

INGE & GRAHAM KING HOUSE

- **Place No.** 130

ADDRESS	18 Drysdale Road Warrandyte	Last Update
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DESCRIPTION -

Condition	Excellent	Integrity	Intact
Threats		Key elements	
Designer	Robin Boyd		

HISTORY A simple early Boyd design of about 10 squares on an eight by ten feet module. The structure is a west wall of local rubble sandstone and timber post-and-beam. The ceiling is under diagonal lining boards, extending over forty feet with a 6 inch gap for ventilation and bitumenous felt roofing over aluminium 20 gauge sheet lining. The aluminium crept appreciably, so over another three inch gap, a steel deck roof was installed. The solid wall panels are "Connite": a concrete of plaster and expanded metal. It has never cracked.

The house sits on one of the four quarter acre blocks of bushland. The contents of the house express the inspirational objects of a working sculptor and printmaker. The bush garden is the setting for numerous King sculptures.

The Kings returned from England in 1951 and commissioned the design from Robin Boyd. They found that if you built yourself, building was cheaper than renting in the post-war scarcity. An influence was that Boyd had recently returned from his first trip to Japan. He designed only the exterior. The interior fittings were designed by the Kings. There is a raised platform and most of the walls are light partitions.

The Kings had the stone wall and frame built, and then built and excavated the rest themselves, slowly. In 1955-6 the second stage was built from Boyd's drawings. At first, all timber was painted white, then later the trim was black. A deck was later built over the bitumenous felt roof and a tie-rod with a restraining channel held back a crack in the masonry. A studio was dug out of the sub-floor space also, bringing the house now to 25 squares. The south-facing pergola did not work, so this was infilled as a music room. Boyd's clients live there still.

Other early Boyd houses including the two built for himself in Riversdale Road, Camberwell and Walsh Street compare. This is not an Age Small Home, but these are also comparable.

Creation Date 1951-2

Change Dates

Associations

Local Themes

Inge and Graham King

8.02 - Architects

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Of State historical and architectural importance as an intact simple early Robin Boyd house for his own clients (whilst he was still director of The Age Small Business Service), still lived in by the original owners and builders; also of significance as the working environment, for the last 40 years of (arguably) Australia's greatest living sculptor and her printmaker husband.

LEVEL

RECOMMENDATIONS

Heritage Register Listings

Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
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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 [71] Inge and Graham King, pers. comm.