

CITY OF DONCASTER & TEMPLESTOWE HERITAGE STUDY.

152 BRACKENBURY STREET, WARRANDYTE. A13.

HISTORY : Built of adobe (sun-dried mud-brick) in about 1960. Earth construction was not encouraged in the City¹ and examples are rare. The construction method of timber lining over a masonry base was described by Robin Boyd as "The Warrandyte Style".²

VISUAL DESCRIPTION : This simple building has walls of adobe with a mud scrim over, on an ashlar bluestone base. It has a single skillion roof raking back, with (recent) timber shingles above ceiling level. There are standard timber windows with a three-sash central bay set forward, and a brick capped adobe letter box.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS : There are only three adobe buildings (houses) south of the river in Warrandyte (or in the City). The others are : 88 and 90 Yarra Street. There are also two houses of Pise de Terre (rammed earth) construction : "Tanglewood", 11 Old Warrandyte Road, Donvale (1949-50) and 44A Garden Road, Donvale. Even rarer is a wattle and daub at 32 Mullens Street, Warrandyte and in the 1853 section of "Friedensruhe", 10 Waldau Court, Doncaster. Earth construction is of course commonplace, in the neighbouring Shire of Eltham. For "Warrandyte Style" construction, refer also 139 and 151 Brackenbury Street, etc.

SIGNIFICANCE : The house at no.152 Brackenbury Street, built in about 1960 is of Historical interest as a rare example of adobe construction in the City. It is constructed in Robin Boyd's "Warrandyte Style".

INTACTNESS : Apparently reasonable. Other elements of the building, such as the shingles may have been altered.

CONDITION & THREATS : Reasonable.

REFERENCES : 1. Yvonne Reid on a site visit with Richard Peterson, 28 September 1991.
2. Robin Boyd, Australia's Home, (Melbourne University Press) Melbourne 1952, p.217.