to be a priority at the next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insurance</li> <li>Signage</li> <li>Ensure the development of a maintenance schedule for buildings and grounds</li> <li>Develop a proposed budget</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jenny to develop and distribute an Agenda</li> </ul>
<p><b>Next meeting:</b> Monday 5 February 2007 at The Courthouse/Police Residence</p>	



Responsibility for management of the Eltham Justice Precinct  
738-730 Main Road Eltham 3095

September 2006





## Terms of Reference for the Eltham Justice Precinct Committee

### Background

The Eltham Justice Precinct is located at 728 and 730 Main Road Eltham. It includes a number of buildings which are located on two adjoining sites: the former Eltham Courthouse including a 1950's prefabricated building behind this, the former Eltham Police station and residence, a portable lock-up and stables. External toilets are located behind the buildings at the back of each site.

The Police station and residence has been the home of the Eltham District Historical Society since 1998. The Society receives a small annual grant from Nillumbik Shire Council.

In February 2004 the Department of Sustainability and Environment formally appointed Nillumbik Shire Council as Committee of Management for the Eltham Courthouse site. This responsibility was delegated to Council's Living & Learning centres' Committee, which established a subcommittee to focus on the site.

In 2005 the Department conducted an assessment of the sites and developed a Conservation Management Plan for the Precinct.

In September to December 2005 participants in a Community Jobs Project completed a landscaping project which integrated and linked the two sites. It was then decided to broaden the role of the existing Committee of Management (the subcommittee of Living & Learning Nillumbik) to include all buildings and ground on the two sites. To this end the Eltham Justice Precinct Committee has been established with the following Terms of Reference.

### 1. Scope

The Eltham Justice Precinct Committee is a subcommittee of the Living & Learning Nillumbik Committee. Its role is to oversee the management, development, maintenance and use of all buildings and grounds within the precinct.

### 2. Delegation and power to act

This subcommittee is authorised to:

- 2.1 Identify maintenance issues and recommend action to Council via the Living & Learning Nillumbik Coordinator
- 2.2 Promote the facility to the community
- 2.3 Seek funding for maintenance and improvement

### 3. Membership of the Committee

Membership	Up to 2 representatives of Living & Learning Nillumbik Up to 2 representatives of Eltham Historical Society Up to 3 community representatives
Decided when, how	Membership will be decided on an annual basis. Advertisements will be placed in local publications calling for expressions of interest from community members
Chairperson	By and from the members
Executive Officer	The Coordinator, Living & Learning Nillumbik or delegated officer
Ex-officio members	May be drawn from the community to address specific issues
Term of membership	One year but may re-nominate



**4. Meeting Frequency and location**

A minimum of 4 meetings will be held over the Operational year.

Meetings will normally be held in the precinct.

**5. Accountability**

The Eltham Justice Precinct Committee and its members are accountable to Nillumbik Shire Council via the Living & Learning Nillumbik Committee.

**6. Reporting Requirement**

- To the Living & Learning Nillumbik full Committee – usually via the L&LN Coordinator
- To the Staff of Living & Learning Nillumbik – minutes of meetings will be distributed
- To the tenants of the facilities – minutes of meetings will be distributed
- To Council – minutes of meetings will be distributed

**Any other relevant information**

Consensus decision making regarding the recommendations to be made to the full Committee of Living & Learning Nillumbik will be employed wherever possible. In the event of consensus not being achieved, the matter will be referred to the Living & Learning Nillumbik committee for consideration and resolution.

**References (internal/external/policies/legislation/documents related to Committee)**

- Council Plan
- Other relevant Council strategic plans
- Relevant Government plans and documents
- Current Strategic Plans
- Best Value Improvement Plan
- Conservation Management Plan for Eltham Justice Precinct

**Membership and Strategic Goals for the current year 2007****Membership**

Membership

Chairperson

Executive Officer

Ex-officio members

Term of membership     February – October 2007

**Strategic Goals for the Operational year**

- Ensure the development of a maintenance schedule for buildings and grounds
- Develop a proposed budget
- Signage
- Insurance



**Terms of Reference**  
for the  
**(xxxxx) Subcommittee**

**1. Delegation**

This sub committee is authorised to

*Individuals actions*  
*Collective use*

**2. Membership**

*Letter to all 'tenants'*

Membership open to	<i>all users</i>
Decided when, how	
Chairperson	
Executive Officer	
Ex-officio members	
Term of membership	

**3. Scope**

The Subcommittee will oversee...

*buildings + grounds*

**4. Meeting Frequency**

A minimum of xx meetings will be held over the Operational year.

**5. Accountability**

The Subcommittee and Members are accountable to xxx

**6. Reporting Requirement**

- To the L&LN full Committee – usually the Chair of the Subcommittee
- To the Staff – *Jenny*
- To Council management - *Jenny to Adrian*

**7. Any other relevant information**

Consensus decision making regarding the recommendations to be made to the full Committee will be employed wherever possible. In the event of consensus not being achieved, the matter will be referred to the full committee for consideration.???

Meetings will normally be held at xxx

**8. References** (internal/external/policies/legislation/documents related to Committee)

- Council Plan
- Other relevant Council strategic plans
- Relevant Government plans and documents
- Current Strategic Plans
- Best Value Improvement Plan
- Partnering Agreements



## Membership and Strategic Goals for the current year 2006

### 1. Membership

Membership	
Chairperson	
Executive Officer	
Ex-officio members	
Term of membership	

### 2. Strategic Goals for the Operational year

Terms of Reference adopted by full Committee xxxxxxxx



 **In brief**

7/3/07  
DVL

## Panel set up

COMMUNITY-spirited people are wanted to oversee the redevelopment of the Eltham justice precinct, which includes the former Eltham courthouse, police station, a portable lock-up and stables. Living and Learning Nillumbik is setting up a sub-committee to manage the site. For information phone Jenny Baker on 9430 1305.



# Living & Learning Nillumbik

## Eltham Justice Precinct Subcommittee

### Minutes of Meeting

10 May 2007, 10.30am at Eltham Justice Precinct

**Present:** Russell Yeoman, Rod Grant,

**Apologies:** Sue Law, Jenny Baker, Harry Gilham

Item	Action
1. <b>Minutes Taker:</b> Rod Grant will take Minutes of this and future meetings of the Sub Committee.	
2. <b>Minutes of Meeting of Feb 5-</b> Minutes accepted.	
3. <b>Convenor:</b> Rod offered to convene future meetings, but it was agreed that a decision on this should be deferred to a future meeting with a fuller attendance. In the meantime, Rod will continue as convenor	Agenda of future meeting
<p>4. <b>Matters arising from last meeting :</b></p> <p>a) <b>Membership of the Subcommittee:</b> In addition to the newspaper notice inviting Expressions of Interest in membership of the Subcommittee, letters were sent to the three other tenants of the precinct (ie in addition to EDHS and LLN) on this. To date only one response has been received, from Geoff Illing of the band group, who was willing to be a member, but not over keen. He agreed in discussions with Rod that we would contact him in future if needed.</p> <p>b) A letter needs to be sent to the <b>Poetry Group</b> rep re membership, as per Minutes of last meeting</p> <p>c) Russell will follow up with relevant <b>EDHS contacts</b>, to see if they are interested in membership, as per Minutes of last meeting</p> <p>d) <b>New ramp to Training Room</b> - Michelle of the Shire Operations Unit (formerly Depot) is to contact Jenny Baker re removal of the pile of earth, and extension of the path to the bottom of the ramp, but has not done so yet. Russell requested that this be fully completed before Sat July14, when the Hist Society will be holding an event to celebrate its 40th Anniversary. Attending this meeting will be a number of elderly and infirm members, and the ramp needs to be safely available for them to use.</p> <p>e) <b>Lighting in grounds</b> - work has been done, and Russell advised that it is now acceptable.</p> <p>f) <b>Cleaning of gutters</b> - not yet done, and is now urgent.</p> <p>g) <b>Insurance</b> (Public liability and contents)</p> <p>h) <b>Signage</b> - may need to contact Heritage Victoria about allowable signage, but check their report first .</p>	<p>b) Rod and Jenny to follow up</p> <p>c) Russell to follow up</p> <p>d) Jenny Baker to contact Michelle, and request a fix before that date.</p> <p>f) Jenny requested to follow up with Op's Unit.</p> <p>g) Rod to draft letter to the three other tenants on this matter for Jenny to send.</p> <p>h) Rod to follow up.</p>
<p>5. <b>Ongoing maintenance of buildings on the Police Residence site.</b></p> <p>Most of the buildings on the Police Residence site are of historical significance, and require ongoing maintenance which is well beyond the resources of the four tenants. To date the attention has been limited by budget constraints. It is considered that the only means of achieving this ongoing attention is for the buildings to be placed fully on the list of council buildings requiring maintenance, with appropriate budget allowance being made for them. This may be a long term issue, but seems to be the only means of achieving even minimum maintenance.</p>	Jenny to request that the buildings are appropriately listed and budgeted for.
6. <b>Next meeting : Thursday July 5th, 10.30 am, EDHS</b>	
7. <b>Meeting closed 11.30 am</b>	



Enquiries: Jenny Baker  
Telephone: 9430 1305

5 July 2007

Russell Yeoman  
Eltham District Historical Society  
7 Peter Street  
Eltham, Vic 3095

Dear Russell ,

**Re: Eltham Justice Precinct Committee**

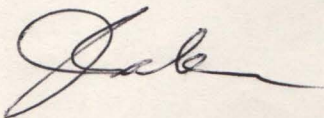
Thank you for your interest in working to improve and promote these facilities for the benefit of the community.

Please find enclosed the Minutes of the latest meeting of this Committee. The Terms of Reference, adopted by the Committee of Living & Learning Nillumbik, are also enclosed for your information.

The diagram on the following page indicates the latest governance structure which is in place for management of the precinct.

Please don't hesitate to contact either Rod Grant [grantr@unite.com.au](mailto:grantr@unite.com.au), or Mob 0409 829 086, or myself [jenny.baker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:jenny.baker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or on the above phone number if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



**Jenny Baker**  
**Coordinator**  
**Living & Learning Nillumbik**

Eltham  
739 Main Road  
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Phone 9430 1313  
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Diamond Creek  
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Diamond Creek 3089  
Phone 9438 5350  
Fax 9438 5351  
[living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



Thursday Oct 11  
Hist Soc room



Nillumbik Shire Council  
delivers life long learning.

Enquiries: Jenny Baker  
Telephone: 9430 1305

5 July 2007

Harry Gillham  
Eltham District Historical Society  
7 Leonard Crescent  
Eltham, Vic 3095

Dear Harry,

**Re: Eltham Justice Precinct Committee**

Thank you for your interest in working to improve and promote these facilities for the benefit of the community.

Please find enclosed the Minutes of the latest meeting of this Committee. The Terms of Reference, adopted by the Committee of Living & Learning Nillumbik, are also enclosed for your information.

The diagram on the following page indicates the latest governance structure which is in place for management of the precinct.

Please don't hesitate to contact either Rod Grant [grantr@unite.com.au](mailto:grantr@unite.com.au), or Mob 0409 829 086, or myself [jenny.baker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:jenny.baker@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or on the above phone number if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

**Jenny Baker**  
Coordinator  
Living & Learning Nillumbik

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Fax 9438 5351  
[living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:living.learning@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)



# Living & Learning Nillumbik

## Eltham Justice Precinct Subcommittee

### Minutes of Meeting

5 July 2007, 10.30am at Eltham Justice Precinct

**Present:** Sue Law, Jenny Baker, Harry Gillham, Jo McCormick, Anne Butterworth

**Apologies:** Russell Yeoman, Rod Grant,

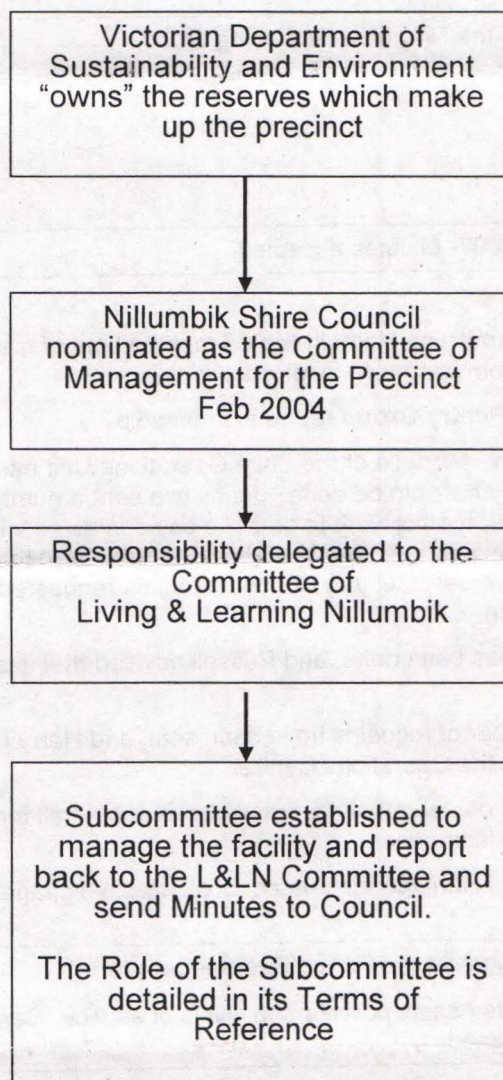
Item	Action
1. <b>Minutes Taker:</b> Jenny Baker	
2. <b>Welcome:</b> To Jo and Anne from the Nillumbik Gardening Club.	Minutes and notices of meetings to be sent to the President Nillumbik Garden Club PO 934 Eltham 3095 (current President Pam Leaver)
3. <b>Minutes of Meeting of 10 May 2007-</b> Minutes accepted.	
4. <b>Matters arising from last meeting :</b> a) <b>Membership of the Subcommittee:</b> Harry indicated that the time of meetings may preclude some people from becoming involved. b) A letter has been sent to the <b>Poetry Group</b> rep re membership c) <b>New ramp to Training Room</b> - Michelle of the Shire Operations Unit has inspected the site and knows what is to be done. Jenny has sent a number of requests to Michelle's manager for this work to be done as soon as possible, as it poses an OHS risk. Jenny has informed the Operations Centre about the Historical Society's 40th Anniversary Sat July14 and has again requested that this work be completed by then. d) <b>Lighting in grounds</b> - work has been done, and Russell advised that it is now acceptable. e) <b>Cleaning of gutters</b> – a number of requests have been sent, and Harry has also spoken with Tom McKay from the Operations Centre. f) <b>Insurance</b> (Public liability and contents) – letters have been sent to all tenants seeking clarification regarding insurance. g) <b>Signage</b> - may need to contact Heritage Victoria about allowable signage, but check their report first.	g) Still to be done.
5. <b>Ongoing maintenance of buildings on the Police Residence site.</b> Council is conducting a review of its Assets policies and levels of service. Jenny will bring more information as it is released.	
6. <b>Removal of tree:</b> Jenny reported that once a structural engineer's written report has been submitted the Planning department will be able to move on the Planning Permit. Hopefully after the appropriate public notices have been displayed action will be taken to remove the tree, and to backfill the area with non-porous filling to prevent water seeping under the building.	
7. <b>Next meeting : Thursday 11 October, 10.30 am, Eltham District Historical Society</b>	
8. <b>Meeting closed 11.30 am</b>	
9. <b>Forward Agenda items:</b> Convenor of the subcommittee; Design of signage	



# **Responsibility for management of the Eltham Justice Precinct**

**738-730 Main Road Eltham 3095**

**September 2006**





## Terms of Reference for the Eltham Justice Precinct Committee

### Background

The Eltham Justice Precinct is located at 728 and 730 Main Road Eltham. It includes a number of buildings which are located on two adjoining sites: the former Eltham Courthouse including a 1950's prefabricated building behind this, the former Eltham Police station and residence, a portable lock-up and stables. External toilets are located behind the buildings at the back of each site.

The Police station and residence has been the home of the Eltham District Historical Society since 1998. The Society receives a small annual grant from Nillumbik Shire Council.

In February 2004 the Department of Sustainability and Environment formally appointed Nillumbik Shire Council as Committee of Management for the Eltham Courthouse site. This responsibility was delegated to Council's Living & Learning centres' Committee, which established a subcommittee to focus on the site.

In 2005 the Department conducted an assessment of the sites and developed a Conservation Management Plan for the Precinct.

In September to December 2005 participants in a Community Jobs Project completed a landscaping project which integrated and linked the two sites. It was then decided to broaden the role of the existing Committee of Management (the subcommittee of Living & Learning Nillumbik) to include all buildings and ground on the two sites. To this end the Eltham Justice Precinct Committee has been established with the following Terms of Reference.

### 1. Scope

The Eltham Justice Precinct Committee is a subcommittee of the Living & Learning Nillumbik Committee. Its role is to oversee the management, development, maintenance and use of all buildings and grounds within the precinct.

### 2. Delegation and power to act

This subcommittee is authorised to:

- 2.1 Identify maintenance issues and recommend action to Council via the Living & Learning Nillumbik Coordinator
- 2.2 Promote the facility to the community
- 2.3 Seek funding for maintenance and improvement

### 3. Membership of the Committee

Membership	Up to 2 representatives of Living & Learning Nillumbik Up to 2 representatives of Eltham Historical Society Up to 3 community representatives
Decided when, how	Membership will be decided on an annual basis. Advertisements will be placed in local publications calling for expressions of interest from community members
Chairperson	By and from the members
Executive Officer	The Coordinator, Living & Learning Nillumbik or delegated officer
Ex-officio members	May be drawn from the community to address specific issues
Term of membership	One year but may re-nominate



#### 4. Meeting Frequency and location

A minimum of 4 meetings will be held over the Operational year.  
Meetings will normally be held in the precinct.

#### 5. Accountability

The Eltham Justice Precinct Committee and its members are accountable to Nillumbik Shire Council via the Living & Learning Nillumbik Committee.

#### 6. Reporting Requirement

- To the Living & Learning Nillumbik full Committee – usually via the L&LN Coordinator
- To the Staff of Living & Learning Nillumbik – minutes of meetings will be distributed
- To the tenants of the facilities – minutes of meetings will be distributed
- To Council – minutes of meetings will be distributed

#### Any other relevant information

Consensus decision making regarding the recommendations to be made to the full Committee of Living & Learning Nillumbik will be employed wherever possible. In the event of consensus not being achieved, the matter will be referred to the Living & Learning Nillumbik committee for consideration and resolution.

#### References (internal/external/policies/legislation/documents related to Committee)

- Council Plan
- Other relevant Council strategic plans
- Relevant Government plans and documents
- Current Strategic Plans
- Best Value improvement Plan
- Conservation Management Plan for Eltham Justice Precinct

### Membership and Strategic Goals for the current year 2007

#### Membership

Membership Rod Grant (L&LN Committee), Harry Gillham, Sue Law, Russell Yeoman ( Eltham District Historical Society) , Jo McCormick, Anne Butterworth (Nillumbik Garden Club)

Chairperson

Executive Officer Jenny Baker, Coordinator Living & Learning Nillumbik

Ex-officio members

Term of membership February – October 2007 ← **NOTE**

#### Strategic Goals for the Operational year

- Ensure the development of a maintenance schedule for buildings and grounds
- Develop a proposed budget
- Signage
- Insurance



**Living & Learning Nillumbik**  
**Eltham Justice Precinct Subcommittee**

**Minutes of Meeting**

11 October 2007, 10.30am at Eltham Justice Precinct

**Present:** Sue Law, Rod Grant, Bruce Grose

**Apologies:** Russell Yeoman, Jenny Baker, Harry Gilham

Item	Action
1. <b>Convenor</b> : Meeting agreed that Rod Grant is to act as Convenor of the Subcommittee	
2. <b>Signage</b> : Rod agreed to come up with a draft set of signs for the Precinct, with the cost (hopefully) to be met by Council. The signs need to be consistent with the recommendations of the Heritage Vic report on the Precinct.	<b>Action</b> : Rod Grant
3. <b>Matters arising from last meeting</b> : The tree to be removed - it is hoped that all documentation and evidence required by Council to issue a permit for removal of the tree has now been provided. The next step is for Council to issue a public notice about the request to remove the tree, and to invite public input and objections.	
4. <b>Applications for Heritage Grants from Heritage Victoria.</b>  As applications for 2007 closed on August 31 it was agreed that we would study the Heritage Vic application documents with a view to applying next year. Committee members are to give thought to how the grants could assist in development and public use of the Justice Precinct.  The funding category for <i>Community Collections Management</i> will be of particular interest to EDHS. Other categories : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Repair and conservation of heritage places and objects</i></li> <li>• <i>Interpretation of heritage places and objects</i></li> <li>• <i>Local government heritage studies and advice</i></li> </ul> are relevant to the broader Subcommittee	<b>Action</b> : Members to give thought to what we could apply for next year, for discussion at next meeting  <u>use 2008</u>
5. <b>The Court House as a gallery space - procedures and requests</b>  a) Rod advised that he had received a request from David Manson to use the Court House for exhibitions, either of his own work or for student work. Rod tabled the standard costs and conditions for hire of the Court House (and all other rooms).  b) The meeting agreed that Rod could discuss it further with David to take the matter forward.  c) It was felt that having just an hourly rate for hire of the Court House may not be appropriate, as most rentals are likely to be for a half day, day or several days. Instead of the hourly rate the commercial rates could be (for example) \$70 half day, \$125 full day, \$50 evening, with reduced rates for community use.  d) Guidelines for use of the Court House as a gallery are needed (eg no nails in walls, furniture to stay and furniture which can be removed, protection for furniture)	<b>Action</b> : Rod to contact David  <b>Action</b> : Jenny Baker to consider the rental rates  <b>Action</b> : Rod To develop guidelines for next meeting



e) It would be ideal if the display case in the Court House, and the Dock (belonging to Eltham College ?), could be removed .	<b>Action:</b> Sue to discuss with Harry
<b>6. Shed (used by Aust plants society)</b>  Repair is needed to fix damage done by termites and to prevent further leaning and sinking of the building.	<b>Action :</b> Rod and Bruce Bruce is to send Rod some dot points about what is needed and why, and Rod will then draft a formal request for the work to be done, to go to Council and/or Jenny Baker
<b>7. Bookings for use of Court House</b> EDHS would like to use the Court House and training room on : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wed Dec 12, 6.30 for the evening</li> <li>• First Saturday in May 2008, for a conference</li> </ul>	<b>Action :</b> Rod to ask Leonie at L&L to put these in the bookings book.
<b>Next meeting : Thursday February 7th, 10.30 am, EDHS</b>	
Meeting closed 11.30 am	

**Minutes taker : Rod Grant**

**14/10/2007**







John to do

<b>5. Organ in the Court House</b> : Harry advised that the old organ in the court house kitchen belongs to the Methodist church, and is stored there indefinitely for safekeeping. Rod will contact Ken Eckersall of the church to discuss the possible relocation of the organ.	Rod Grant
<b>6. Access to the Court House</b> : Harry asked if the EDHS is to have continued open access to the Court House, as part of their ongoing arrangements. Jenny said she would look into it and advise. <i>Ramps Fire safety. Mutual benefits</i>	Jenny Baker
<b>7. Future meetings</b> - it was agreed that our remaining three meetings for the year would be held in April (the 10th), August and October.	
<b>8. Convenor</b> - Rod advised that as he now lives out of the area in Williamstown he can no longer represent the Living and Learning Committee on this subcommittee, or convene the subcommittee. Jenny said she would arrange a new committee rep. <i>P S - after the meeting Jenny advised that John Besley is happy to represent the L&amp;LN committee and to convene this subcommittee.</i>	Jenny Baker
<b>Next meeting : Thursday April 10, 10.30 am, EDHS</b>	
Meeting closed 11.30 am	

Minutes taker : Rod Grant

24/03/2008

**Attachments :**

A : Signage principles for the Eltham Justice Precinct (revised)

B: Use of the Court House for exhibitions (revised)

*Annual Heritage Month.  
School visits!  
Notify T+H Centre.  
ONLY*



## Eltham Justice Precinct

### Signage principles for the Eltham Justice Precinct

In developing a set of signs for the Eltham Justice Precinct a number of principles should be observed:

- Signage should aim to invite and encourage public awareness and interest in the site
- The content of all signs must be historically accurate
- Wherever possible wording should draw on the Conservation Management Plan produced by Heritage Victoria
- There should be one central sign about the precinct as a whole (eg at front centre) plus other signs for each building of note
- Signs should be sturdy and robust yet replaceable at no great cost if damaged or vandalised
- Signs should steadily offer more information as the visitor goes further into the site
- Signs need to strike the right balance between too much information and not enough
- In visual appearance all signs should be sympathetic to the historical significance of the site
- Signs should be similar in appearance to other similar historical signage in the area. eg blue oval shape
- Signs should advise how to gain further information about the site, or access
- Signs must be consistent with council policy
- One of the signs should list those site tenants who wish to be listed

Below is one possibility for an introductory sign. It draws on the text in the Conservation Management Plan.

### *Eltham Justice Precinct*

*This site contains the key 19th century buildings involved in police and justice in the area.*

*Together they form an important part of the Eltham heritage, and are heritage protected.*

<i>Court House</i>	<i>(1860)</i>
<i>Police Residence</i>	<i>(1859)</i>
<i>Stables</i>	<i>(1859)</i>
<i>Lockup</i>	<i>(late 19th century)</i>

*For further information or access to the sites contact ????*



## Eltham Justice Precinct

**Use of the Court House for exhibitions**

*These principles and procedures must be accepted in writing by all parties who arrange to use the Court House for exhibitions or as a gallery.*

The Court House was built in 1860 and is protected by Heritage listing. Several other court houses in the state were built to the same design, but only two remain. It was built in response to itinerant gold prospectors who turned to crime when their quest for gold was unsuccessful. Its architectural significance is that it retains early features including handmade bricks, simple decoration, roof trusses, timber ceilings, original windows, and a good collection of original furniture.

All users must recognise and respect the historical and heritage value of the site.

In particular :

- All uses must be appropriate to the heritage significance of the Court house
- All users must submit a display plan ( half to one page) saying what they intend to exhibit, how it will be displayed, and how they will protect the building and furniture
- Furniture must not be removed from the main Court House room, neither into the kitchen nor outdoors, but may be relocated within the room with proper care.
- No pins, tacks, nails, adhesive or other fasteners are to be attached to any visible parts of furniture, fixtures or walls.
- All furniture surfaces must be protected with coverings if required, if any sharp, rough or other potentially damaging objects are on display.
- As with hire of all rooms, the standard charges apply, and insurance arrangements must meet requirements. For further information on rates and insurance contact Living and Learning Nillumbik, ph 9430 1313.
- Car parking is available at the rear of the site (entry from Brougham St) or in nearby streets.



# Living & Learning Nillumbik

## Eltham Justice Precinct Subcommittee

### Minutes of Meeting

10 April 2008, 10.30am at Eltham Justice Precinct

**Present:** Sue Law, Rod Grant, Bruce Grose, Jenny Baker, Harry Gilham, Jo McCormick, Anne Butterworth, John Besley  
**Minute taker:** Jenny Baker

Item	Action
1. <b>Welcome:</b> Rod welcomed John Besley, a former member of the Living & Learning Nillumbik Committee who has agreed to take Rod's place as convenor.	
2. <b>Minutes of last meeting (7/2/08) accepted.</b>	
3. <b>Matters arising from last meeting :</b>	
a) <b>Signage :</b> Jenny suggested that a small task group meet with Council's Communications Unit to take this further. Sue and John agreed to be involved.	Jenny Baker
b) <b>Heritage Grants:</b> John will check with Heritage Victoria regarding time lines for the funding submission.	John Besley
c) <b>Guidelines for using the Court House as a gallery space :</b> The Court House could provide opportunities for small displays by groups such as students and tutors from L&L, schools etc. Jenny will meet with Council's Arts Unit to discuss the guidelines. Public Liability Insurance for external groups can be arranged through Council.	Jenny Baker
d) <b>Display case and witness box in the Court House:</b> Jenny indicated that L&LN unfortunately doesn't have the space for the display case. The committee agreed that the display case be offered to the Andrew Ross museum. Their members would need to arrange for removal as part of the deal. The witness box has been painted by Harry – <b>thanks Harry!</b>	Sue Law
e) <b>Repairs to shed :</b> Bruce's suggestions for repair have been forwarded to Tom McKay at the Operations Centre. Jenny will follow up with Tom.	Jenny Baker
f) <b>Removal of tree :</b> will happen in the next few weeks!!	
g) <b>New Toilets :</b> Jenny contacted the builder regarding the revised plans and he hopes to have them ready by next week. The need to spend and account for the funding in this financial year was stressed. Harry pointed out that the classroom door to the ramp will need adjusting to allow access, and the builder is aware of this.	Harry
h) <b>Organ in the Court House – was Harry to follow this up???</b>	
i) <b>Access to the Court House for the Historical Society :</b> Harry will find any previous paperwork so that an up to date Agreement can be developed from that. There will be no charge for the Historical Society's May event.	
3. <b>Other business:</b>	
Sue reported that the outside lighting has made a great difference to safety, security and access to the car park from the buildings at night time. The Historical Society will be hosting visits by School groups to the Courthouse during April and May – bookings will need to be made at Living & Learning Nillumbik to ensure no clashes.	Sue/Harry
4. <b>The Committee expressed their appreciation and thanks to Rod for his work over the past year, and wished him well.</b>	
<b>Next meeting: Thursday 7 August, 10.30am at the Eltham Justice Precinct.</b>	
Meeting closed 11.15 am	



Living & Learning Nillumbik  
Eltham Justice Precinct Subcommittee

NEXT.  
Thurs. Oct 16<sup>th</sup>  
10-30 at  
E.J.P.

### Agenda

14 August 2008, 10.30am at Eltham Justice Precinct

Item		Action
3. Minutes of last meeting 10 April 2008		
4. Business Arising	<i>John Sue, Lenny</i>	
4.1 Signage – report from first meeting	<i>NSC developing a new signage logo</i>	<i>Reneha Lemine</i>     <i>Writing A</i>
4.2 Heritage Victoria grants	<i>— new doc.</i>	
4.3 Display space		
4.4 Repairs to shed	<i>— needs copy for Tom McKay.</i>	
4.5 Tree	<i>= Go ahead.</i>	
4.6 New Toilets	<i>Modification of ramp Disability Check</i>	
4.7 Organ in the Courthouse	<i>— discuss with Church Authorities</i>	
4.8 Access to the Courthouse for Historical Society		
3. Other business:		
<i>(59) repairs 1987 C House etc</i>		

*Lenny to check Heritage Victoria permit  
for new toilets.*

Diamond Creek Living and Learning Centre Inc and Nillumbik Shire Council Living and Learning Centres



**Living & Learning Nillumbik  
Eltham Justice Precinct Subcommittee**

**Minutes of meeting 14 August 2008**

**Present** John Besley, Jo McCormick, Anne Butterworth, Sue Law, Bruce Grose, Harry Gillham, Jenny Baker

**1. Minutes of last meeting 10 April accepted**

**2. Business arising**

- 2.1 Signage – Jenny and Sue reported that they had met with two Council officers to discuss ideas about signage for the Precinct. Jenny asked for assistance in researching the style of signs which would link with other historic places in Nillumbik. Sue and John offered to help. A report will come to the next meeting.
- 2.2 Heritage Victoria grants – a copy of a Guide to grants was distributed for people to take away and consider for discussion at the next meeting.
- 2.3 Repairs to shed – on hold; subject to funds being found
- 2.4 Removal of tree – now complete. Harry is organising for two new trees (indigenous) to be planted in appropriate places and initially looked after by volunteers.
- 2.5 New toilets – a planning permit has now been issued after small amendments to ensure compliance with disability access requirements. The work should begin shortly. Harry asked that Jenny check with Heritage Victoria to make sure that they have no objections to the work.
- 2.6 Organ in the Courthouse – Harry will confirm if the members of the church wish to donate the organ to this committee or whether they wish to sell it or give it away.
- 2.7 Access to the Courthouse for the Historical Society – it was agreed that the current arrangement will continue – no charge, bookings to be made through Living & Learning Nillumbik – unless we are otherwise informed.

**3. Other business**

- 3.1 Car park lighting to be assessed – too dark
- 3.2 Maintenance - Jenny will investigate if Council can either undertake, or recommend someone who can, an assessment of the maintenance issues so that the committee can prioritise what needs to be done over the next year, and investigate possible funding opportunities.
- 3.3 'Legal' status of the two sections of the Precinct:  
Jenny has asked for and received information from the Department of Sustainability and Environment regarding this.
  - The land at 730 Main Road on which the Old Courthouse and buildings are situated is described as a Reserve. Nillumbik Shire Council accepted the appointment as Committee of Management for the Reserve in 2004.
  - The land at 728 Main Road on which the former Police residence, stables and lock up are situated is described as a Lease. Nillumbik Shire Council is the lessee, and pays a minimal amount annually.

The Department would prefer that the two sections are managed together (which the committee has been set up to do).

*It was moved Harry and seconded Jo that the committee write to Council recommending that the Department be contacted to have this arranged.*

**Next meeting:            Thursday 16 October, 10.30am at the Police residence.**



32 Brougham Street  
ELTHAM VIC 3095

6 September 2008

Jenny Baker  
Living and Learning Centre  
Main Road  
ELTHAM VIC 3095

Dear Jenny

re: Signage Proposal

During our inspection of Hurstbridge Heritage Trail signs, I was particularly interested in the Kookaburra/Wattle logo. Harry and Russell think there was a book on Hurstbridge called "Kooka on the Wattle"

I have been thinking about a similar logo for signage for the Justice Precinct, or Eltham historical sites generally, and was wondering about the possibility of using the Historical Society's logo. If the project was Council funded I assume the Nillumbik Shire logo would also be used.

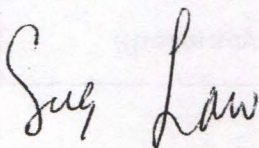
I sent you the Society's September Newsletter mainly for you to see the Society's logo, depicting Shillinglaw Cottage and the Trestle Bridge. It was designed for the Society by a Society member, Joh Ebeli. He has designed plaques for Historical Society projects, the Walter Withers' memorial in Bible Street and the wheel ring and time capsule in front of the Community and Function Centre.

Joh has lived in Batman Road Eltham for the past fifty years in a mudbrick house that he designed and built. He is a painter and sculptor and has been a tutor at the Diamond Valley Art Society for many years. His painting of Shillinglaw Cottage and the Trestle Bridge was selected to be part of the Shire of Eltham Art Collection and remains in the Nillumbik Shire's art collection.

Within a half hour's walk to the north or to the south of the Justice Precinct there are many places of historical significance that could be included in a signage project. To the north St Margaret's Church, built on land given by Henry Dendy; the former National Bank; Shillinglaw Cottage; the Alan Marshall sculpture, and to the south Eltham Primary School which celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2006, and Wingrove Cottage,.

These suggestions may be considered in grant applications for signage.

Regards



Sue Law



**Living & Learning Nillumbik**  
**Eltham Justice Precinct Subcommittee**

**Agenda**

16 October 2008, 10.30am at Eltham Justice Precinct

Item	Action
Present:	
Apologies	
1. Minutes of last meeting 14 August 2008	
2. Business Arising	
2.1 Signage – report from excursion!	
2.2 Heritage Victoria grants	
2.3 New Toilets	
✓ 2.4 Car park lighting	
2.5 Maintenance assessment – refer Other business	
2.6 Legal status of the two sections of the Precinct	Wayne Malone
3. Other business:	
3.1 Discussion re maintenance – Tom McKay, Building Maintenance Coordinator, NSC ✓	



## Eltham Justice Precinct

### Some suggested guidelines for use of the Court House for exhibitions

It is suggested that, once agreed, the guidelines (rules in fact) must be accepted in writing by users.

*This Court House was built in 1860 and is protected by Heritage listing. Several other court houses in the state were built to the same design, but only two remain. It was built in response to itinerant gold prospectors who turned to crime when their quest for gold was unsuccessful. It's architectural significance is that it retains early features including handmade bricks, simple decoration, roof trusses, timber ceilings, original windows, and a good collection of original furniture.*

*All users must recognise and respect the historical and heritage value of the site.*

*In particular :*

- All users must submit a display plan (eg half to one page) saying what they intend to exhibit, how it will be displayed, and how they will protect the building and furniture*
- Furniture must not be removed from the main Court House room, neither into the kitchen nor outdoors, but may be relocated within the room with proper care.*
- No pins, tacks, nails, adhesive or other fasteners are to be attached to any visible parts of furniture, fixtures or walls.*
- All furniture surfaces must be protected with coverings if required, if any sharp, rough or other potentially damaging objects are on display.*
- As with hire of all rooms, the standard charges apply, and insurance arrangements must meet requirements. For further information on rates and insurance contact Living and Learning Nillumbik, ph 9430 1313.*

*Displays — Heritage of the building.*

*~~Gallery~~  
not to be used.*



Stared  
Museum  
of a piece  
Has it been  
given to the  
E, Dist, Hist, Soc Inc  
Ken Eckersal.

Discuss with  
Church Committee.  
Need their understanding of  
the present storage situation  
re- Church Organ

E-Bay value 5/600 £ if in working order.

Committee's opinion is that the money that  
could be exchanged for the Organ  
should go to furthering the activities  
around the Justice Precinct - signage  
- repairs, plantings etc etc.

Tue 19<sup>th</sup>

Ken to talk to Church "Elders"  
re selling the organ for funds



A Comparative study of Court Houses (1991) places Eltham in an early group of 'Victorian Free Classical' structures, featuring a projecting entry porch and gabled roof. Characteristically, this group shares a simple, rectangular shape, central placement of the court room with smaller-scale offices set back at the sides or rear of the court room, arched openings, and decorative string courses.

All building examples of this Court house type were constructed in brick, except Port Fairy, which is of bluestone.

Examples of this type are: Creswick (1859), Hamilton (1858), Omeo (c 1860), Port Fairy, formerly Belfast (1859), Mornington, formerly Schnapper Point (1860), Port Melbourne (1860), Stawell, Pleasant Creek (1859), Talbot (1860), Chiltern (1865), Taradale (1864), Yackandandah (1864), and Alexandra (1877).

Remarkably, all twelve of these court houses are extant and nine are reasonably intact. Three court houses have been modified. Alexandra Court House has been expanded with the addition of flanking government offices and a post office (1878), although the original court house structure is intact. At Hamilton, alterations and additions were carried out in 1865 and 1882, to accommodate the County and Supreme Courts, replacing the simple entry with a recessed, arcaded entry. Port Fairy Court house was altered with a grouping of three arched openings at the front façade, in 1864 and 1873, again to accommodate a Supreme Court.

### **Eltham Police Residence**

A Comparative study of Police Buildings in Victoria: building types (1997) places Eltham Police Residence in a large group categorised as 'Domestic Style, Victorian structures, featuring a Verandah and projecting bay'. Eltham Police Residence (1859) is amongst the earliest examples of this type. This type began to replace the typical double fronted residences from the 1860s, but most examples were built in the 1880s.

Nearly 70 examples of this residence type have been identified, constructed from 1859 to the 1890s.

Of the 60+ known examples constructed, 24 residences survive. The Eltham residence is reasonably intact.

### **Eltham Police Stables**

From the 1860s, stables were constructed with more durable building materials: stone and brick. Seven stables are known to have been constructed in stone, while at least 22 stables were constructed in brick. Eltham is amongst a group of early stables constructed in brick. From the 1880s, stables were largely constructed in timber. Of the 22 brick stables built, 13 are extant.

The stable at Eltham has been substantially altered.

### **Eltham Portable Lock up**

The Portable lock up at Eltham is not original to the site and has been recently relocated. The date of construction is unknown. It is amongst a large group of portable locks up, categorised as 'Portable Lock Up – Timber – Later' and also known as the "Casterton style", based on the only known plan for portable lock ups, built for the Casterton Police Station, in 1907. The Later portables have been in use since the 1880s.



Many of the men who tramped through Eltham on their way to the Caledonia goldfields were men with little money to support them. Some of the more desperate ones became bushrangers and on 4 April 1856, a Caledonia mail coach was held up by armed men, midway between Heidelberg and Eltham, and sundry property was carried off, viz.: £30 in bank-notes, 1 horse and 3 mail-bags. Three mounted constables pursued the hold-up men without success.

On 30 April 1856 a licence for a police station at Eltham was granted by Captain McMahon on the grounds of 'there being two public houses and a population between 700 and 800'. No premises were immediately available and on 2 June, local traders met and requested police

protection. The first police station was a small cottage and a two-stall stable, and the rent was 10s. od. a week. The cottage was rented from William Jarrold.

A Court of Petty Sessions was established in Eltham by order of the Governor in 1858. On 22 March Constable Reid of Eltham was the sole officer. He applied for more officers at the station, his excuse being that he had 'taken much punishment on arresting two men in Mr Warren's hotel'.

A number of illicit stills were in operation around Eltham in the sixties; since not many men had the money to buy grog, they made it themselves. At Eltham Court on 6 December 1865, Dregold McPhee was fined five shillings and given fourteen days to move from the Crown Lands known as 'Old Black Station', an aboriginal reserve on the Yarra. Before this, McPhee had been known as a hotel-keeper but had had his licence removed. After that he kept moving around, always one step ahead of the police, while he operated illicit stills in various hide-outs. He was finally caught selling beer to the Aborigines.

On 28 October 1865, a robbery was reported from the Eltham Hotel. Constables Lawlor and Mills made a circuit of the bush around Eltham and found a man camping by the creek. In his swag were the missing articles. Joseph Bastion was punished by one month's gaol with hard labour. Constables Lawlor and Mills were rewarded.

In the sixties wages were low and goods were cheap. A tender for firewood for the Eltham police station in 1865 records the price: 8s. 6d. a ton. The police stations were given rations for the men detained in the lock-up and these have been recorded:

<i>Daily—Maize or oaten meal</i>	<i>8 oz.</i>
<i>Bread</i>	<i>1 lb. 4 ozs.</i>
<i>Meat</i>	<i>12 ozs.</i>
<i>Potatoes</i>	<i>1 lb.</i>
<i>Sugar</i>	<i>1 oz.</i>
<i>Soap</i>	<i>1/2 oz.</i>
<i>Articles to be of the best quality.</i>	



robbery took place on 9 March 1866; and one man reported that a man in the vicinity of the Diamond Reef and Watery Gully diggings had offered a set of buggy harness for sale for £1. On this latter, rather slender, evidence, a mounted constable and an experienced miner, George Pegg, caught the culprit!

Between the dates of 1873 and 1890 most of the crimes dealt with at the Eltham police station were for horse-stealing. The theft of a horse was the equivalent today of the theft of a car; horses were stolen from paddocks, from the roads where they were let loose by their owners to graze, and from stables. In January 1873 a man was arrested for horse-stealing at Kangaroo Ground. His description, given in the police records, gives an idea of the dress of the period. He is described as being: 'An Englishman about 30 years of age, 5'6" or 5'7" high, medium build, swarthy complexion, fair hair, whiskers and moustache, the latter very thin and scattered, large mouth and teeth very prominent. He was very talkative, wore moleskin trousers, light tweed coat, leghorn hat and lace-up boots.' In an arrest for fowl-stealing, the description of the stolen property goes: 'One drake and six ducks. One duck very remarkable. The top bill is much shorter than the under one and is shaped like a spoon.'

In February 1883, the Eltham police station was notified that a notorious bushranger might pass through their area. The notification from the St Kilda police station, signed by D. S. Kennedy, Superintendent Inspector, says: 'Power, the bushranger, discharged this morning wearing long full grey beard, whiskers and moustache, new blucher boots, Crimean shirt, old felt hat with stiff brim, white moleskin trousers and old brown overcoat. He speaks of going back to Beechworth again.' Another common crime was the stealing of silver watches. Watches were valuable in the seventies, when few men possessed them. In the police records these heavy pocket watches were referred to as hunters.

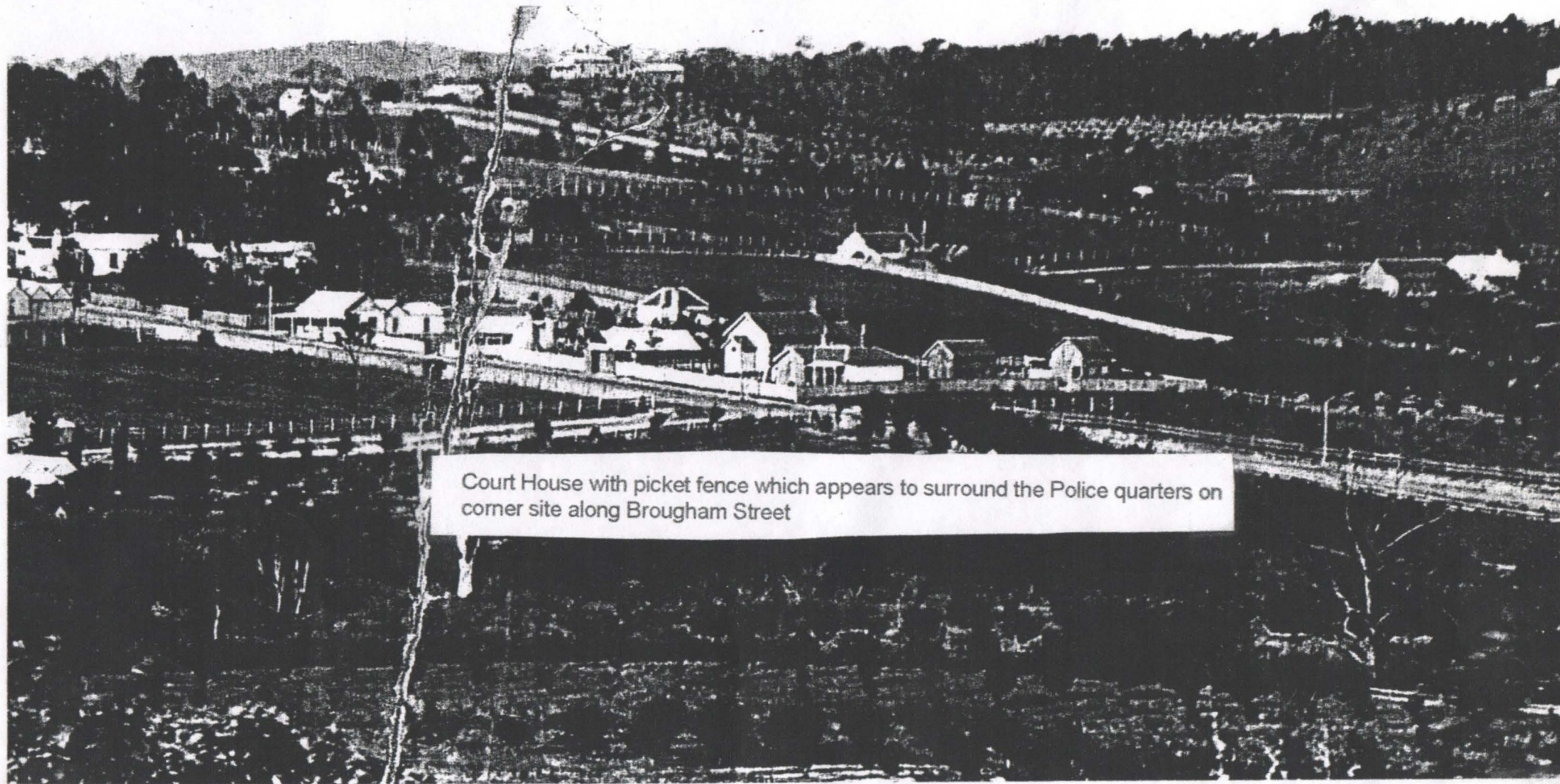
*Pioneers & Painters p 55-56.*



Looking north east across 'Little Eltham' – buildings c.1910

Police quarters - bluestone two cell lockup - stables

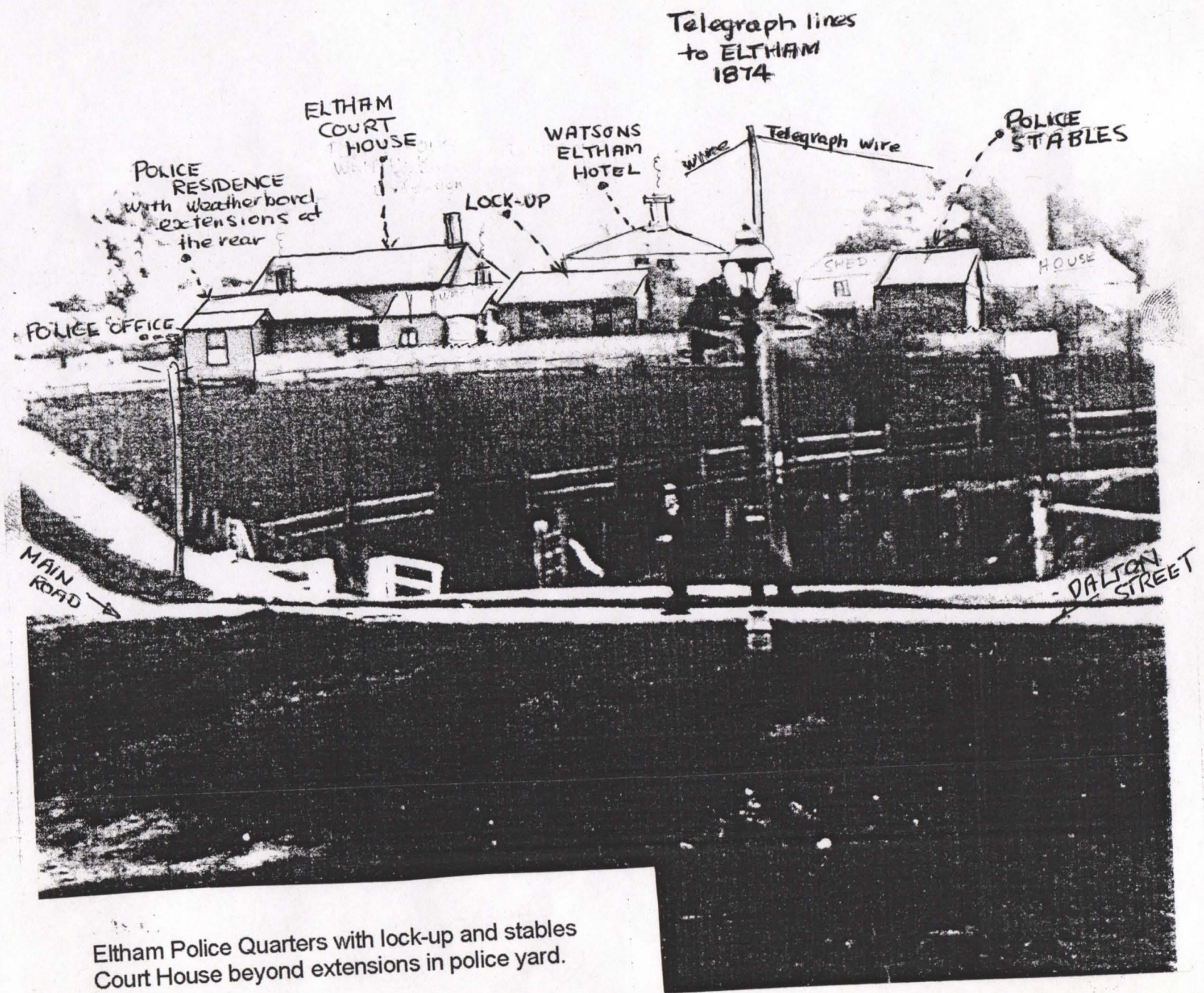
Landscape – orchards and grazing areas



Court House with picket fence which appears to surround the Police quarters on corner site along Brougham Street



1907

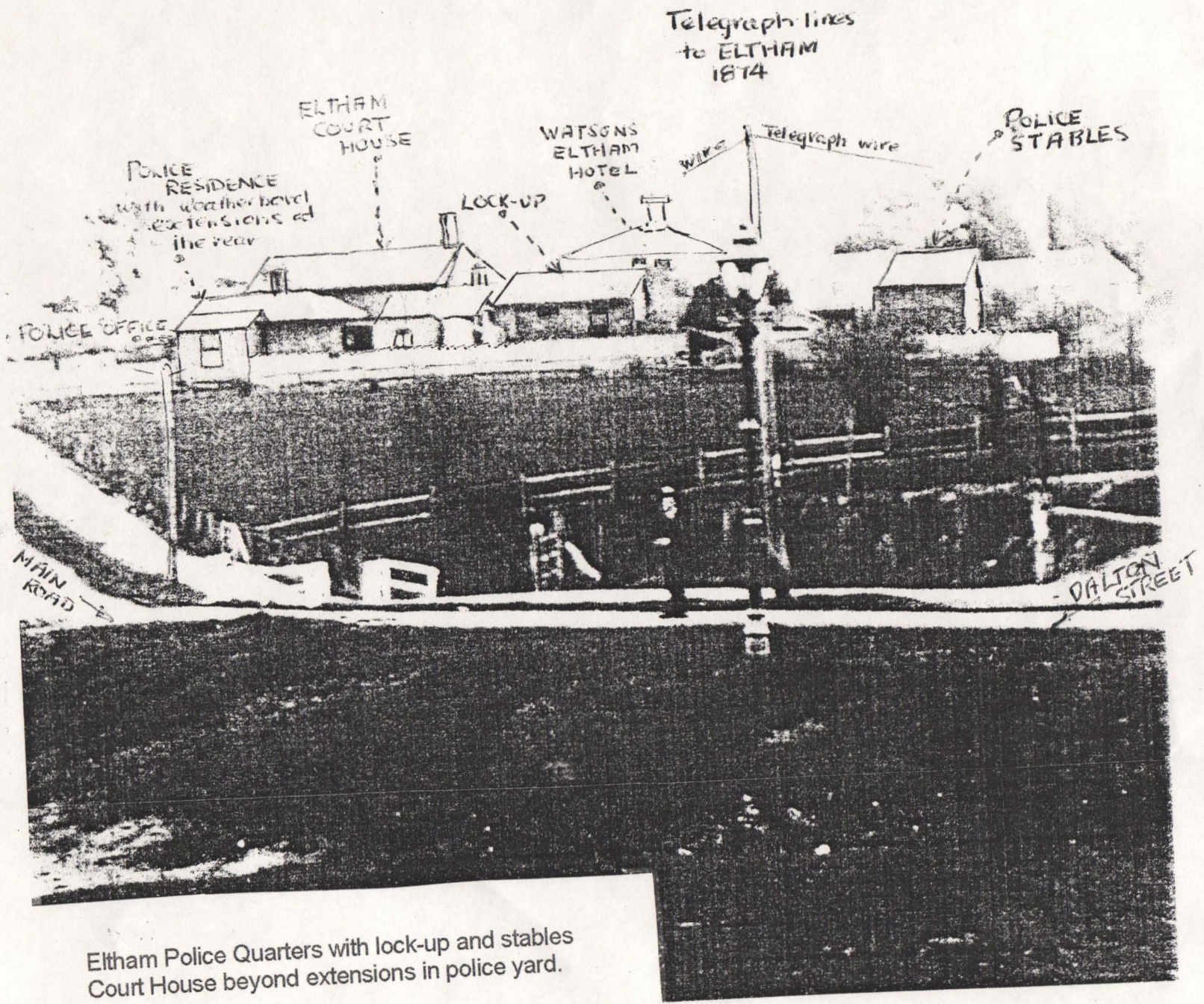


Eltham Police Quarters with lock-up and stables  
Court House beyond extensions in police yard.



1907

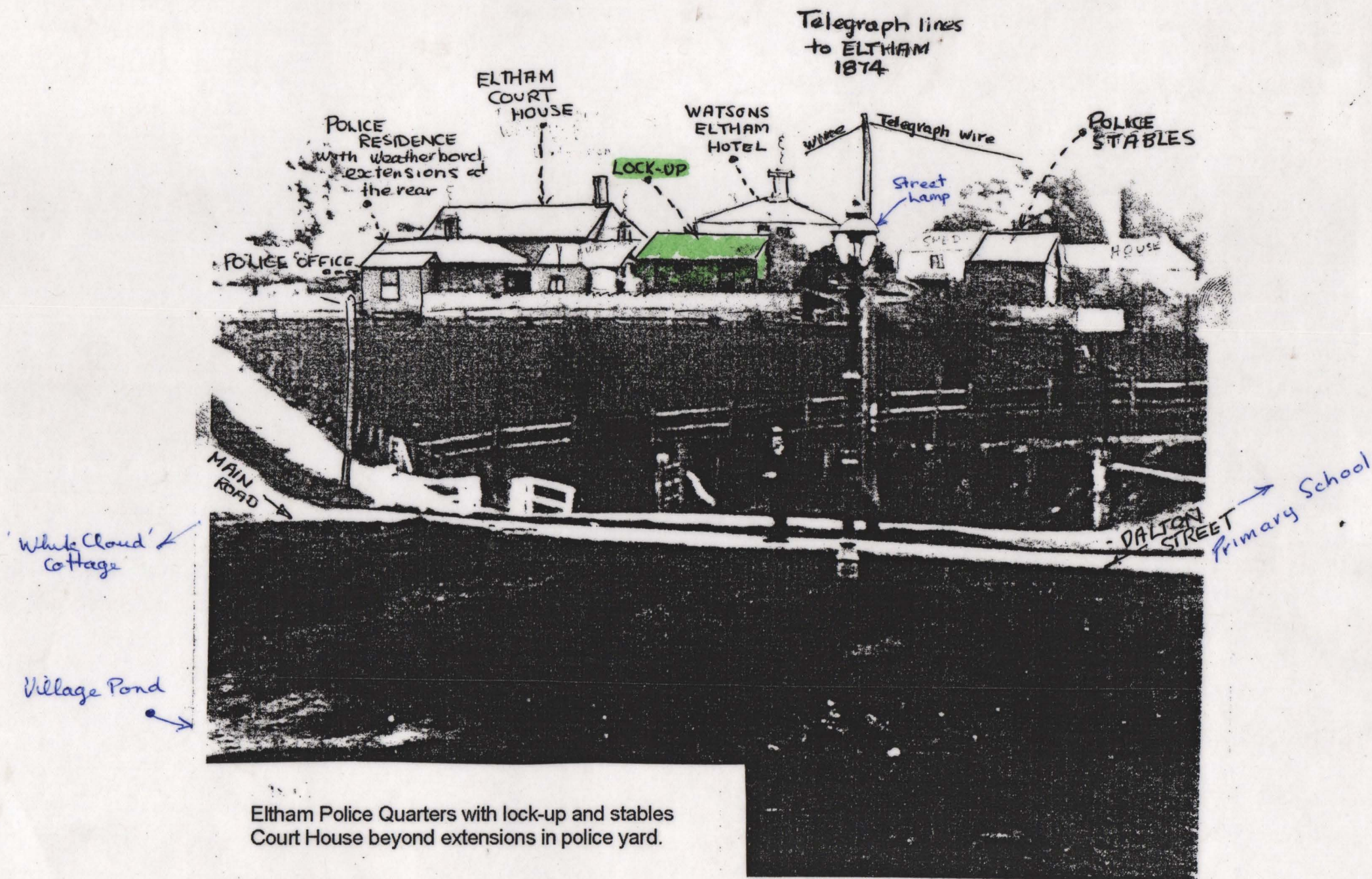
1907



Eltham Police Quarters with lock-up and stables  
Court House beyond extensions in police yard.



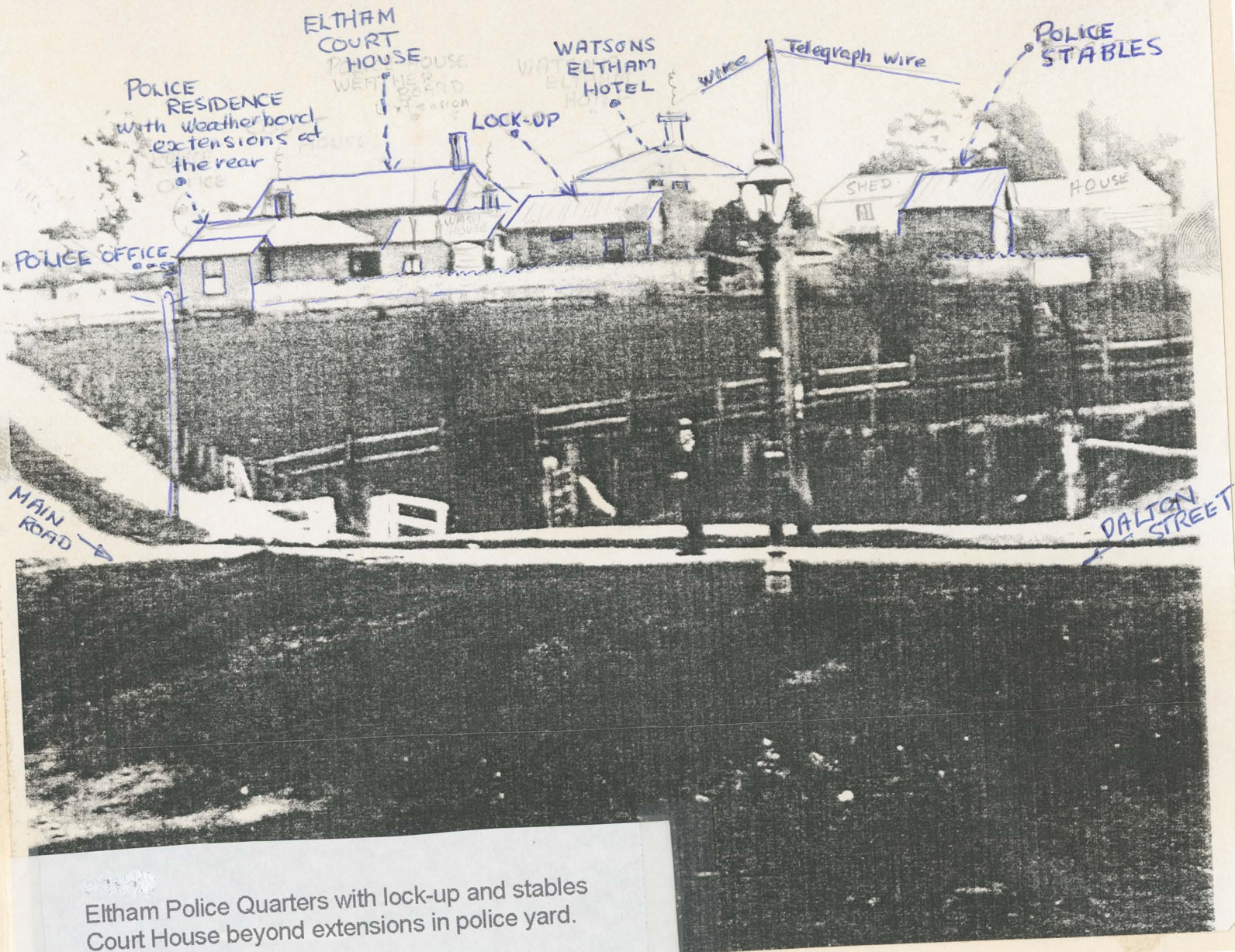
1907





1907

Telegraph lines  
to ELTHAM  
1874



Eltham Police Quarters with lock-up and stables  
Court House beyond extensions in police yard.



(C) 1920

W. Andrews Shop.  
Cnr Franklin St  
Main Road.

Knapmans forge

Court  
House  
Built 1860

Police residence 1860  
with office (c) 1900's

Evelyn Hotel  
Destroyed - Fire - 1931



Brougham Street closed off



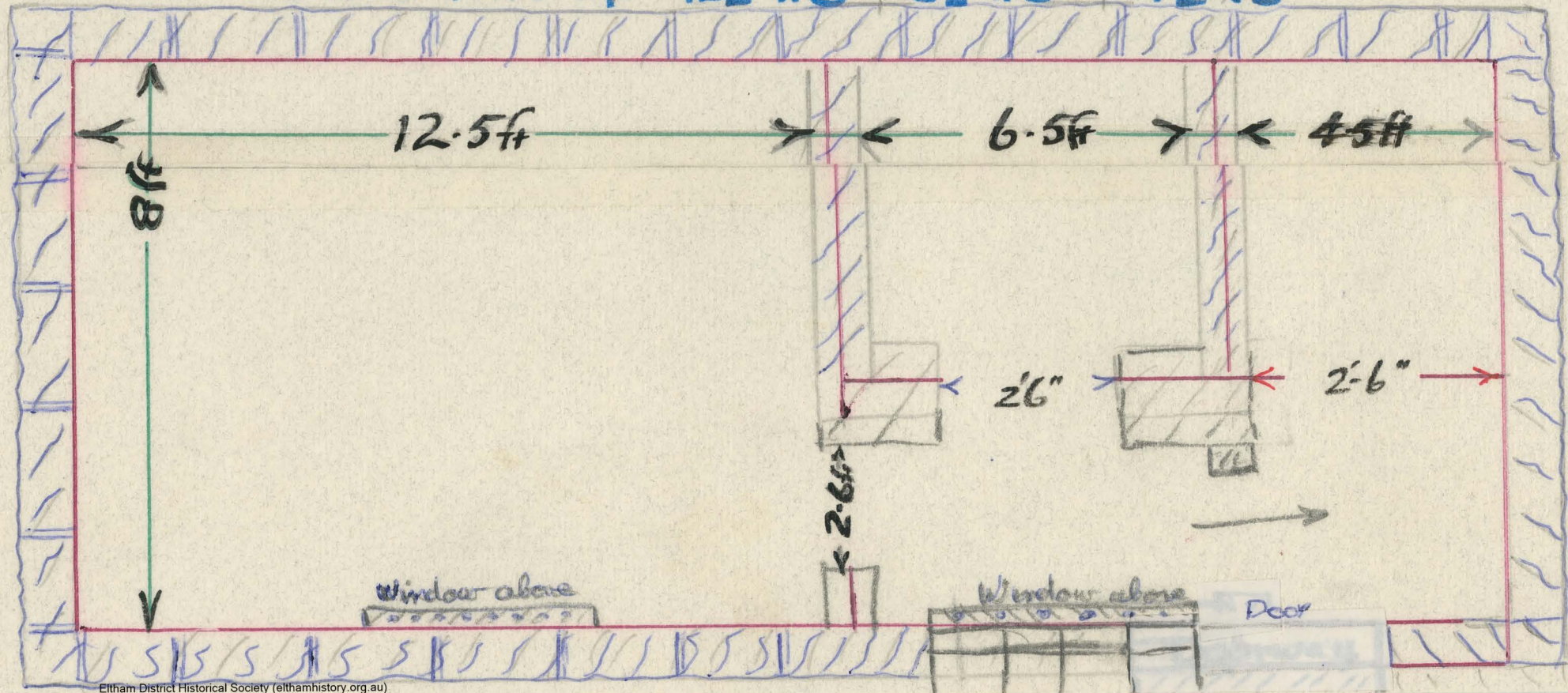
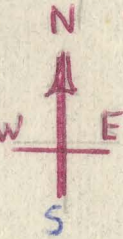


An unusual view showing the Eltham police station and residence with the courthouse beyond.  
From a collection presented to the Society by Heather Jenkins who lived here as a child when her father was the local policeman.

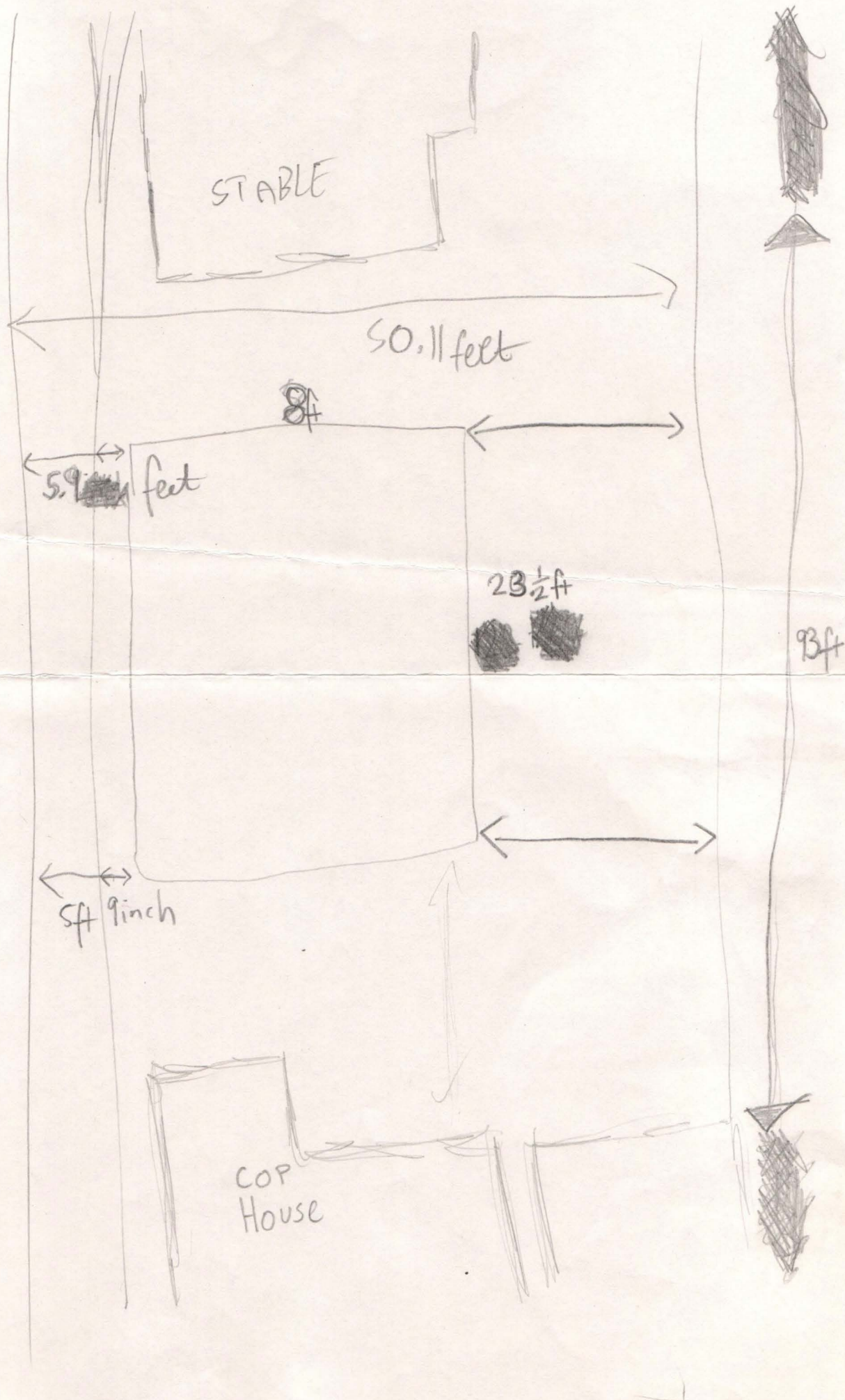


LOCK-UP.  
ELTHAM POLICE STATION 17<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1859 Govt Gazette

3 Cell lock-up  $12\frac{1}{2}' \times 8'$   $6\frac{1}{2}' \times 8'$   $4\frac{1}{2}' \times 8'$







mm  
10 for 3 ft



Stoneware from the 'dismanteling' of the 1860 lock-up has been used by the Eltham Shire Council to form:

A central structure to direct traffic to Reseach Rd and Wattle Tree Road.

The white paint on stone blocks around the 728 car park at the Policemans house are said to be from the road structure above. Other stone blocks edge the garden at the front of the police residence.

When the Shillinglaw Cottage was moved in 1964 to make way for the Shire of Eltham Offices, other stone blocks were used to form the garden edges of its back area. The Cottage has been used as a premises for the Shire of Eltham Historical Society and then served as a Restaurant under a series of proprietors.

Rent for the Cottage is collected by the Shire Council of its time

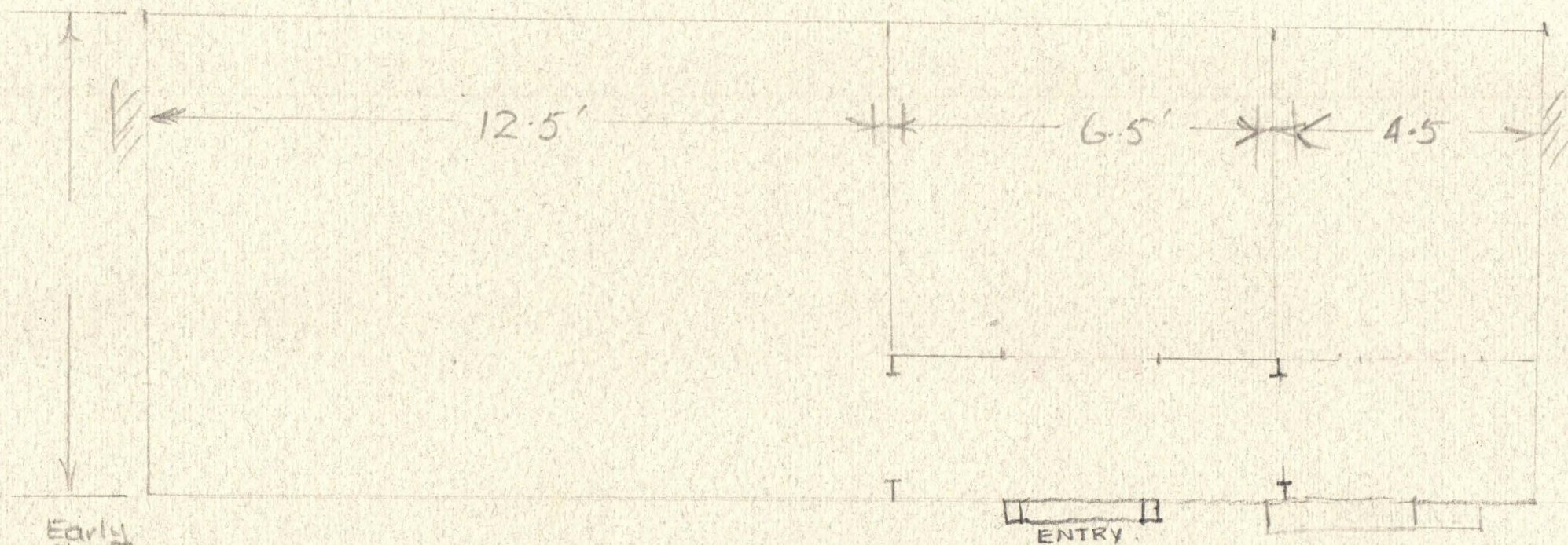
Harry Gilham 2008



# ELTHAM POLICE STATION 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 1859 Govt Gazette

3 CELL LOCK-UP  $12\frac{1}{2}$  ft x 8 ft,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  ft x 8 ft,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft x 8 ft

ONE ENTRANCE DOOR



Early Staffing

March 1858 Constable GEORGE BIRD (1859 Senior Constable) Housed & stabled

May 1858 Constable QUIRKE at Eltham in William Jarrold's Cottage

1860 Senior Constable BIRD orders supplies for Kangaroo Ground Police Station Samuel DAGLEY tenders

September 1860-66 Senior Constable Peter LAWLER at Eltham 10/- to remove manure from Eltham station for one year

October 1863 Senior Constable Charles JESSE (Mounted Police) Queenstown to Eltham

August 1864 Jacob BELCHAM is appointed police farrier at Eltham

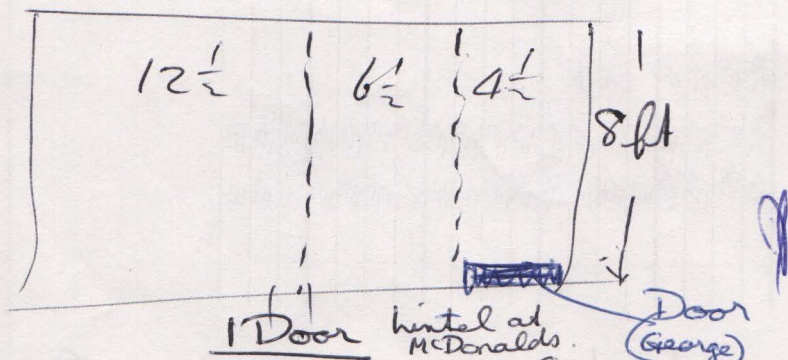


Eltham Police Station

577  
Police  
Garrett  
Book 1 of  
Keith  
writings

17/Oct/1859 lock-up with 3 cells

$12\frac{1}{2} \times 8$  ft  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8$   $4\frac{1}{2} \times 8$



March  
1858

Constable George Bird (1859 Senior  
Constable Bird)

March  
" "

M<sup>r</sup> Warrens Hotel

May

1858 + Constable Quirke (later Senior  
Constable Quirke)

using Wilham

Jarrolds Cottage

1860 Sen Con Bird orders  
supplies for K G  
Police Station

Sept  
1860

Senior Constable Hawker at Eltham  
Peter



[illegible]

10/- to remove manure for whole year at Eltham Police Station

Samuel Dagley tendered 10/-

Oct 1863 Charles (Mounted Blue)  
San Cristobal - Q town to El Estan  
San Crist Peter hawker to Dandenong-  
washed

Aug 1864

Police farrier Eltham JACOB BELCHAM

Oct 18 64

Oct 1864      San Crist Peter howler still at Eltham

March 1864

March 1864  
report on people who have not complied  
with the Vaccination Act for their children

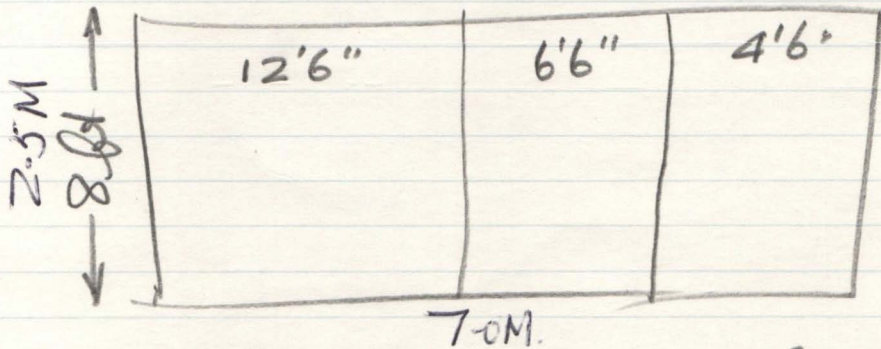
June 1866 S.C. Phaula to the rescue + Mount Con. MILLS

11 Oct 1866 Policeman loses his trousers on blood



Demolished post 1963 photograph

# Plan of 1859 for Eltham lock-up



23 feet 6 inches X 8-feet

7.0M X 2.5M.

with 10 feet high walls

It had ONE doorway (not shown)

Copy request  
Anyone with a photograph of  
it could call 94391175-



Apart from holding persons overnight to sober-up in the lock up, people were restrained for periods of 2 hours to 12 hours as a punishment, as decided by the Eltham Court which was next door.

<sup>for</sup> not sending their child to school for the required number of days

---

Melbourne Police Force began in 1853.

A portable lock-up cell was transported to Andersons Creek (Warrandyte) Police Station in 1857.

These cells in operation up to 1980's



Metal fittings around the door and window guards show "blacksmithing" techniques of the 1800 <sup>early</sup> & 1900's before welding techniques were common place in metal practices. The door frame hinge support is a <sup>steel</sup> casting.



Earliest use 1857 at Andersons Creek Police Station  
Warrandyte



~~Mixa~~ Myxomatosis

Vermine & noxious weeds

~~Myxomatosis~~ virus fleas were the

last tenants of this <sup>1860</sup> blue-stone  
lock-up <sup>that was</sup> demolished in the 1960's

Fleas were grown on rabbits <sup>in the building</sup>, & removed  
by combing and <sup>then</sup> released into rabbit

~~burrows~~ burrows by the State Government  
Lands Department officers



2. The nature of the court house planning and use of architectural devices make the building's function easily interpreted. The arrangement of rooms, with public entry and clerical rooms to the rear, and the use of raised floor levels throughout these spaces to signify relative rank is easily perceived. The distinction in entries, public, magistrate and person-in-custody, and the existing court furniture enhances appreciation of this building.

3. The **Eltham Court House**, built in 1860, is one of only two intact examples in the state of this simple design with projecting entry.

4. The building is of architectural significance because it retains intact early features. These include use of handmade bricks, simple decoration, roof trusses, timber ceiling boards, original windows, doors and associated hardware and a collection of court furniture. Additions to the court house have been done in a manner which did not interfere with the fabric of the original building.

'Eltham Court House' is scheduled individually on the Heritage Overlay of the Shire of Nillumbik Planning Scheme, being HO123 (19 February 2004).

'Eltham Court House' is classified by the National Trust as being of State Significance (File number: B3253).

### 1.2.2 Eltham Police Residence (former)

The adjacent Eltham Police Residence (former) is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and is scheduled on the Heritage Overlay of the Shire of Nillumbik Planning Scheme.

'Former Police Quarters, Eltham' is listed individually on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR number H1539, Online Data Upgrade Project 2003):

*The Former Police Quarters, Eltham are part of a larger police complex designed by the Public Works Department and were 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 c. 1950s. The existing detached weatherboard building, located close to the residence, is a c.1980s 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.*

*The Former Police Quarters, Eltham is historically and architecturally significant to the State of Victoria.*

*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 court house which together form an example of an early justice precinct. The residence and stables are also important for their association with the earliest development of Eltham township. 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.*

'Former police residence & rear stable, Eltham' is scheduled individually on the Heritage Overlay of the Shire of Nillumbik Planning Scheme, being HO122 (19 February 2004).



9439 5981.

Dennis McKay

re Police Station  
Site

Phone Conversation Tue. 6/5/97.

Grown hands / Conser. Dept  
Noxious Weeds.

circa 1970 Orig. office moved to  
53/56 rear of residence  
lock up <sup>already</sup> demolished - <sup>P.P. 92</sup> final use  
to breed rabbit virus fleas

Fibro sheet sheds built in yard  
area and lean to extensions  
put on stable building

lock-up.  
Residence  
Station Office  
Stables

Bartlett's  
Garry Jacinta  
97101456  
(Bottles from  
water well)

South side of yard at rear of residence  
they built a shower / wash room  
Between these buildings was a covered  
courtyard

Demolition  
lock up  
circa 1965

The blue stone blocks from the lock up were stored  
behind the stables.

These blocks were used by the Council at the  
Main / Wattle tree road as a roundabout (Painted white)  
(Colemans Corner)

1980 When Main road widened from near Elsa Court  
past Coleman's corner towards Research the blocks  
were reclaimed and moved to Edendale Farm site  
(then the dog pound / cattle pound / Ranger resident.)

1985 blocks returned to form garden edges at the  
old police residence + station front area.

Back yard also has signs of a washhouse being near the  
back door (NOT the current used area) see where portable office  
stood.

3<sup>rd</sup> Chimney in earlier photo (cow / gulls)



Stan McColl. - SEC. employee.

HELP

Pitt St

ex student of E.P.S.

male. policeman's son.

In Yard Square Posts in gate.

7/5 unable to see these

Yarrambat  
Service St  
lettuce in  
Hurstbridge

Ian Craigie ex Patray Rd

Now in Langully Rd

knows about the police

1953  
Prior St  
Station

1985

Historical buildings Council

2 designs for police stations  
in Victoria

2 materials - Weatherboard or brick.

Station  
Residence  
hookup.

1990 - born in residence. Lady exits

Oct 1990

Well in backyard - battles in loft.

Garry  
Bartlett

Youth  
Road.

Portable lock up - bound  
for Prior St

MILAWA  
MYRTLEFORD  
HEALSVILLE

Sewerage  
1985

Old office  
site scullery  
& wash house

look at  
photo for  
the chimney  
at rear.



Martin Powell Phippells

1853 beginning of Police Force

Andersons Creek 1857



Used up to 20 years ago

9247 5214

1963  
Demolished

M.P

Police Historical Unit

P.O. Box 415

Melb 3005

A4 Sun  
Laser Print Cop  
of ELH P/S  
of 1963.





VICTORIA POLICE

# HISTORICAL UNIT

The Victoria Police Historical Unit was set up in 1987 to look after the historical records and artefacts of the Victoria Police. It has a staff of ~~three~~ who are concerned with providing information to the public on police history, cataloguing the collection of material and preserving these records. The Unit has also set up a Police Museum which is open to the public.

## Police History

The Victoria Police was established in 1853 with an initial strength of 875 men. In the years prior to this beginning there had been a number of policing groups, including Gold Escorts, Water Police, Border Police, Metropolitan Police (in Melbourne) and a Native Police Corp.

From the very start of the Force, police have been involved in almost every facet of life in Victoria. They were at the Eureka Stockade in 1854, searching for the Kelly Gang in 1879/80, and at every Royal visit to Victoria. Police have also been involved with local communities in a wide variety of ways, from Neighbourhood Watch programs, to crowd control at VFL games, to collecting farming statistics in rural areas.

The history of the Victoria Police contains many episodes of interest, and the use of up to date technology is readily apparent. The Historical Unit holdings reflect the diversity of work carried out by members of the Victoria Police since 1853.

## Records and Artefacts

The holdings of the Police Historical Unit include the records compiled at police stations around Victoria, such as watch house books, occurrence books and other registers, in some cases from the earliest days of the Force. The Unit also holds a wide variety of journals, log books and other manuscript records relating to most aspects of police work. In addition to these paper records, the Unit has a vast collection of police uniforms, equipment and memorabilia of interest to researchers of police history as well as a large collection of historical photographs.

The Historical Unit is able to supply information about former members of the Victoria Police to people doing genealogical research or students of police history. Requests should be made in writing to: the Manager, Police Historical Unit, P O Box 415, Melbourne, 3005. It is usually possible to supply photocopies of ex-members' Record of Conduct and Service sheets.



# VICTORIA POLICE MUSEUM

Open Monday to Friday, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

- \* Victoria Police Centre, Concourse Level,  
637 Flinders Street, Melbourne.
- \* Catering for groups, such as schools,  
societies,  
etc. (Advance bookings for groups  
essential.)
- \* Souvenirs and books available for sale.

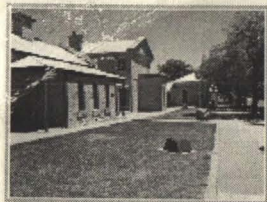
## EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS INCLUDE:

- \* History of the Victoria Police.
- \* The changing face of policing
- \* Police Communication systems
- \* Policing in the city
- \* Finger prints
- \* Uniforms, insignia, badges
- \* A police motorcycle
- \* Lots more ...

**For further inquiries and group  
bookings,  
phone (03) 9247 5215**

## FREE ADMISSION





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IMGP0573.JPG



IMGP0574.JPG



IMGP0583.JPG



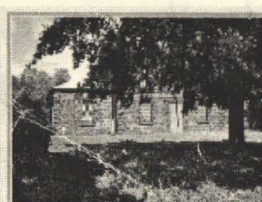
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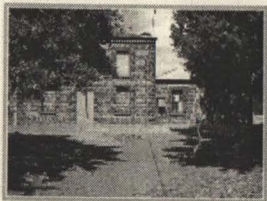
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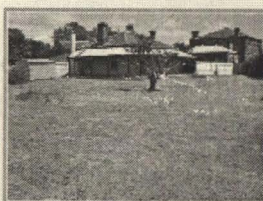
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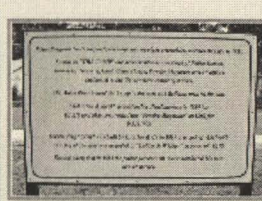
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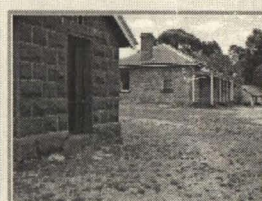
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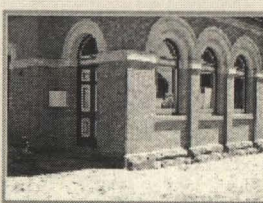
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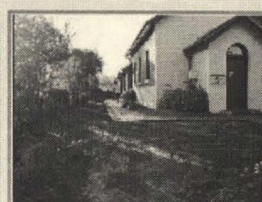
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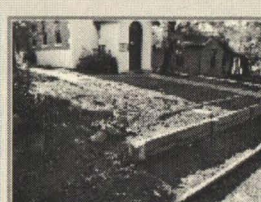
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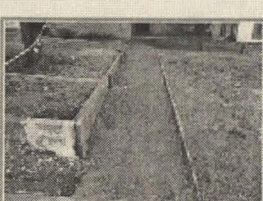
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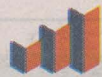
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JUSTICE PRECINCTS,





# A touch of Portofino in Port Melbourne

The 1865 courthouse has been converted into a dining venue, writes **Stephen Crafti**.

One could easily be in Portofino, Italy when dining at Ciao Cielo restaurant and Cia Cucina pizzeria.

The worn, patinated walls and diffused lighting create an intimate setting.

However, Ciao Cielo and Cia Cucina are considerably closer to home, located on the corner of Bay and Graham streets in Port Melbourne.

Perhaps one of the connections to Portofino is the age of this building, circa 1860, originally designed by the eminent architect John J. Clark as a courthouse.

Since its days as a courthouse and adjacent holding cells, it's been occupied as government offices, an Anglican church, a plant nursery and a restaurant.

"The building had become fairly run down with all the different changes, including some fairly inappropriate alterations in the 1980s," says architect David Wagner, co-director of Atelier Wagner, who worked closely with his life and business partner, architect Jacqui Wagner.

"Clark's legacy can be seen across Melbourne, including the Old Treasury Building, the Royal

Mint and the Melbourne Baths," adds Jacqui.

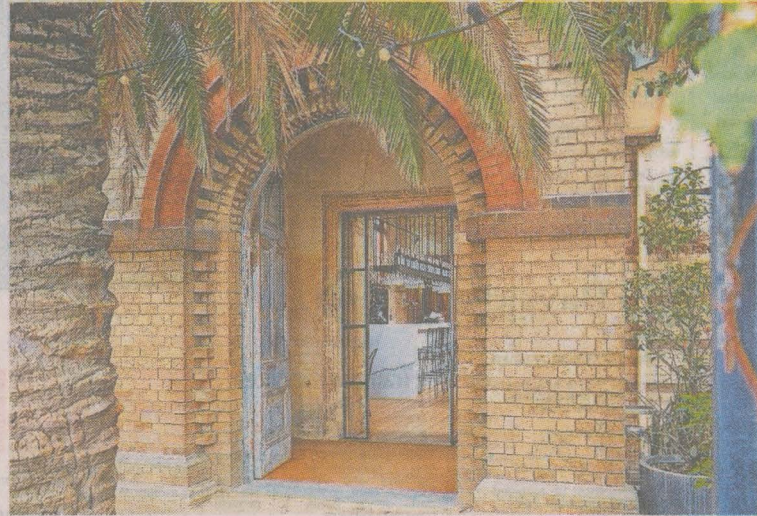
Atelier Wagner has worked on a number of heritage buildings and was conscious of touching this heritage-listed building as lightly as possible.

The brief came from restaurateurs Kate Dickens and her husband and chef at Ciao Cielo, Bryan Nelson, who were moving from their restaurant in a traditional shopfront only metres away.

"Kate and Bryan were also on the same page about retaining the building's original fabric, allowing its history to be clearly read," says Jacqui.

While the finely crafted Renaissance Revival building with its distinctive polychromatic brickwork and arched corbelling is expressed on this prominent corner site, the rudimentary adjacent kitchen and lean-to was completely removed.

"The size of that kitchen wasn't going to be able to fully service the restaurant and the pizzeria," says David, who created an L-shaped wing around the original courthouse building, clad in black steel mini-orb.



However, Clark's legacy has been fully retained, comprising the formal dining area and a more intimate dining room, formerly a room where the judge would reflect on the facts before making a decision. Everything here has been touched lightly, from the moment guests arrive through the front vestibule. Although a new steel and glass door has been inserted, the original timber door behind this glass has been retained.

So have the original timber floors along with the highly cracked plaster walls, the latter forming a rich patina and, importantly, an authentic reading of the building's history.

"Obviously, we needed to ensure everything was stable, while being mindful of respecting the fabric," says David, who enjoys seeing the diffused light come through the arched timber windows, the latter fortunately being relatively intact.

And rather than replace the overmantle on the fireplace, it's been left as a black hole in the wall (still functional) and complementing the interior's slightly sooty and distressed interior.

The private dining area is as lightly touched, with sheer black curtains wrapping the space to allow for the silhouette of the original windows to be visible.

Atelier Wagner also wrapped



The architects have touched the heritage-listed building as lightly as possible. Photos: Kevin Li.

the pendant light in black gauze to add to this ethereal quality.

However, in contrast to Ciao Cielo, the pizzeria, Cia Cucina – accessed from Graham Street, is bright and breezy, with generous skylights creating a more Italian daytime experience. Polished concrete floors, white glazed tiles and steel portals to accommodate wood for the pizza oven create a more informal ambience.

While the courthouse is no longer, the building itself remains an important legacy to J.J. Clark as he is often referred to.

Diners who come to Ciao Cielo can now enjoy Italian fare and the thoughtfulness of this recent architectural project from Atelier Wagner.

















Windows Live™

**Eltham, 730 Main Road - proposed new toilet facilities**From: **Jim Connor** (jimc1@bigpond.net.au)

Sent: Thursday, 10 January 2008 3:36:55 AM

To: Stuart Caldwell (Stuart.Caldwell@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Cc: Bronnie Hattam (Bronnie.Hattam@nillumbik.vic.gov.au); Greg Johnson (Greg.Johnson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Thank you Stuart for your response to my earlier email.

As discussed today I am aware of the planning and building process, however there is little opportunity to have input into the building permit process once a planning permit is issued. In this instance I have therefore used the planning stage to encourage Council to ensure that this proposed facility and the path/ramp access to it are designed and constructed to ensure appropriate access, as per relevant standards, is available for all users. I believe that independent access advice would assist Council in achieving this outcome. The buildings at 728 and 730 Main Road are regularly visited by many older persons and people with disabilities, including those with mobility impairments.

Please contact me if I can assist further.

regards

Jim Connor

On 10/01/2008, at 1:28 PM, Stuart Caldwell wrote:

Jim,

Your email below to Cliff copied to Bronnie and Greg made its way to me as I have responsibility for both Planning and Building.

The issues which you have raised in respect of compliance with AS1428.1 are matters of detail which aren't considered through the PLANNING permit process. However it is a specific requirement of the BUILDING permit process that the toilets be compliant with AS1428.1. It is usually the case that Council's Building Surveyors assess/issue the building permits for Council projects, and as such Council's Building Surveyors will likely make the assessment of compliance with AS1428.1 for this one. They are currently providing advice to Council's Leisure and Community Services group (who are the project managers for this project) to ensure that the development will be compliant, and will of course make formal assessment when the building permit application is lodged with them (usually after the planning permit is issued).

I further understand that Infrastructure Development, through Conal Crendon, will be reviewing the issues which you have identified with the existing path leading to the ramp and proposed new toilets.

I trust that this advice addresses your concerns.

<http://by120w.bay120.mail.live.com/mail/PrintShell.aspx?type=message&cpids=284807a8...> 1/20/2008



Should you desire any further information in respect of this matter please call me on 9433 3343 or via return email.

Regards,  
Stuart Caldwell  
Manager  
Planning and Building  
Ph: 9433 3343  
Fx: 9433 3366

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From: Jim Connor [jimcl@bigpond.net.au]  
Sent: Friday, 4 January 2008 5:23 PM  
To: Cliff Bostock  
Cc: Bronnie Hattam; Greg Johnson  
Subject: Eltham, 730 Main Road - proposed new toilet facilities

Hello Cliff

I recently inspected the planning application details relating to the construction of a new toilet block at the rear of the former Court House building at 730 Main Road, Eltham.

While I do not wish to formally object to the construction of this much needed facility I would like to ensure that the designated accessible toilet, as well as the access to it does in fact comply with the relevant Australian Standards, particularly the requirements of AS 1428.1- 2001, so that it is accessible for all users. Matters of interest which are not readily discernible from the application plan are the pathway and ramp access and internal dimensions of the accessible toilet area, including circulation spaces and height of fittings (grabrails, pan, basin, etc.).

Unfortunately the ramp and pathway leading to the rear door of this former Court House building have not been fully accessible, for people with disabilities, since construction of the ramp commenced over 12 months ago. I believe this oversight must be rectified prior to construction of these proposed toilet facilities. If people cannot safely access the pathway and ramp leading to this new toilet then potential users or supporting carers may be at risk of injury.

It is therefore strongly suggested that a professional access consultant be involved prior to construction of this toilet to ensure all access opportunities are maximized and that the new facility does not create access challenges for some users. An Eltham based access professional who may be able to assist is Bob Kellow from Disabled Access Consultancy at 6 Grey Street, Eltham - Phone 03 9439 2194 or 0429 439 212.

Could you please advise how Council will ensure these new facilities will comply with the appropriate requirements.

regards

Jim Connor

9439 5916  
0418 379 497