**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE FOR ALAN MARSHALL BUNGALOW**

**WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT**

‘Gurawalla’ Alan Marshall Bungalow at 13 Park West Road, Eltham, built in 1955, and the home and workplace of prominent Australian writer and storyteller Alan Marshall from 1955 to 1972, is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

* The area surrounding the bungalow to a distance of five (5) metres from the north, east and south of the bungalow and to the western property boundary. And, a strip of land the width of the bungalow to Park West Road to retain the setting and context of the significant place. (Refer Figure1);
* The bungalows original built form, roof form (including gable and skillion roof sections) and original windows (louvered and fixed) and doors;
* Unlined eaves and exposed rafters;
* Mud brick wall and timber stud frame;
* Strapped sheet wall cladding, corrugated iron roof sheets;
* Internal brick and timber floors;
* Internal stud walls;
* Extant plumbing including fittings and fixtures.

**HOW IT IS SIGNIFICANT**

‘Gurawalla’ Alan Marshall Bungalow at 13 Park West Road, Eltham is of local historical (associative) significance to the Shire of Nillumbik.

**WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT**

‘Gurawalla’ Alan Marshall Bungalow at 13 Park Road West, Eltham, is significant to the Shire of Nillumbik as the home and workplace of Alan Marshall (1902-1984), who lived and worked there from 1955 until 1972.

Marshall was a prominent Australian writer, story teller, humanist and social documenter who was an important public figure in Australia during the 1940s to1970s.

While living and working at the bungalow several of Marshall’s important publications were written within its walls. These include his trilogy of fictionalised autobiographies, *I Can Jump Puddles* (1955), *This is the grass* (1962) and *In Mine Own Heart* (1963) and several collections of highly popular short stories and humorous sketches as well as *The Gay Provider* (1962), a commissioned history of the Myer Emporium.

He also penned his history of Eltham titled *Pioneers & Painters: One hundred years of Eltham and its Shire* from the bungalow in 1971, a tribute to the local area for which he was a keen defender of its natural and cultural heritage. Marshall also continued to write his hugely popular weekly advice column ‘Alan Marshall’s Casebook’ from the bungalow for the *Argus* until the paper’s closure in 1957.

During Marshall’s occupancy, the bungalow became a hub of literary and cultural life in Eltham. Attracting visitors from all over the world they came to the Park West Road bungalow to sit and chat and to listen to Marshall read his stories. Among the visitors were famous Australian authors Judah Waten, John Morrison, Bill Wannon, Clem Christenson, and Xavier Herbert to name a few. The bungalow is also significant for the contribution it makes to the ongoing understanding of the history of the Shire of Nillumbik and particularly Eltham as a centre for artists, writers, and intellectuals. (Criterion H)

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Nillumbik Planning Scheme as an individually significant place.

Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (Clause 43.01) in the Nillumbik Planning Scheme:

**NILLUMBIK PLANNING SCHEME**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| EXTERNAL PAINT CONTROLS | No |
| INTERNAL ALTERATION CONTROLS | Yes |
| TREE CONTROLS | No |
| OUTBUILDINGS OR FENCES  (Which are not exempt under Clause 43.01-3) | No |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER | No |
| PROHIBITED USES MAY BE PERMITTED | No |
| ABORIGINAL HERITAGE PLACE | No |

**OTHER**

N/A

Figure 1

