



## ETHICAL BUILDING AND PEST SERVICES



PROPERTY AT:

**132 Collett Street**  
**QUEANBEYAN NSW**

Date of Inspection: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019

PO Box 217 Jerrabomberra NSW 2619 | Tel: 02 6299 9111 | Email: [inspector@ebps.com.au](mailto:inspector@ebps.com.au) | [www.ethicalbuildingandpest.com.au](http://www.ethicalbuildingandpest.com.au)

ABN 94 164 331 346

Member of: Master Builders Association | Housing Industry Association | Australian Environmental Pest Managers Association



# Defect Inspection Building Inspection Report To AS4349.0-2007 Inspection of Buildings General Requirements

## Administration Details

**Property Address:** 132 COLLETT STREET QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

**Client:** S O'Neill

**Account to:** S O'Neill  
132 Collett Street  
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

## Agreement Details

**Note:** This report should not be relied upon more than 30 days after the date of initial inspection. A re-inspection after this time is essential.

The purpose of the inspection is to identify the major defects and safety hazards associated with the property at the time of the inspection. The inspection and reporting is limited to Appendix C AS4349.1-2007.

The report does NOT include an estimate of the cost for rectification of the Defects. Any estimates provided in the Report are merely opinions of possible costs that could be encountered, based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector, and are not estimates in the sense of being a calculation of the likely costs to be incurred. The estimates are NOT a guarantee or quotation for work to be carried out. The inspector accepts no liability for any estimates provided throughout this report where they occur you agree to obtain and rely on independent quotations for the same work

The overall condition of this building has been compared to similarly constructed & reasonably maintained buildings of approximately the same age.

**Date of Agreement:** 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Specific Requirements/Conditions Required by You were:** Nil

**Changes to the Inspection Agreement requested:** Not applicable

**Date the Changed Agreement was accepted:** Not applicable

**Time the Changed Agreement was accepted:** Not applicable

## Inspection Details

**Date of the Inspection:** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Time of Inspection:** 3.30 am

**Persons in Attendance:** Vendor

**Weather Conditions at the time of Inspection:** Dry

**Recent Weather Conditions:** Dry

**Building Furnished:** Yes

**Building Tenancy:** Occupied

**The Inspection included:** The Building and the site including fences that are up to 30 metres from the building and within the boundaries of the site.

- 1. The Actual Areas Inspected were:** The Building Interior, The Building Exterior, The Roof Space, The Roof Exterior, The Site, The Subfloor

Other Areas Inspected were: Garage/carport/office, deck and garden shed.

**(a) Areas NOT Inspected Including Reason(s) were:**

Subfloor – no access due to low construction below rear bedroom

Roof void – flat roof over rear bedroom

Under patios – bricked in

**(b) Areas NOT Fully Inspected Including Reason(s) were:**

Inside house – furnishings and stored items restrict visual inspection to some areas

Roof void – some areas due to low construction and insulation

Subfloor – some areas due to heating ducts

Garage/office – stored items reduced visual inspection to some areas

## Recommendations to Gain Access and Reinspect

**The Area(s) and/or Section(s) to which Access should be gained or fully gained are:** As per items B above.

Further Inspection and Reporting of these areas is Essential to determine if any major defect/safety hazard exists in these areas/sections.

## Factors that Influenced the Inspection/Report Outcome

Limitations to the Inspection, apart from "Access Issues" noted above, and how these limitations, have affected the Inspection and/or the preparation of the report:

The limitations were: Nil

**Details of Apparent concealment of possible defects:** Nil

Evidence of apparent concealed defect(s) was seen and details were: Nil

**Information provided to the Inspector that has a bearing on the Inspection and/or Report and from whom and when that information was provided:** Nil

**Important: as this is a visual inspection we strongly recommend the purchaser make inquiries from the vendor about any property issues not visible at time of inspection.**

Additional Information provided was: Nil

**Details of Other Factors influencing the inspection:** Nil

## Description and Identification of the Property Inspected

This is a three bedroom, PVC weatherboard clad single storey residence with internal plasterboard walls and ceiling, timber and concrete floors, hardwood pitched roof construction with concrete roof tiles.

## Other Inspections and Reports Required

**It is Strongly Recommended that the following Inspections and Reports be obtained prior to any decision to purchase the Property and/or before settlement. Obtaining these reports will better equip the purchaser to make an informed decision.**

<b>Council Plan Inspection</b>	<b>Electrical Inspection</b>	<b>Plumbing Inspection</b>
Timber Pest Inspection	Structural (Engineer)	Geotechnical Inspection
Swimming Pool Inspection	Drainage Inspection	Asbestos Inspection
Mould Inspection	Gasfitting Inspection	Appliances Inspection
Airconditioning Inspection	Alarm/Intercom/Data Systems	Hydraulics Inspection
Mechanical Services	Hazards Inspection	Fire/Chimney Inspection
Estimating Report	Garage Door Mechanical	Durability of Exposed Surfaces

## Terminology

The Definitions below apply to the TYPES OF DEFECTS associated with individual items/parts or Inspection areas (fields) of an item:

**Damage:** The building material or item has deteriorated or is not fit for its designed purpose.

**Distortion, Warping, Twisting:** The Item has moved out of shape or moved from its position.

**Water Penetration, Dampness:** Moisture has gained access to unplanned and/or unacceptable areas.

**Material Deterioration:** The item is subject to one or more of the following defects; rusting, rotting, corrosion, decay.

**Operational:** The item or part does not function as expected.

**Installation:** The installation of an item is unacceptable, has failed or is absent.

## **INSPECTION FINDINGS**

**The following areas were inspected where present and within the scope of the inspection** - Interior, The Roof Interior, Exterior, The Roof Exterior, The Subfloor, Garage/Carport, Pergola/Deck, Site, Services.

**Important: Strata Title** - Where an item above is noted as being part of the Common Area, the item is outside the Scope of this Report. It is strongly recommended that an Inspection and Report on these areas be obtained prior to any decision to purchase the Property and/or before settlement. Obtaining these reports will better equip the purchaser to make an informed decision.

### **1. THE INTERIOR OF THE BUILDING**

If present the following elements were inspected:

**The Rooms:** Ceilings, Walls, Floors, Windows, Doors and Frames, Insect Screens, Trims and Cupboards/Robes.

**Kitchen:** Bench Top, Cupboards, Sink, Taps and Tiles.

**Bathrooms, Toilets, Ensuite and Laundry:** Cistern and Pan, Bidet, Taps, Tiles, Bath, Shower, Vanity, Washbasin, Tubs/Cabinet and Ventilation.

### **Description of the Defects/Safety Hazards, Location and the Inspector's Recommendations**

#### **INTERNAL**

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Front Bedroom</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• robe installed with three sliding doors;</li> <li>• one ceiling mounted smoke detector fitted;</li> <li>• ceiling fan/light combination fitted;</li> <li>• all wall and ceiling linings are sound;</li> <li>• no major defects/safety hazards visible;</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Centre Bedroom</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• robe installed with two sliding doors;</li> <li>• one ceiling mounted smoke detector fitted;</li> <li>• ceiling fan/light combination fitted, refixing of switch to wall is recommended;</li> <li>• all wall and ceiling linings are generally sound, however minor wall sheet joint cracks noted above window, repair prior to next painting recommended;</li> <li>• no major defects/safety hazards visible;</li> </ul> |

- Rear Bedroom**
- no robe installed, freestanding furniture only;
  - one ceiling mounted smoke detector fitted;
  - all wall linings are sound;
  - leak stains and moisture damage evident to ceiling, no moisture meter readings were recorded at time of inspection, Vendor advised moisture damage is to be repaired;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;
- Bathroom**
- concrete floor construction;
  - floor waste installed;
  - no drainage leaks or water hammer evident;
  - shower installed over bath;
  - light/heater/exhaust fan combination fitted;
  - all wall and floor tiles are sound;
  - minor ceiling sheet joint crack noted, repair prior to next painting recommended;
  - privacy latch fitted and working;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;
- Entry & Hall**
- no smoke detector fitted, this is a safety issue, installation as per AS 3786 recommended, refer also to Services section on page 10;
  - all wall and ceiling linings are generally sound, however minor and wall sheet joint cracks noted above living room door, repair prior to next painting recommended;
  - storage cupboard installed with hinged doors;
  - no major defects visible;
- Kitchen & Meals**
- no drainage leaks or water hammer evident;
  - exhaust fan installed;
  - 4-plate electric induction cooktop and electric under bench oven, testing and reporting on such items is outside the scope of AS4349.1 (Australian Standard) refer also to Services section on page 10;
  - dishwasher installed, not tested;
  - all floor and splashback tiles are sound;
  - all wall and ceiling linings are sound;
  - leak stains noted to ceiling, no moisture meter readings were recorded at time of inspection;
  - minor amount of moisture swelling noted to architrave at bottom of kitchen window;
  - all cupboard doors, drawers and bench tops are in good condition;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;
- Laundry**
- timber floor construction;
  - single bowl stainless steel by-pass tub installed with metal cabinet under;
  - no drainage leaks or water hammer evident;
  - all wall and floor tiles are sound;
  - all wall and ceiling linings are sound;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;

- Living Room**
- all wall and ceiling linings are generally sound, however minor wall sheet joint cracks noted, repair prior to next painting recommended;
  - one ceiling mounted smoke detector fitted;
  - ceiling fan/light combination fitted;
  - wall mounted air-conditioning unit installed, testing and reporting on such items is outside the scope of AS4349.1 (Australian Standard) refer also to Services section on page 10;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;

## **THE ROOF INTERIOR**

- Roof Interior**
- hardwood pitched roof construction;
  - fibreglass batt and rockwool insulation to ceiling cavity, approximate thermal rating of R5.0;
  - no sarking installed under roofing (not mandatory);
  - full inspection was restricted by insulation and height;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;

## **THE EXTERIOR OF THE BUILDING**

- Windows**
- aluminium sliding windows installed;
  - screens fitted;
  - latches/locks fitted;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;

- External Wall Cladding**
- PVC weatherboard wall cladding is in good condition;

- Eaves**
- PVC weatherboard eaves installed;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;

- Fascia & Barge Boards**
- low maintenance metal colorbond fitted;
  - no major defects/safety hazards visible;

- Roofing & Flashing**
- concrete roofing tiles installed;
  - ridge and hip capping is sound;
  - tile laps to skillion roof over rear bedroom are less than minimum (75mm) required by roof tiling code, this may be contributing to leaking to bedroom ceiling, repair recommended;
  - roof plane is true and straight at time of inspection;

### **Guttering, Downpipes & Valleys**

- low maintenance metal colorbond gutters installed;
- gutters require minor cleaning of vegetation debris;
- some areas appear to be retaining water due to insufficient fall which is not considered significant as most gutters will retain some water, overflowing can be expected to most gutters during heavy rain;
- some gutter and downpipe joint leaks evident;
- front edge of gutter is higher than rear edge, any blockage could cause overflowing into eaves, regular maintenance recommended;
- no major defects/safety hazards visible;

## **THE SUBFLOOR**

Did the structure(s) have a subfloor(s) Yes      Where the answer is Yes elements below were inspected:

**Subfloor ventilation:** Ventilation is important in minimising infestations by timber pests and helps prevent damp problems. The Inspector considers that the ventilation in this property is: **Adequate**

### **Subfloor**

- suspended concrete slab to wet areas;
- hardwood bearers and joists on brick piers with tongue and grooved pine timber flooring over;
- no access possible below rear bedroom due to low construction;
- we recommend removal of loose timber and debris stored on ground to inhibit termite attack, refer to pest report;
- additional steel posts have been installed below some bearers;
- area was generally dry at time of inspection;
- no evidence of drainage leaks after testing;
- no major defects/safety hazards visible;

## **GARAGE/CARPORT**

### **Garage/Carport/ Office**

- this is a timber detached structure with concrete floor, metal roof and plasterboard ceiling and wall linings to office;
- one panel-lift-door fitted to garage with electronic opener;
- light and power installed;
- toilet and hand basin installed, leaking noted to hand basin mixer tap, repair recommended;
- sarking installed to under garage roofing;
- minor cracking noted to carport concrete floor;
- one downpipe is connected to a rainwater storage tank with electronic pump, no leaking evident, pump not checked for operation;
- weather degradation noted to garage side access door;
- garage/office could not be fully inspected due to stored items against all walls and floor;
- no major defects/safety hazards visible;



## GARDEN SHED

### **Garden Shed**

- this is a colorbond metal detached structure with concrete floor and one sliding door;
- structure is considered sound and performing as intended;

## DECK

### **Deck**

- this is a timber attached structure supported on timber posts with hardwood decking and a metal balustrade;
- the timber posts that are in direct contact with the soil should be elevated onto metal post shoes to inhibit decay and termite attack;
- decks need to be well maintained on a regular basis to inhibit weathering and decay, no weathering or decay evident to time of inspection;
- no major defects/safety hazards visible;

## THE SITE

### **Driveway**

- minor cracking noted to concrete driveway;

### **Surface Water Drainage**

- no adverse overland stormwater flow indicators were present for normal weather conditions;

### **Hot Water**

- instantaneous gas mains pressure hot water unit installed to left hand side, no corrosion or leaking evident, hot water systems can fail at anytime for a number of reasons, however unit was working at time of inspection;

### **Heating/Cooling**

- gas ducted heating unit installed to left hand side, testing and reporting on such items is outside the scope of AS4349.1 (Australian Standard) refer also to Services section on page 10;
- air-conditioning fan coil unit installed to right hand side, testing and reporting on such items is outside the scope of AS4349.1 (Australian Standard) refer also to Services section on page 10;

### **Fences**

- some decay and loose palings evident to timber fencing;

## **SERVICES**

### **Electrical Installation:**

All electrical wiring, meter-box and appliances need to be checked by a qualified electrician. The checking of any electrical item is outside the scope of this report, as is the clearance of ceiling insulation to light fittings. It's recommended that a licensed electrician be consulted for further advice.

### **Plumbing:**

All plumbing needs to be inspected and reported on by a plumber. It's recommended that a licensed plumber be consulted for further advice.

### **Hot Water Service:**

Hot water services need to be inspected and reported on by a plumber and/or electrician. It's recommended that a licensed plumber and/or electrician be consulted for further advice.

### **Gas:**

All gas services need to be inspected and reported on by a gas plumber. It's recommended that a licensed gas plumber be consulted for further advice.

### **Phone:**

All phones, phone lines and outlets need to be inspected and reported on by a telecommunications technician. It's recommended that a telecommunications technician be consulted for further advice.

### **Smoke Detectors:**

Australian Standard AS 3786 - Advises that Smoke detectors are required for all buildings where people sleep. It is recommended that an electrician be consulted to give advice on those installed or install these detectors.

## Conclusion and Summary

The purpose of the inspection is to identify the major defects and safety hazards associated with the property at the time of the inspection. The inspection and reporting is limited to a visual assessment of the Building Members in accord with Appendix C AS4349.1-2007.

The overall condition of this building has been compared to similar constructed buildings of approximately the same age where those buildings have had a maintenance program implemented to ensure that the building members are still fit for purpose.

**The incidence of Major Defects** in this Residential Building as compared with similar Buildings is considered:

Low

**The incidence of Minor Defects** in this Residential Building as compared with similar Buildings is considered:

Typical

**The overall condition** of this Residential Dwelling in the context of its age, type and general expectations of similar properties is:

Average

**Please Note:** This is a general appraisal only and cannot be relied on its own – read the report in its entirety.

*This Summary is supplied to allow a quick and superficial overview of the inspection results. This Summary is NOT the Report and cannot be relied upon on its own. This Summary must be read in conjunction with the full report and not in isolation from the report. If there should happen to be any discrepancy between anything in the Report and anything in this Summary, the information in the Report shall override that in this Summary. IMPORTANT: All Recommendations made in the above Inspection Findings or elsewhere in this Report should be carried out/or considered in your decision process, prior to purchase or settlement.*

## Definitions

**High:** The frequency and/or magnitude of defects are beyond the inspector's expectations when compared to similar buildings of approximately the same age that have been reasonably well maintained.

**Typical:** The frequency and/or magnitude of defects are consistent with the inspector's expectations when compared to similar buildings of approximately the same age which have been reasonably well maintained.

**Low:** The frequency and/or magnitude of defects are lower than the inspector's expectations when compared to similar buildings of approximately the same age that have been reasonably well maintained.

**Above Average:** The overall condition is above that consistent with dwellings of approximately the same age and construction. Most items and areas are well maintained and show a reasonable standard of workmanship when compared with buildings of similar age and construction.

**Average:** The overall condition is consistent with dwellings of approximately the same age and construction. There will be areas or items requiring some repair or maintenance.

**Below Average:** The Building and its parts show some significant defects and/or very poor non-tradesman like workmanship and/or long term neglect and/or defects requiring major repairs or reconstruction of major building elements.

**Major Defect:** Is a Defect requiring building works to avoid unsafe conditions, loss of function or further worsening of the defective item.

**Minor Defect:** Any defect other than what is described as a major defect.

**Accessible area:** is any area of the property and structures allowing the inspector safe and reasonable access within the scope of the inspection.

## **Important Advice**

**Note:** In the case of strata and company title properties, the inspection is limited to the interior and immediate exterior of the particular unit being inspected. The exterior above ground floor level is not inspected. The complete inspection of other common property areas would be the subject of a Special-Purpose Inspection Report which is adequately specified.

**Trees:** Where trees are too close to the house this could affect the performance of the footing as the moisture levels change in the ground. A Geotechnical Inspection can determine the foundation material and provide advice on the best course of action with regards to the trees.

**The septic tanks:** Should be inspected by a licensed plumber.

**Swimming Pools:** Swimming Pools/Spas are not part of the Standard Building Report under AS4349.1-2007 and are not covered by this Report. We strongly recommend a pool expert should be consulted to examine the pool and the pool equipment and plumbing as well as the requirements to meet the standard for pool fencing. Failure to conduct this inspection and put into place the necessary recommendations could result in finds for non compliance under the legislation.

**Surface Water Drainage:** The retention of water from surface run off could have an effect on the foundation material which in turn could affect the footings to the house. Best practice is to monitor the flow of surface water and stormwater run off and have the water directed away from the house or to storm water pipes by a licensed plumber/drainier.

## **Important Information Regarding the Scope and Limitations of the Inspection and this Report**

**Important Information** Any person who relies upon the contents of this report does so acknowledging that the following clauses, which define the Scope and Limitations of the inspection, form an integral part of the report.

- 1) This report is **NOT** an all encompassing report dealing with the building from every aspect. It is a reasonable attempt to identify any obvious or significant defects apparent at the time of the inspection. Whether or not, a defect is considered significant or not depends to a large extent, upon the age and type of the building inspected. This report is not a Certificate of Compliance with the requirements of any Act, Regulation, Ordinance or By-law. It is not a structural report. Should you require any advice of a structural nature you should contact a structural engineer.
- 2) **THIS IS A VISUAL INSPECTION ONLY** limited to those areas and sections of the property **fully accessible** and visible to the Inspector on the date of Inspection. The inspection **DID NOT** include breaking apart, dismantling, removing or moving objects including, but not limited to, foliage, mouldings, roof insulation/ sisalation, floor or wall coverings, sidings, ceilings, floors, furnishings, appliances or personal possessions. The inspector **CANNOT** see inside walls, between floors, inside skillion roofing, behind stored goods in cupboards and other areas that are concealed or obstructed. The inspector **DID NOT** dig, gouge, force or perform any other invasive procedures. Visible timbers **CANNOT** be destructively probed or hit without the written permission of the property owner.
- 3) This Report does not and cannot make comment upon: defects that may have been concealed; the assessment or detection of defects (including rising damp and leaks) which may be subject to the prevailing weather conditions; **whether or not services have been used for some time prior to the inspection and whether this will affect the detection of leaks or other defects (eg. In the case of shower enclosures the absence of any dampness at the time of the inspection does not necessarily mean that the enclosure will not leak)**; the presence or absence of timber pests; gas-fittings; common property areas; environmental concerns; the proximity of the property to flight paths, railways, or busy traffic; noise levels; health and safety issues; heritage concerns; security concerns; fire protection; site drainage (apart from surface water drainage); swimming pools and spas (non-structural); detection and identification of illegal building work; detection and identification of illegal plumbing work; durability of exposed finishes;

neighbourhood problems; document analysis; electrical installation; any matters that are solely regulated by statute; any area(s) or item(s) that could not be inspected by the consultant.

Accordingly this Report is not a guarantee that defects and/or damage does not exist in any inaccessible or partly inaccessible areas or sections of the property. **(NB: Such matters may upon request be covered under the terms of a Special-purpose Property Report.)**

**4) CONSUMER COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE:** In the event of any dispute or claim arising out of, or relating to the Inspection or the Report, You must notify Us as soon as possible of the dispute or claim by email, fax or mail. You must allow Us (which includes persons nominated by Us) to visit the property (which visit must occur within twenty eight (28) days of your notification to Us) and give Us full access in order that We may fully investigate the complaint. You will be provided with a written response to your dispute or claim within twenty eight (28) days of the date of the inspection.

If You are not satisfied with our response You must within twenty one (21) days of Your receipt of Our written response refer the matter to a Mediator nominated by Us from the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators of Australia. The cost of the Mediator will be borne equally by both parties or as agreed as part of the mediated settlement.

Should the dispute or claim not be resolved by mediation then the dispute or claim will proceed to arbitration. The Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators of Australia will appoint an Arbitrator who will hear and resolve the dispute. The arbitration, subject to any directions of the Arbitrator, will proceed in the following manner:

- (a) The parties must submit all written submissions and evidence to the Arbitrator within twenty one (21) days of the appointment of the Arbitrator; and
- (b) The arbitration will be held within twenty one (21) days of the Arbitrator receiving the written submissions.

The Arbitrator will make a decision determining the dispute or claim within twenty one (21) of the final day of the arbitration. The Arbitrator may, as part of his determination, determine what costs, if any, each of the parties are to pay and the time by which the parties must be paid any settlement or costs.

The decision of the Arbitrator is final and binding on both parties. Should the Arbitrator order either party to pay any settlement amount or costs to the other party but not specify a time for payment then such payment shall be made within twenty one (21) days of the order.

In the event You do not comply with the above Complaints Procedure and commence litigation against Us then You agree to fully indemnify Us against any awards, costs, legal fees and expenses incurred by Us in having your litigation set aside or adjourned to permit the foregoing Complaints Procedure to complete.

**5) ASBESTOS DISCLAIMER: “No inspection for asbestos was carried out at the property and no report on the presence or absence of asbestos is provided.** If during the course of the Inspection asbestos or materials containing asbestos happened to be noticed then this may be noted in the **Additional Comments** section of the report. Buildings built prior to 1982 may have wall and/or ceiling sheeting and other products including roof sheeting that contains Asbestos. Even buildings built after this date up until the early 90s may contain some Asbestos. Sheeting should be fully sealed. If concerned or if the building was built prior to 1990 or if asbestos is noted as present within the property then you should seek advice from a qualified asbestos removal expert as to the amount and importance of the asbestos present and the cost of sealing or removal. Drilling, cutting or removing sheeting or products containing Asbestos is a high risk to peoples’ health. You should seek advice from a qualified asbestos removal expert.”

**6) MOULD (MILDEW AND NON-WOOD DECAY FUNGI) DISCLAIMER:** Mildew and non wood decay fungi is commonly known as Mould. However, Mould and their spores may cause health problems or allergic reactions such as asthma and dermatitis in some people. **No inspection for Mould was carried out at the property and no report on the presence or absence of Mould is provided.** If in the course of the Inspection, Mould happened to be noticed it may be

noted in the **Additional Comments** section of the report. If Mould is noted as present within the property or if you notice Mould and you are concerned as to the possible health risk resulting from its presence then you should seek advice from your local Council, State or Commonwealth Government Health Department or a qualified expert such as an Industry Hygienist.

- 7) MAGNESITE FLOORING DISCLAIMER:** No inspection for Magnesite Flooring was carried out at the property and no report on the presence or absence of Magnesite Flooring is provided. You should ask the owner whether Magnesite Flooring is present and/or seek advice from a Structural Engineer.
- 8) ESTIMATING DISCLAIMER:** Any estimates provided in this report are merely opinions of possible costs that could be encountered, based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector, and are not estimates in the sense of being a calculation of the likely costs to be incurred. The estimates are NOT a guarantee or quotation for work to be carried out. The actual cost is ultimately dependent upon the materials used, standard of work carried out, and what a contractor is prepared to do the work for. It is recommended in ALL instances that multiple independent quotes are sourced prior to any work being carried out. The inspector accepts no liability for any estimates provided throughout this report.

### **IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER**

**DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** -No Liability shall be accepted on an account of failure of the Report to notify any problems in the area(s) or section(s) of the subject property physically inaccessible for inspection, or to which access for Inspection is denied by or to the Inspector (including but not limited to or any area(s) or section(s) so specified by the Report).

**DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY TO THIRD PARTIES:** - Compensation will only be payable for losses arising in contract or tort sustained by the Client named on the front of this report. Any third party acting or relying on this Report, in whole or in part does so entirely at their own risk.

**Note:** In the ACT under the Civil Law (Sale of Residential Property) Act 2003 and Regulations the report resulting from this inspection may be passed to the purchaser as part of the sale process providing it is carried out not more than three months prior to listing and is not more than six months old, however we recommend a further inspection and report be obtained if more than 60 days old.

## **CONTACT THE INSPECTOR**

Please feel free to contact the inspector who carried out this inspection. Often it is very difficult to fully explain situations, problems, access difficulties, building faults or their importance in a manner that is readily understandable by the reader. Should you have any difficulty in understanding anything contained within this report then you should immediately contact the inspector and have the matter explained to you. If you have any questions at all or require any clarification then contact the inspector prior to acting on this report.

The Inspection and Report was carried out by: Michael Ffrench

Address: PO Box 217 JERRABOMBERRA NSW 2619

Licence: ACT Building Licence No: 2013845 Class C  
NSW Building Licence No: 263281C

Insurance Accreditation Number: 01578

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2019

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF: Ethical Building and Pest Services



Signature:



Pacific International Insurance Pty Ltd  
ACN: 169 311 193  
Locked Bag 1000  
Broadmeadow NSW 2292  
Telephone: 1300 309 169  
Fax: +61 (2) 4954 3660  
Email: insurance@pacificintins.com

## CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY

This is intended for use as evidence that the cover summarised below has been effected and shall be subject to all terms and conditions and exclusions of the Policy document and Schedule.

If the Insured has a Premium Funding agreement in place, this Policy may be cancelled in accord with the terms of the Insurance Contracts Act if the Insured fails to make the required payments.

**The Insured:** Mick Ffrench Pest & Building Services Pty Ltd  
T/as Ethical Building and Pest Services  
ABN 94 164 331 346

**Address:** 4 Elaroo Place  
JERRABOMBERRA NSW

### PARTICULARS OF INSURANCE COVER

Insurer:	Pacific International Insurance Pty Ltd	
Policy Number:	AUS-18-10935	
Period of Insurance Cover:	14 October 2018 To 14 October 2019	
Limit of General & Public Liability:	\$5,000,000	Any one claim and in the aggregate during the period of insurance.
Sub-Limit of General & Public Liability Environmental Impairment:	\$250,000	Any one claim and in the aggregate during the period of insurance.
Limit of Professional Indemnity:	\$2,000,000	In the aggregate and \$1,000,000 in any one claim during the period of insurance.

### Business Activities and/or Extensions covered under this policy:

Other Building Inspections/Consultancy Work - AS4349.0-2007	Termite Management - AS3660
(PPI) Timber Pest Inspections - AS4349.3-2010	(PPI) Residential Building Inspections - AS4349.1-2007
Urban Pest Control	

**Pacific International accepts no responsibility for any failure to notify the recipient of this Certificate of Currency in the event of the policy being cancelled.**

Wednesday, 10 October 2018





**Visual Timber Pest Inspection & Report in accordance with AS 4349.3-2010**  
**(For use in all States & Northern Territory but not the Australian Capital Territory)**

Report to: S O'Neill

Agreement Number: 2-130219

Invoice Address: 132 Collett Street  
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

Property at: 132 Collett Street  
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

Date of Inspection: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**The purpose** of the inspection is to give advice about the condition of the property with regard to timber pests.

Date of Agreement: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Specific Requirements/Conditions Required by You were: Nil

Weather Conditions at the time of the Inspection: Dry

Comments: Nil

**Contact the Inspector:** Should You have any difficulty in understanding anything contained within this report then You should immediately contact the inspector and have the matter explained to You prior to acting on this report.

## Summary Only

### IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

- This summary is supplied to allow a quick and superficial overview of the inspection results,
- This Summary is NOT the Report and cannot be relied upon on its own.
- This Summary must be read in conjunction with the full report and not in isolation from the report.
- If there should happen to be any discrepancy between anything in the Report and anything in this Summary, the information in the Report shall override that in this Summary.
- The Report is subject to conditions and limitations. Your attention is particularly drawn to the Clauses, disclaimer of Liability to Third Parties, Limited Liability to a Purchaser within the Australian Capital Territory and to the Notice to the Purchaser at the back of this Report.

### ACCESS

Are there any area(s) and/or section(s) to which Access should be gained?

**YES, read report in full**

### TIMBER PEST ACTIVITY

Were active Subterranean Termites (live specimens) found?

**NO, read report in full**

Was visible evidence of Subterranean Termite workings or damage found?

**NO, read report in full**

Was visible evidence of borers of seasoned timbers found?

**NO, read report in full**

Was evidence of damage caused by wood decay (rot) fungi found?

**YES, read report in full**

Are further inspections recommended?

**YES, read report in full**

Where any major safety hazards identified?

**NO, read report in full**

**In our opinion, the susceptibility of this property to timber pests is considered to be: Moderate to High, read report in full**

**For complete and accurate information You must refer to the following Complete Visual Timber Pest Report.**

**Important: We strongly recommend the purchaser make inquiry from the vendor about Timber Pests and in particular Termites for this property.**

**Areas Inspected:** Only structures, fences &/or trees within 30m of the building but within the property boundaries were inspected. The areas inspected were:-

( x ) Interior ( x ) Roof Void ( x ) Subfloor ( x ) Exterior ( x ) Out Buildings

( x ) Grounds ( x ) Fences ( x ) Timber Retaining Walls ( ) Timber Garden Borders

## **ACCESS**

**Areas NOT inspected:** No inspection was made, and no report is submitted, of inaccessible areas. These include, but may not be limited to , cavity walls, concealed frame timbers, eaves, flat roofs, fully enclosed patios, subfloors, soil concealed by concrete floors, fireplace hearths, wall linings, landscaping, rubbish, floor coverings, furniture, pictures, appliances, stored items, insulation, hollow blocks/posts, etc

**Other area(s) to which REASONABLE ACCESS for inspection was NOT AVAILABLE and the reason(s) why include:**

Subfloor – no access due to low construction below rear bedroom  
Roof void – flat roof over rear bedroom  
Under patios – bricked in

Please note since a complete inspection of the above areas was not possible, timber pest activity and/or damage may exist in these areas.

**Area(s) in which Visual Inspection was Obstructed or Restricted and the Reasons why include:**

Inside house – furnishings and stored items restrict visual inspection to some areas  
Roof void – some areas due to low construction and insulation  
Subfloor – some areas due to heating ducts  
Garage/office – stored items reduced visual inspection to some areas

**Important: If a complete inspection of the above areas was not possible, timber pest activity and/or damage may exist in these areas.**

Further Inspections are strongly recommended to areas where Reasonable Access is Unavailable, Obstructed or Restricted or a High Risk of possible Timber Pests and /or Damage exists.

**High Risk Area(s) to which Access should be gained, or fully gained, since they may show evidence to Timber Pests or damage:**

Inside house, Roof void, Subfloor & Garage/Office

**The following further inspections are recommended for the areas described above:**

Visual Timber Pest Inspection to the property when it is vacant

### **Note: Important Limitations for Safe and Reasonable Access**

Only areas where reasonable access was available were inspected. AS 4349.3 defines reasonable access and states that access will not be available where there are safety concerns, or obstructions, or the space available is less than the following:

**ROOF VOID** – the dimensions of the access hole must be at least 500mm x 400mm, and, reachable by a 3.6M ladder, and, there is at least 600mm x 600mm of space to crawl;

**ROOF EXTERIOR** – must be accessible by a 3.6M ladder placed safely on the ground.

**SUBFLOOR** - Access is normally not available where dimensions are less than 500mm x 400mm for the access hole and less than 400mm of crawl space beneath the lowest bearer, or, less than 500mm beneath the lowest part of any concrete floor;

The inspector shall determine whether sufficient space is available to allow safe access to confined areas.

Reasonable access does not include the use of destructive or invasive inspection methods. Nor does reasonable access include cutting or making access traps, or moving heavy furniture or stored goods.

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STRUCTURE(S) INSPECTED:**

SINGLE STOREY THREE BEDROOM HOUSE CONSTRUCTED OF PVC WEATHERBOARD WITH TIMBER FLOORING ON BRICK PIERS AND SUSPENDED SLAB TO THE BATHROOM. THE TILED ROOF HAS BATT AND BLOWN TYPE INSULATION. OTHER STRUCTURES INCLUDE A DECK, GARAGE/CARPORT/OFFICE AND GARDEN SHED. THERE ARE ALSO TREATED PINE AND BRICK RETAINING WALLS, ROCK GARDEN BORDERS WITH TIMBER BOUNDARY FENCING.

**Was the property furnished at the time of inspection:** YES

**Furnished properties:** Where a property is furnished at the time of the inspection the furnishings and stored goods may be concealing evidence of Timber Pest Activity. This evidence may only be revealed when the property is vacated. A further inspection of the vacant property is strongly recommended in this case.

## **VISUAL REPORT ON AREA(S) INSPECTED:**

### **HOUSE:**

No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

No evidence of wood decay (rot) fungi damage was sighted in areas accessible at the time of inspection

### **ROOF VOID:**

No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

No evidence of wood decay (rot) fungi damage was sighted in areas accessible at the time of inspection

**SUBFLOOR:** No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

Evidence of wood decay fungi (wood rot) was found in timber off cuts in contact with the soil

Whilst we are not builders the damage appears to be:

( ) slight ( x ) moderate ( ) moderate – extensive ( ) extensive

**GARAGE/  
OFFICE/  
CARPORT:**

No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

No evidence of wood decay (rot) fungi damage was sighted in areas accessible at the time of inspection

**DECK:** No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

No evidence of wood decay (rot) fungi damage was sighted in areas accessible at the time of inspection

**GARDEN  
SHED:**

No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

No evidence of wood decay (rot) fungi damage was sighted in areas accessible at the time of inspection

**FENCELINE:**

No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

Evidence of wood decay fungi (wood rot) was found in palings and rails which is consistent with normal age and weathering

Whilst we are not builders the damage appears to be:

( ) slight ( x ) moderate ( ) moderate – extensive ( ) extensive

**GROUNDS:**

No active termites and/or termite damage or workings were observed in the areas accessible at the time of inspection

No evidence of borer activity was sighted in areas accessible at the time of the inspection

Borer activity is usually determined by the presence of exit holes and/or frass. Since a delay exists between the time of initial infestation and the appearance of these signs, it is possible that some borer activity may exist that is not discernible at the time of inspection.

No evidence of wood decay (rot) fungi damage was sighted in areas accessible at the time of inspection

**No evidence of a termite nest was found at the time of inspection.**

**Note:** Where evidence of termite activity was found in the grounds then the risk to buildings is very high. A treatment to eradicate the termites and to protect the building(s) should be carried out. Where the evidence of termite workings was found in the grounds or the building(s) then the risk of a further attack is very high.

We claim no expertise in building and if any evidence of fungal decay or damage is reported You should consult a building expert to determine the full extent of damage and the estimated cost of repairs or timber replacement (See Terms & Limitations).

**Where timber pest activity or wood decay fungi (wood rot) damage is reported, does it present a major safety hazard? No.**

**Important Note: Where a Major Safety Hazard is identified above, it must be attended to and/or rectified to avoid the possibility of personal injury &/or death.**

**Borer recommendations:** Replacement of all susceptible timbers is always preferred since, in the event of selling the property in the future it is probable that an inspector will report the borers as active (see above). A chemical treatment to control and/or protect against Furniture beetle and/or Queensland pine beetle can be considered as a less effective, lower cost option. Before considering this option You should consult with a builder (See Terms & Limitations) to determine if the timbers are structurally sound. Following the initial treatment a further inspection is essential in twelve months time to determine if further treatment is needed. Treatments over a number of consecutive years may be required

***Lyctus brunneus* (powder post beetle)** is not considered a significant pest of timber. Damage is confined to the sapwood so treatment or timber replacement is not usually required. However, You should have a building expert investigate if any timber replacement is required.

***Anobium punctatum* (furniture beetle) and *Calymmaderus incisus*** (Queensland pine beetle) must always be considered active, unless proof of treatment is provided, because, unless the timber is ground up, one cannot determine conclusively if activity has ceased. Total timber replacement of all susceptible timbers is recommended. A secondary choice is treatment. However, the evidence and damage will remain and the treatment may need to be carried out each year for up to three years.

**VERY IMPORTANT:**

If live termites or any evidence of termite workings or damage was reported above within the building(s) or in the ground and fences then it must be assumed that there may be concealed termite activity and/or timber damage. This concealed activity or damage may only be found when alterations are carried out such as when wall linings, cladding or insulation are removed or if You arrange for an invasive inspection. We claim no expertise in structural engineering or building. We strongly recommend that You have a qualified person such as a Builder, Engineer, Architect or other qualified expert in the building trade determine the full extent of the damage, if any. This may require an invasive inspection. We take no responsibility for the repair of any damage whether disclosed by this report or not. (See Terms & Limitations).

Where visual evidence of termite workings and/or damage is reported above, but no live termites were present at the time of inspection, You must realise that it is possible that termites are still active in the immediate vicinity and the termites may continue to cause further damage. It is not possible, without benefit of further investigation and a number of inspections over a period of time, to ascertain whether any infestation is active or inactive. Active termites may simply have not been present at the time of inspection due to a prior disturbance, climatic conditions, or they may have been utilising an alternative feeding source. Continued, regular, inspections are essential. Unless written evidence of a termite protection program in accord with "Australian Standard 3660" with ongoing inspections is provided, You must arrange for a treatment in accord with "Australian Standard 3660" to be carried out immediately to reduce the risk of further attack.

**General remarks:** A more thorough INVASIVE INSPECTION is available (refer to section 9). Where any current visible evidence of Timber Pest activity is found it is strongly recommended that a more invasive inspection is performed. Trees and stumps on the property with a diameter in excess of 100mm have been visually inspected for evidence of termite activity to a height of 2m where access was possible and practical. It is very difficult, and generally impossible to locate termite nests since they are underground and evidence in trees is usually well concealed. We therefore strongly recommend that You arrange to have trees test drilled for evidence of termite nests.

**WAS EVIDENCE OF A POSSIBLE TERMITE TREATMENT FOUND?**

NO EVIDENCE OF A POSSIBLE TERMITE TREATMENT WAS FOUND DURING THIS INSPECTION.

**WARNING:** If evidence of drill holes in concrete or brickwork or other signs of a possible previous treatment is reported then the treatment was probably carried out because of an active termite attack. Extensive structural damage may exist in concealed areas. You should have an invasive inspection carried out and have a builder determine the full extent of any damage and the estimated cost of repairs as the damage may only be found when wall linings etc are removed.

Normally if a termite treatment has been carried out then a durable notice should be located in the meter box indicating the type of termite shield system, treated zone or combination has been installed.

**Durable Notice** (Termite Management Notice) No evidence of a durable notice was found during this inspection.

This firm can give no assurances with regard to work that may have been previously performed by other firms. You should obtain copies of all paperwork and make your own inquiries as to the quality of the treatment, when it was carried out and warranty information. In most cases you should arrange for a treatment in accord with "Australian Standard 3660" be carried out to reduce the risk of further attack.



## **CONDITIONS THAT ARE CONDUCIVE TO TIMBER PESTS**

**Water leaks:** especially in or into the subfloor or against the external walls e.g. leaking taps, water tanks, leaking roofs or down pipes and or guttering, increases the likelihood of termite attack. Leaking showers or leaks from other 'wet areas' also increase the likelihood of concealed termite attack. These conditions are also conducive to borer activity and wood decay.

**At the time of inspection, no visible water leaks were found.**

We claim no expertise in building and if any leaks were reported then You must have a plumber or other building expert determine the full extent of damage and the estimated cost of repairs.

**Moisture: At the time of the inspection moisture readings were normal.**

Moisture was tested using a Termatrac T3I moisture meter.

**High moisture readings** can be caused by any one of the following: poor ventilation, ineffective drainage, leaking pipes, leaking roofs, defective flashing or by concealed termite activity. The areas of high moisture should be investigated by way of an invasive inspection. High moisture levels also increase the likelihood of termite attack and may also be conducive to borer activity and wood decay.

If high moisture was reported then You must have a building expert investigate the moisture and its cause and determine the full extent of damage and the estimated cost of repairs.

**Drainage:** Poor drainage, especially in the subfloor, greatly increases the likelihood of wood decay and termite attack.

**We claim no expertise in plumbing and drainage, however it appears that drainage is generally: Adequate.**

Where drainage is considered inadequate a plumber, builder or other building expert must be consulted.

**Hot water services, air conditioning units** which release water alongside or near to building walls need to be connected to a drain. If this is not possible then their water outlet needs to be piped several meters away from the building, as the resulting wet area is highly conducive to termites.

**Is there a need for work to be carried out? Yes air-conditioning unit.**

**Water Tanks** are required to be installed in new homes in some states and many homes have had them retroactively installed as a conservation measure. Tanks which release water alongside or near to building walls need to be connected to a drain. If this is not possible then their water outlet needs to be piped several meters away from the building, as the resulting wet area is highly conducive to termites.

**Is there a need for this work to be carried out? Yes.**

**Ventilation:** Ventilation, particularly in the subfloor region is important in minimizing the opportunity for Timber Pests to establish themselves within a property.

**We claim no expertise in building, however the ventilation appears to be: Adequate.**

Where ventilation is considered inadequate a builder or other expert should be consulted, in the case where vent airflow is physically blocked or restricted, the obstruction must be removed.

**Mould** on walls and ceilings etc; is an indicator of high moisture or very poor ventilation. If reported You need to have the reason investigated by a builder or a Industry Hygienist as its presence may indicate the presence of a water leak, wood decay or termites behind the wall or ceiling sheeting.

**Mould was not found at time of inspection.**

**Timbers Exposed To Weather and/or Water:** Some species of timber may be used in areas for which they are not suitable. Where this occurs, the timber may be damaged by Timber Pests, in particular termites and wood decay. In most cases, these timbers may be protected with normal maintenance, eg regular painting. However in some cases, You should consider replacing the timbers with a more suitable species or material.

**The fitness for purpose of the visible structural timber exposed to weather and/or water appears: Adequate for the situation they have been used in.**

It is strongly recommended that You consult a Builder, Architect or other specialist in the field to inspect exposed timbers to give expert advice on their durability and suitability for the situation in which they are used.

**Other areas and/or situations that appear conducive to (may attract) subterranean termite infestation:** See General Remarks/Recommendations below.

**Comments on other Conducive Conditions:** See General Remarks/Recommendations below

## **Conditions Conducive To Undetected Termite Entry:**

**Slab Edge Exposure:** Where external concrete slab edges are not exposed there is a high risk of concealed termite entry. In some buildings built since July 1995 the edge of the slab forms part of the termite shield system. In these buildings an inspection zone of at least 75mm should be maintained to permit detection of termite entry. The concrete edge should not be concealed by render, tiles, cladding, flashings, adjoining structures, paving, soil, turf or landscaping etc. Where this is the case You should arrange to have the slab edge exposed for inspection. Concealed termite entry may already be taking place but could not be detected at the time of the inspection. This may have resulted in concealed timber damage.

Any building or part of a building that is constructed on a concrete slab is always more susceptible to termite attack because of possible concealed termite entry.

**Does the slab edge inspection zone fully comply? Not applicable, suspended timber floor construction.**

**Note:** A very high proportion of termite attacks are over the edge of both Infill and other concrete slabs types. Covering the edge of a concrete slab makes concealed termite entry easy. Infill slab type construction has an even higher risk of concealed termite ingress as the slab edge is concealed due to the construction design and cannot be exposed. The type of slab may only be determined by assessment of the construction plans by a qualified person e.g. Builder, Architect. Construction Plans may be obtainable by your conveyancer. Termite activity and or damage may be present in concealed timbers of the building. We strongly recommend frequent regular inspections in accordance with AS 3660.2. Where the slab edge is not fully exposed or the slab is an infill slab or the slab type cannot be determined then we strongly recommend inspections every 3 to 6 months in accordance with AS 3660.2.

Infill slab: A slab on the ground cast between walls. Other slabs should be in accordance with AS 2870 - 1996 and AS 3660.1-2000.

**Weep holes in external walls:** It is very important that soil, lawn, concrete paths or pavers do not cover the weep holes. Sometimes they have been covered during the rendering of the brick work. They should be clean and free flowing. Covering the weep holes in part or in whole may allow undetected termite entry.

**Were the weep holes clear allowing the free flow of air? Not applicable, suspended timber floor construction.**

**Termite Shields (Ant Caps)** should be in good order and condition so termite workings are exposed and visible. This helps stop termites gaining undetected entry. Joins in the shielding should have been soldered during the installation. Whenever it is observed that the joins in the shielding have not been soldered then the shielding must be reported as inadequate. It may be possible for a builder to repair the shielding. If not, a chemical treated zone may need to be installed to deter termites from gaining concealed access to the building. Missing, damaged or poor shields increase the risk of termite infestation.

**We claim no expertise in building however, in our opinion the termite shields appear to be: Inadequate.**

If considered inadequate a builder or other building expert should be consulted.

**Other physical shield systems are not visible to inspection and no comment is made on such systems.**

**Other areas and/or situations that may allow undetected subterranean termite entry:** See general remarks/recommendations below.

### **General Remarks/Recommendations:**

As this property is located in an area where subterranean termites are commonly found we strongly recommend that you have regular inspections carried out every twelve months to ensure that there is no subterranean termite activity present in your buildings and structures.

The timber posts of the deck which are in direct contact with the soil should be elevated onto metal shoes to ensure they are not in direct contact with the soil.

The timber off cuts, stored timbers and cardboard in the subfloor should be removed.

Large trees (particularly eucalypt variety) are regular nesting sites for the most common termite species found in our region. Trees on the property have been visually inspected up to a height of 2 metres, where possible and practicable for signs of termite activity. It is however, very difficult and generally impossible to locate a termite nest visually as they are underground and evidence in trees is usually well concealed. Drilling and testing of large trees is recommended to determine if they are harboring a termite nest.

**Refer to Important Maintenance Advice regarding what a property owner can do to help reduce risk of Timber Pest attack.**

### **Other Information:**

Details (if applicable) of non destructive electronic equipment (other than moisture Meter) used at the discretion of the inspector during the inspection; Type of Equipment:

## **OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY:**

Where the evidence of live termite or termite damage or termite workings (mudding) was found in the building (s) then the risk of a further attack is very high. Where evidence of live termites or termite damage or termite workings was found in the grounds but not in the buildings then the risk to buildings must be reported as high to very high.

Termites are the cause of the greatest economic losses of timber in service in Australia. Independent data compiled by State Forestry shows 1 in every 5 homes is attacked by termites at some stage in its life. More recent data would indicate that this is now as high as 1 in every 3.

**At the time of inspection the DEGREE OF RISK OF SUBTERRANEAN TERMITE INFESTATION** to the overall property was considered, Moderate to High.

**Subterranean Termite Treatment recommendation:** A management program in accord with AS 3660-2000 to protect against subterranean termites is considered to be: Highly recommended.

**FUTURE INSPECTIONS:** As 3660.2-2000 recommends that inspections be carried out at intervals no greater than annually and that, where timber pest "pressure" is greater, this interval should be shortened. Inspections WILL NOT stop timber pest infestation; however, the damage which may be caused will be reduced when the infestation is found at an early stage.

Due to the degree of risk of subterranean termite infestation noted above and all other findings of this report, we strongly recommend that a full inspection and written report in accord with AS 4349.3 or AS 3660.0-2000 is conducted at this property every **6-12 months**.

## **A MORE INVASIVE PHYSICAL INSPECTION IS AVAILABLE AND RECOMMENDED**

As detailed above, there are many limitations to this visual inspection only. With the permission of the owner of the premises we WILL perform a more invasive physical inspection that involves moving or lifting: insulation, stored items, furniture or foliage during the inspection. We WILL physically touch, tap, test and when necessary force/gouge suspected accessible timbers. We WILL gain access to areas, where physically possible and considered practical and necessary, by way of cutting traps and access holes. This style of report is available by ordering with several days notice. Inspection time for this style of report will be greater than for a VISUAL INSPECTION. It involves disruption in the case of an occupied property, and some permanent marking is likely. You must arrange for the written permission of the owner who must acknowledge all the above information and confirm that our firm will not be held liable for any damage caused to the property. A price is available on request.

## **CONTACT THE INSPECTOR**

Please feel free to contact the inspector who carried out this inspection. Often it is very difficult to fully explain situations, problems, access difficulties or timber pest activity and/or damage in a manner that is readily understandable by the reader. Should you have any difficulty in understanding anything contained within this report then you should immediately contact the inspector and have the matter explained to you. If you have any questions at all or require any clarification then contact the inspector prior to acting on this report.

The Inspection was carried out by: **Michael Ffrench**

Inspectors contact phone number: **6299 9111**

### **IMPORTANT MAINTENANCE ADVICE REGARDING INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) FOR PROTECTING AGAINST TIMBER PESTS:**

**Any structure can be attacked by Timber Pests.** Periodic maintenance should include measures to minimise possibilities of infestation in and around a property. Factors which may lead to infestation from Timber Pests include situations where the edge of the concrete slab is covered by soil or garden debris, filled areas, areas with less than 400mm clearance, foam insulation at foundations, earth/wood contact, damp areas, leaking pipes, etc; form-work timbers, scrap timber, tree stumps, mulch, tree branches touching the structure, wood rot, etc. Gardens, pathways or turf abutting or concealing the edge of a concrete slab will allow for concealed entry by timber pests. Any timber in contact with soil such as form-work, scrap timbers or stumps must be removed from under and around the buildings and any leaks repaired. You should endeavour to ensure such conditions DO NOT occur around your property.

We further advise that you engage a professional pest control firm to provide a suitable termite management program in accord with AS 3660 to minimise the risk of termite attack. There is no way of preventing termite attack. Even AS 3660 advises when a complete termite management system is installed in accordance with AS 3660.1-2000 for pre-construction termite work or 3660.2-2000 for post-construction termite work and the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) product label directions are followed precisely, termites may still bridge the management system. However, if the labels directions are followed and the Standard adhered to, and bridging occurs, evidence of the termite ingress will normally be evident to the inspector. Therefore regular inspections in line with the recommendations in this report are essential in addition to any suitable termite management system you install.

You should read and understand the following important information. It will help explain what is involved in a timber pest inspection, the difficulties faced by a timber pest inspector and why it is not possible to guarantee that a property is free of timber pests. It also details important information about what you can do to help protect your property from timber pests. This information forms an integral part of the report.

### **CONCRETE SLAB HOMES**

Homes constructed on concrete slabs pose special problems with respect to termite attack. If the edge of the slab is concealed by concrete paths, patios, pavers, garden beds, lawns, foliage, etc then it is possible for termites to affect concealed entry into the property. They can then cause extensive damage to concealed framing timbers. Even the most experienced inspector may be unable to detect their presence due to concealment by wall linings. Only when the termites attack timbers in the roof void, which may in turn be concealed by insulation, can their presence be detected. Where termite damage is located in the roof it should be expected that concealed framing timbers will be extensively damaged. With a concrete slab home it is imperative that you expose the edge of the slab and ensure that foliage and garden beds do not cover the slab edge. Weep holes must be kept free of obstructions. It is strongly recommended that you have a termite inspection in accordance with AS 3660.2 carried out as recommended in this report.

## SUBTERRANEAN TERMITES

**No property is safe from termites!** Termites are the cause of the greatest economic losses of timber in service in Australia. Independent data compiled by State Forestry shows 1 in every 5 homes is attacked by termites at some stage in its life. More recent data would indicate that this is now as high as 1 in every 3. Australia's subterranean termite species (white ants) are the most destructive timber pests in the world. In fact it can take "as little as 3 months for a termite colony to severely damage almost all the timber in a home".

**How Termites Attack your Home.** The most destructive species live in large underground nests containing several million timber destroying insects. The problem arises when a nest matures near your home. Your home provides natural shelter and a food source for the termites. The gallery system of a single colony may exploit food sources over as much as one hectare, with individual galleries extending up to 50 metres to enter your home, where there is a smorgasbord of timber to feast upon. Even concrete slabs do not act as a barrier; they can penetrate through cracks in the slab to gain access to your home. They even build mud tubes to gain access to above ground timbers. In rare cases termites may create their nest in the cavity wall of the property without making ground contact. In these cases it may be impossible to determine their presence until extensive timber damage occurs.

**Termite Damage;** Once in contact with the timber they excavate it often leaving only a thin veneer on the outside. If left undiscovered the economic species can cause many thousands of dollars damage and cost two to five thousand dollars (or more) to treat.

**Subterranean Termite Ecology:** These termites are social insects usually living in underground nests. Nests may be in trees or in rare instances they may be in above ground areas within the property. They tunnel underground to enter the building and then remain hidden within the timber making it very difficult to locate them. Where timbers are concealed, as in most modern homes, it makes it even more difficult to locate their presence. Especially if gardens have been built up around the home and termite barriers are either not in place or poorly maintained. Termites form nests in all sorts of locations and they are usually not visible. There may be more than one nest on a property. The diet of termites in the natural environment is the various hardwood and softwood species growing throughout Australia. These same timbers are used in buildings. Worker termites move out from their underground nest into surrounding areas where they obtain food and return to nurture the other casts of termites within the nest. Termites are extremely sensitive to temperature, humidity and light and hence cannot move over ground like most insects. They travel in mud encrusted tunnels to the source of food. Detection of termites is usually by locating these mud tunnels rising from the ground into the affected structure. This takes an expert eye.

Termite barriers protect a building by forcing termites to show themselves. Termites can build mud tunnels around termite barriers to reach the timber above. The presence of termite tracks or leads does not necessarily mean that termites have entered the timber though. A clear view of walls and piers and easy access to the sub-floor means that detection should be fairly easy. However many styles of construction do not lend themselves to ready detection of termites. The design of some properties is such that they make the detection by a pest inspector difficult, if not impossible.

The tapping and probing of walls and internal timbers is an adjunct or additional means of detection of termites but is not as reliable as locating tracks. The use of a moisture meter is a useful aid for determining the presence of termites concealed behind thin wall panels, but it only detects high levels of activity. Older damage that has dried out will not be recorded. It may also provide false readings. Termite tracks may be present in the ceiling space however some roofs of a low pitch and with the presence of sisalation, insulation, air conditioning ductwork and hot water services may prevent a full inspection of the timbers in these areas. Therefore since foolproof and absolute certain detection is not possible the use of protective barriers and regular inspections is a necessary step in protecting timbers from termite attack.

## **BORERS OF SEASONED TIMBERS**

Borers are the larvae of various species of beetles. The adult beetles lay their eggs within the timber. The eggs hatch out into larvae (grubs) which bore through the timber and can cause significant structural damage. The larvae may reside totally concealed within the timber for a period of several years before passing into a dormant pupal stage. Within the pupal case they metamorphose (change) into the adult beetle which cuts a hole in the outer surface of the timber to emerge, mate and lay further eggs to continue the cycle. It is only through the presence of these emergence holes, and the frass formed when the beetles cut the exit holes that their presence can be detected. Where floors are covered by carpets, tiling, or other floor coverings and where no access to the underfloor area is available it is not possible to determine whether borers are present or not. This is particularly the case with the upper floors of a dwelling.

Borers of 'green' unseasoned timber may also be present. However these species will naturally die out as the timbers dry out in service. Whilst some emergence holes may occur in a new property it would be unusual for such a borer to cause structural damage, though the exit holes may be unsightly.

**Anobium borer (furniture beetle) and Queensland pine borer:** These beetles are responsible for instances of flooring collapse, often triggered by a heavy object being placed on the floor (or a person stepping on the affected area!) Pine timbers are favoured by this beetle and, while the sapwood is preferred, the heartwood is sometimes attacked. Attack by this beetle is usually observed in timbers that have been in service for 10-20 years or more and mostly involves flooring and timber wall panelling. The *frass* from the flight holes (faeces and chewed wood) is fine and gritty. Wood attacked by these borers is often honeycombed.

**Lytus borer (powder post beetle):** These borers only attack the sapwood of certain susceptible species of hardwood timber. Since it is a requirement that structural timbers contain no more than 25% Lyctus susceptible sapwood these borers are not normally associated with structural damage. Replacement of affected timbers is not recommended and treatment is not approved. Where decorative timbers are affected the emergence holes may be considered unsightly in which case timber replacement is the only option. Powder post beetles mostly attack during the first 6-12 months of service life of timber. As only the sapwood is destroyed, larger dimensional timbers (such as rafters, bearers and joists) in a house are seldom weakened significantly to cause collapse. In small dimensional timbers (such as tiling and ceiling battens) the sapwood may be extensive, and its destruction may result in collapse. Replacement of these timbers is the only option available.

## **TIMBER DECAY FUNGI**

The fruiting bodies of wood decay fungi vary in size, shape and colour. The type of fungi encountered by pest controllers usually reside in poorly ventilated subfloors, below wet areas of the home, exterior timbers and in areas that retain water in the soil. The durability and type of timbers are factors along with the temperature and environment. Destruction of affected timbers varies with the symptoms involved. Removal of the moisture source usually alleviates the problem. Fungal decay is attractive to termites and if the problem is not rectified it may well lead to future termite attack.



## **TERMS & LIMITATIONS:**

**Important Information** Any person who relies upon the contents of this report does so acknowledging that the following clauses which define the Scope and Limitations of the inspection form an integral part of the report.

1. **THIS IS A VISUAL INSPECTION ONLY** in accord with the requirements of AS 4349.3 Inspection of buildings Part 3: Timber pest inspections. Visual inspection was limited to those areas and sections of the property to which reasonable access (See Definition) was both available and permitted on the date of Inspection. The inspection **DID NOT** include breaking apart, dismantling, removing or moving objects including, but not limited to, foliage, mouldings, roof insulation/sisalation, floor or wall coverings, sidings, ceilings, floors, furnishings, appliances or personal possessions. The inspector **CANNOT** see inside walls, between floors, inside skillion roofing, inside the eaves, behind stored goods in cupboards, in other areas that are concealed or obstructed. The inspector **DID NOT** dig, gouge, force or perform any other invasive procedures. An invasive inspection will not be performed unless a separate contract is entered into. In an occupied property it must be understood that furnishings or household items may be concealing evidence of Timber Pests which may only be revealed when the items are moved or removed. In the case of Strata type properties only the interior of the unit is inspected.
2. **SCOPE OF REPORT:** This Report is confined to reporting on the discovery, or non discovery, of infestation and/or damage caused by subterranean and dampwood termites (white ants), borers of seasoned timber and wood decay fungi (hereinafter referred to as "Timber Pests"), present on the date of the Inspection. The Inspection did not cover any other pests and this Report does not comment on them. Dry wood termites (Family: KALOTERMITIDAE) and European House Borer (*Hylotrupes bujulus Linnaeus*) were excluded from the Inspection, but have been reported on if, in the course of the Inspection, any visual evidence of infestation happened to be found. If *Cryptotermes brevis* (West Indian Dry Wood Termite) or *Hylotrupes bujulus Linnaeus* are discovered we are required by law to notify Government Authorities. If reported a special purpose report may be necessary.
3. **LIMITATIONS:** Nothing contained in the Report implies that any inaccessible or partly inaccessible areas or sections of the property being inspected by the Inspector on the date of the Inspection were not, or have not been, infested by Timber Pests. Accordingly this Report is **not a guarantee** that an infestation and/or damage does not exist in any inaccessible or partly inaccessible areas or sections of the property. Nor is it a guarantee that a future infestation of Timber Pests will not occur or be found, If it is more than 60 days from the inspection date, we recommend a new inspection and report be obtained.
4. **DETERMINING EXTENT OF DAMAGE:** The Report is **NOT** a structural damage Report. We claim no expertise in building and any observations or recommendations about timber damage should not be taken as expert opinion and **CANNOT** be relied upon. If any evidence of Timber Pest activity and/or damage resulting from Timber Pest activity is reported either in the structure(s) or the grounds of the property, then You must assume that there may be concealed structural damage within the building(s). This concealed damage may only be found when wall linings, cladding or insulation is removed to reveal previously concealed timbers. An invasive Timber Pest Inspection (for which a separate contract is required) is strongly recommended and You should arrange for a qualified person such as a Builder, Engineer, or Architect to carry out a structural inspection and to determine the full extent of the damage and the extent of repairs that may be required. You agree that neither We nor the individual conducting the Inspection is responsible or liable for the repair of any damage whether disclosed by the report or not.
5. **MOULD:** Mildew and non wood decay fungi are commonly known as Mould and is not considered a Timber Pest but may be an indicator of poor ventilation or the presence of termites, wood decay or water leaks. Mould and their spores may cause health problems or allergic reactions such as asthma and dermatitis in some people.

**6. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** No liability shall be accepted on account of failure of the Report to notify any Termite activity and/or damage present at or prior to the date of the Report in any areas(s) or section(s) of the subject property physically inaccessible for inspection, or to which access for Inspection is denied by or to the Licensed Inspector (including but not limited to any area(s) or section(s) so specified by the Report).

**7. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY TO THIRD PARTIES**

Compensation will only be payable for losses arising in contract or tort sustained by the Client named on the front of this report. Any third party acting or relying on this Report, in whole or in part, does so entirely at their own risk. However, if ordered by a Real Estate Agent or a Vendor for the purpose of auctioning a property then the Inspection Report may be ordered up to seven (7) days prior to the auction, copies may be given out prior to the auction and the Report will have a life of 14 days during which time it may be transferred to the purchaser. Providing the purchaser agrees to the terms of this agreement then they may rely on the report subject to the terms and conditions of this agreement and the Report itself.

**Note:** In the ACT under the Civil Law (Sale of Residential Property) Act 2003 and Regulations the report resulting from this inspection may be passed to the purchaser as part of the sale process providing it is carried out not more than three months prior to listing and is not more than six months old, If it is more than 60 days from the inspection date, a new inspection and report is needed.

**COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

In the event of any dispute or claim arising out of, or relating to the Inspection or the Report, You must notify Us as soon as possible of the dispute or claim by email, fax or mail. You must allow Us (which includes persons nominated by Us) to visit the property (which visit must occur within twenty eight (28) days of your notification to Us) and give Us full access in order that We may fully investigate the complaint. You will be provided with a written response to your dispute or claim within twenty eight (28) days of the date of the inspection.

If You are not satisfied with our response You must within twenty one (21) days of Your receipt of Our written response refer the matter to a Mediator nominated by Us from the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators of Australia. The cost of the Mediator will be borne equally by both parties or as agreed as part of the mediated settlement.

Should the dispute or claim not be resolved by mediation then the dispute or claim will proceed to arbitration. The Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators of Australia will appoint an Arbitrator who will hear and resolve the dispute. The arbitration, subject to any directions of Arbitrator, will proceed in the following manner:

- (a) The parties must submit all written submissions and evidence to the Arbitrator within twenty one (21) days of the appointment of the Arbitrator; and
- (b) The arbitration will be held within twenty one (21) days of the Arbitrator receiving the written submissions.

The Arbitrator will make a decision determining the dispute or claim within twenty one (21) of the final day of the arbitration. The Arbitrator may, as part of his determination, determine what costs, if any, each of the parties are to pay and the time by which the parties must be paid any settlement or costs.

The decision of the Arbitrator is final and binding on both parties. Should the Arbitrator order either party to pay any settlement amount or costs to the other party but not specify a time for payment then such payment shall be made within twenty one (21) days of the order.

In the event You do not comply with the above Complaints Procedure and commence litigation against Us then You agree to fully indemnify Us against any awards, costs, legal fees and expenses incurred by Us in having your litigation set aside or adjourned to permit the foregoing Complaints Procedure to complete.

**NAME OF INSPECTOR**

The inspection was carried out by: Michael Ffrench

State Licence Number: 5068195

Insurance Accreditation Number: 01578

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2019

Signed for and on behalf of Ethical Building and Pest Services



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Michael Ffrench



Pacific International Insurance Pty Ltd  
 ACN: 169 311 193  
 Locked Bag 1000  
 Broadmeadow NSW 2292  
 Telephone: 1300 309 169  
 Fax: +61 (2) 4954 3660  
 Email: insurance@pacificintins.com

### CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY

This is intended for use as evidence that the cover summarised below has been effected and shall be subject to all terms and conditions and exclusions of the Policy document and Schedule.

If the Insured has a Premium Funding agreement in place, this Policy may be cancelled in accord with the terms of the Insurance Contracts Act if the Insured fails to make the required payments.

**The Insured:** Mick Ffrench Pest & Building Services Pty Ltd  
 T/as Ethical Building and Pest Services  
 ABN 94 164 331 346

**Address:** 4 Elaroo Place  
 JERRABOMBERRA NSW

**PARTICULARS OF INSURANCE COVER**

Insurer:	Pacific International Insurance Pty Ltd	
Policy Number:	AUS-18-10935	
Period of Insurance Cover:	14 October 2018 To 14 October 2019	
Limit of General & Public Liability:	\$5,000,000	Any one claim and in the aggregate during the period of insurance.
Sub-Limit of General & Public Liability Environmental Impairment:	\$250,000	Any one claim and in the aggregate during the period of insurance.
Limit of Professional Indemnity:	\$2,000,000	In the aggregate and \$1,000,000 in any one claim during the period of insurance.

Business Activities and/or Extensions covered under this policy:

Other Building Inspections/Consultancy Work - AS4349.0-2007	Termite Management - AS3660
(PPI) Timber Pest Inspections - AS4349.3-2010	(PPI) Residential Building Inspections - AS4349.1-2007
Urban Pest Control	

**Pacific International accepts no responsibility for any failure to notify the recipient of this Certificate of Currency in the event of the policy being cancelled.**

Wednesday, 10 October 2018