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| ADDRESS | - Alexander Road Warrandyte | Last Update |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|

DESCRIPTION "Nilja" is a single-storey timber house, perched high above the Yarra River at Warrandyte. It is a hip-roofed timber house surrounded by an enclosed verandah which is very wide. This has walls in some places and flyscreens in others. The weatherboards are creosoted. The windows are casements as triples or French doors. The sashes are painted cream in green frames. Presumably these are all colours original to the 1920s.

The house has a high elevation in the front (north) and faces the spectacular view over the Yarra valley towards Eltham. A rear (south) verandah has turned Edwardian posts. There are red brick chimneys and the roof is painted red. There is a double garage, contemporary with the house. The fences are post and wire with metal droppers. The drive is lined with eucalypts and the garden has other residual plantings from the 1920s. The central hip-roofed section seems earlier in form, but there is no physical evidence of this.

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|------------------|------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Condition | Good | Integrity | Minor Modifications |
| Threats | | Key elements | |
| Designer | | | |

HISTORY The land was originally part of "Longridge Farm". Dr and Angela E.J. Booth purchased an allotment of 16 acres 9 perches in 1919 from Alexander Fraser. The house ("Nilja") was apparently moved here in 1919 from its original site in Port Melbourne, by Angela Booth. Booth was the first woman councillor in the municipality (for Warrandyte Riding) from 1926 to 1933, and was only the third woman councillor elected in Victoria. She was also an advocate of women's rights and equal pay, and served as a justice of the peace[50]. Angela Booth was highly regarded for her untiring efforts to obtain reticulated electricity for Warrandyte[51].

After the Second World War "Nilja" was owned and occupied by the Rutledge family. Dorothy Rutledge married George Reid in 1973; Sir George Reid was Attorney-General in the Bolte State Government from 1955 to 1972[52].

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|----------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Creation Date | c1920s | Change Dates | |
| Associations | | Local Themes | |
| | Dr & Angela E.J. Booth; Rutledge family | | 7.04 - Edwardian houses |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Of local significance for its historical associations with Angela Booth; and architecturally as a particularly intact, simple, Edwardian timber house in a spectacularly beautiful setting, perhaps surrounding an earlier cottage, with residual plantings of the same period.

LEVEL

RECOMMENDATIONS

Heritage Register Listings

| Register | Reference | Zoning | Status |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| None Specified | | | |

Extent

Heritage Schedule

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| External Paint Controls: | On VHR: | VHR Ref No: |
| Internal Alteration Controls: | Prohibited Uses: | |
| Tree Controls: | Aboriginal Heritage Place: | |
| Outbuildings or Fences: | Incorporated Plan: | Incorporated Plan Details |

Description:

Conservation Management

Extra Research

- BIBLIOGRAPHY** [50] Doncaster Templestowe Historical Society Newsletter, Nov. 1973; Irvine Green, undated notes; B. Bence Sir George and Lady Reid, Warrandyte Historical Society monograph.
[51] Cranfield, p.117.
[52] Warrandyte Historical Society, Sir George and Lady Reid, monograph.