

# Building and Timber Pest Inspection Report VR

Inspection Date: Sat, 7 Oct 2023 Property Address: 657 South Dowling Street, Surry Hills

Jim's Building Inspections is pleased to advise that a Building & Pest Inspection Report for the above property is now available. Vendor reports are provided by the vendor for reference only until such time as the potential purchaser purchases their own copy of this report. A purchased copy of the report will entitle you to engage the inspector with any questions you may have in regards to the report and insurances. The price of this report is available online.

Should you wish to purchase this report please go online to www.jimsbuildinginspections.com.au click on BUY REPORT and type in the address of the property.



## NEW SOUTH WALES

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	Special conditions or instructions
	If you have any queries with this report or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the person who carried out the inspection. This Report has been prepared in accordance with the pre-inspection agreement in place between the parties set out below, which set out the purpose and scope of the inspection, and the significant items that will be reported on. This Report reflects the opinion of the inspector based on the documents that have been provided. This Report should be read in its entirety and in the context of the agreed scope of Services. If there is a discrepancy between the summary findings and the body of the Report, the body of the Report will prevail. We recommend that you should promptly implement any recommendation or advice in this Report, including recommendations of further inspections by another specialist. If you have any queries with this Report or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the person who carried out the inspection. This Report contains reference to material that is the copyright of Standards Australia reproduced under agreement with SAI Global to Jim's Building Inspections (Australia).
Original Inspection Date:	Sat, 7 Oct 2023

Modified Date: Wed, 11 Oct 2023

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#### **The Parties**

Name of the Client:	
Name of the Principal(If Applicable	):
Job Address:	657 South Dowling Street, Surry Hills
Client's Email Address:	
Client's Phone Number:	
Consultant:	
Company Name:	
Company Address and Postcode:	PO Box 1376 Maroubra 2035
Company Email:	
Company Contact Numbers:	

### Special conditions or instructions

A report may be conditional on information provided by the person, agents or employees of the person requesting the report, apparent concealment of possible defects and a range of other factors

The following apply:

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### Section A Results of Inspection - summary

A summary of your inspection is outlined below; please also refer to the Report.

	Found	Not Found
Safety Hazard		~
Major Defect		~
Minor Defect	~	
Live Timber Pest Activity		~
Timber Pest Damage		~
Conditions Conducive to Timber Pest Activity	~	
Evidence of fungal decay activity and/or damage	~	
Evidence of wood borer activity and/or damage	~	
Evidence of a previous termite management program		~

#### **Overall Condition (Building)**

In summary, the building, compared to others of similar age and construction is in the condition documented in this report.

#### **Overall Condition (Timber Pest)**

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In summary, the building, compared to others of similar age and construction is moderately susceptible to timber pests. A termite treatment is recommended.

### **Section B General**

## General description of the property

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Building Type	Residential
Company or Strata title	No
Floor	Timber with concrete areas, Part Slab and Part Subfloor
Furnished	Furnished
No. of bedrooms	4
Occupied	Unoccupied
Orientation	West
Other Building Elements	Fence - Brick, Fence - Fabricated Metal Fence, Fence - Post and Rail Construction
Other Timber Bldg Elements	Architraves, Door Frames, Doors, Eaves, Fascias, Floorboards, Internal Joinery, Skirting Boards, Stair Railing, Staircase, Window Frames
Roof	Coated Metal, Pitched, Timber Framed
Storeys	Four Storey
Walls	Full Brick, Timber Framed and Clad
Weather	Fine

#### Section C Accessibility

#### **Areas Inspected**

The following areas were inspected. As documented in your Pre-Inspection Agreement, obstructions and limitations to the accessible areas for inspection are to be expected in any inspection. Refer also to our listing of obstructions and limitations.

- Exterior
- Interior
- Roof Exterior Part
- Roof Void Part
- Subfloor Part
- Wall Exterior

The inspection excludes areas which are affected by obstructions, where access is limited or unsafe. We do not move obstructions and defects, timber pest activity or conditions conducive to these may not be obvious unless they are removed.

#### **Inaccessible Areas**

The following areas were inaccessible:

- Areas of low roof pitch preventing full inspection.
- Areas of skillion or flat roof no access
- Ceiling Cavity Part.
- Exterior Roof Surface Second Storey.
- Roof Exterior Part
- Subfloor Part.
- Wall exterior due to obstructions.

Any areas which are inaccessible at the time of inspection present a high risk for undetected defects and timber pest activity and conditions conducive to these. The client is advised to make inaccessible areas accessible wherever possible for re-inspection.

#### **Obstructions and Limitations**

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Building defects, termite and timber pest activity as well as conditions conducive to both, may be

concealed by the following obstructions which prevented full inspection:

- Ceiling linings
- Areas of skillion or flat roof no access
- Areas of low roof pitch preventing full inspection
- Appliances and equipment
- Fixed ceilings
- Fixed Furniture Built-in Cabinetry
- Floor coverings
- Furniture
- Lack of clearance subfloor

- Subfloor was obscured due to poor clearance and obstructions. Less than 25% of the inspectable area was accessible.

- Wall linings

The presence of obstructions increases the risk of undetected building defects, timber pest activity and conditions conducive to these. The client should make arrangement to remove obstructions where ever possible and re-inspect these areas urgently.

#### **Undetected defect risk (Building)**

A risk rating is provided to help you understand the degree to which accessibility issues and the presence of obstructions have limited the scope of the inspection

The risk of undetected defects is: Medium

When the risk of undetected defects is medium or high we strongly recommend further inspection once access is provided or if the obstruction can be removed. Contact us for further advice.

#### **Undetected defect risk (Timber Pest)**

A risk rating is provided to help you understand the degree to which accessibility issues and the presence of obstructions have limited the scope of the inspection

The risk of undetected defects is: High

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When the risk of undetected defects is medium or high we strongly recommend further inspection once access is provided or if the obstruction can be removed. Contact us for further advice.

### **Section D Significant Items**

### Safety Hazard

No evidence was found

### **Major Defect**

No evidence was found

### **Minor Defect**

#### Finding 3.01

Building:	Main Building
Location:	External Areas
Finding:	Wood rot
Information:	This building element shows evidence of wood rot. Wood rot, also known as Fungal
	Decay, occurs when timbers and other cellulose building materials are exposed to
	damp conditions on an ongoing basis. This could be the result of exposure to
	weathering over a prolonged period of time, or the attraction of excessive moisture
	from other abutting building materials.

Early intervention and regular maintenance, particularly of exterior timbers, will prolong the useful life of these building elements. Prior to any works being performed, the cause of the moisture that has created the visible wood rot should be identified and addressed in a suitable manner. Replacement of affected timbers may then be a necessary step in protecting surrounding building elements from such deterioration.

A qualified carpenter or registered builder may also be required to replace affected building materials.





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### Finding 3.02

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Lounge Room
Finding:	Damp - Rain penetration
Information:	Rain penetration (also known as penetrating damp) is a common form of dampness
	that can occur through walls, roofs or openings (e.g. windows).

Common causes include faulty or missing flashing, lack of sealant and lateral damp.

The cause of the water leak should be addressed to prevent further damage. It is recommended that the water leak be resolved prior to any repairs of the damaged area, which may require localised replacement of building materials and refinishing.

I recommend appointing a builder to see what necessary works are required.



### Finding 3.03

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Front Porch
Finding:	Tile - Cracked or damaged
Information:	Cracking was evident to the tiling in this area at the time of inspection.

I recommend appointing a tiling contractor to see what necessary works are required

#### to replace any damaged tiles.



### Finding 3.04

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Throughout
Finding:	Cracking - Damage Category 1 - Fine (up to 1mm)
Information:	Although fine cracks are quite noticeable, they are often only considered to be an appearance defect, and usually do not indicate any structural damage. Generally, the cause of a fine crack is indicative of a separation between building materials and finishes (e.g. paint, plaster, etc.) along joins.

Cracking of this nature can generally be repaired with minor sanding, filling and/or repainting. Such works should be performed by a qualified painter or a general handyman.

Monitoring of all cracking should be conducted frequently. Always contact a building inspector should cracks widen, lengthen, or become more numerous.





#### Finding 3.05

Building: Location: Main Building Dining Room

#### Finding: Information:

Floors - bouncy

The internal flooring in this area was identified as being bouncy at the time of inspection. A bouncy floor surface generally presents as a discernible change in level as they are walked across, in noisy or creaking flooring, or in consequent movement of surrounding furniture and fixtures.

Bouncy floors generally indicate that the floorboards or the subfloor structures are coming loose from the joists that they are installed on. Bouncy flooring may also be the result of gaps between flooring and joist structures, which require packing.

The client is advised to seek quotations for required repairs from a Registered Builder.



#### Finding 3.06

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Kitchen
Finding:	Door - Stiff to slide
Information:	The door in this area was jammed and difficult to slide along the associated tracks at
	the time of the inspection.

Generally, factors such as general age of the building element and a lack of maintenance are the usual causes for this type of defect.

Replacement of door hardware or tracks may be required, as well as minor repairs and cleaning. A registered builder or general handy person will be required to repair the affected doors.



### Finding 3.07

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Kitchen
Finding:	Door - Binding/jamming
Information:	Binding and/or jamming of this door is evident during standard operation. This defect
	inhibits the functionality of the affected door as well as creating potential for secondary
	defects to associated building elements, such as damage to the floor covering.

For minor causes, a qualified carpenter or general handyperson should be appointed to perform minor rectification works at client discretion.



#### Finding 3.08

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Bathroom
Finding:	Sealant and grouting - Missing or damaged
Information:	It was noted on inspection that sealant or grout is degraded to the tiled areas.

Different materials and floor areas move at different rates, generally causing cracking to grout or sealant at this point. A flexible sealant is required to allow for expected expansion and contraction, while keeping the joint water tight and protective of all associated building materials.

Flexible and mould resistant materials should be applied to affected areas to prevent any subsequent water damage that is likely to occur. Regular maintenance and replacement of damage or missing or damaged sealant and grout is highly recommended to the wet areas, as this is a regular wear and tear defect. Sealant and grouting in areas that come into regular contact with water should be maintained for the long term care of your property.

A sealant specialist or tiling contractor should be appointed to complete these works.



#### Finding 3.09

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Bedroom
Finding:	Damp - Rain penetration
Information:	Rain penetration (also known as penetrating damp) is a common form of dampness
	that can occur through walls, roofs or openings (e.g. windows).

Common causes include faulty or missing flashing, lack of sealant and lateral damp.

The cause of the water leak should be addressed to prevent further damage. It is recommended that the water leak be resolved prior to any repairs of the damaged area, which may require localised replacement of building materials and refinishing.

I recommend appointing a builder to see what necessary works are required.



### Finding 3.10

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Upstairs
Finding:	Nails - Popping
Information:	Popped nails we
	friction between

Popped nails were identified at the time of inspection. Nails and screws are held by the friction between them and the surface that they are applied to. Over time, the nails and screws can back out, which is often a result of general ageing and deterioration of the building structure.

Re-fastening of popped nails will help to maintain the stability of these, and associated, building elements. Such minor works will also help to improve the appearance of the affected area and secure the linings. These works should be performed by a qualified carpenter at client discretion.



#### Finding 3.11



Building:	Yard
Location:	Fencing
Finding:	Fencing - Deteriorated
Information:	It was noted at the time of inspection that sections of the fencing throughout the
	property have deteriorated. Typically fencing deteriorates due to age and or wear, rot

and or rust which is generally expected for a structure of this age, due to prolonged

exposure to weather conditions. Sometimes inadequate installation or maintenance can be to blame.

If left unattended, it is likely that further damage will occur. It is suspected that repair of several elements of the fencing may be required however replacement may be a consideration of the client also.

A licensed fencing contractor should be appointed to provide further advice and perform rectification works as necessary.



#### Finding 3.12

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Bedroom 2
Finding:	Damp - Rain penetration
Information:	Rain penetration (also known as penetrating damp) is a common form of dampness
	that can occur through walls, roofs or openings (e.g. windows).

Common causes include faulty or missing flashing, lack of sealant and lateral damp.

The cause of the water leak should be addressed to prevent further damage. It is recommended that the water leak be resolved prior to any repairs of the damaged area, which may require localised replacement of building materials and refinishing.

I recommend appointing a builder to see what necessary works are required.



### Finding 3.13

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Window
Finding:	Windows - Sash cords missing
Information:	Sashes are the moveable panes of windows that primarily slide vertically over each other to expose one half of the window area. Each sash is provided with springs balances and/or compression weather-stripping, which act to hold the window in place in one position.

To facilitate this operation the weight of the glazed panel is usually balanced by steel weights or counterbalances. The sash weight is connected by a cord or chain that runs over a pulley at the top of the frame. These cords are prone to degradation over time and replacement is required.

Repairing or replacing sash cords involves some work and is often best completed by an experienced carpenter or specialist window restorer. It is advised that such works be completed to improve the operational state of the affected window.



### Finding 3.14

Building: Location: Main Building Window

#### Glass - Cracked

Information:

Finding:

Cracks were identified in the glass in this area. Cracking in glass is generally the result of impact damage, and is likely to develop further when left unmanaged.

A qualified glazier is required to repair the glass.



### Finding 3.15

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Bedroom 2
Finding:	Fitting or fixture - Loose (Door Handle)
Information:	The fitting in this area is loose and requires adjustment to tighten.
	If left unmanaged, the fitting may further deteriorate, causing potential t

If left unmanaged, the fitting may further deteriorate, causing potential for the development of other minor secondary defects.

A relevant tradesperson should be appointed to perform these rectification works at discretion of the client.



### Finding 3.16

Building: Location: Main Building Window

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#### Finding: Information:

#### Windows - Sash balances broken

Sashes are the moveable panes of windows that primarily slide vertically over each other to expose one half of the window area. Each sash is provided with springs balances and/or compression weather-stripping, which act to hold the window in place in one position.

The sash balance mechanism will need replacement to allow the window to function as intended. Such works may be completed by a qualified carpenter or registered builder.



#### Finding 3.17

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Roof Exterior
Finding:	Gutters - Blocked
Information:	Roof plumbing structures, such as gui
	debris to prevent blockages. Blockage

Roof plumbing structures, such as guttering and downpipes, should be free of all debris to prevent blockages. Blockages of the guttering and downpipes will lead to pooling and accumulated water overflows, which is likely to subsequently flood eaves and exterior walls.

Blocked gutters are likely to lead to high levels of moisture in the affected areas. Such moisture will not only cause rust and decay of the associated building materials, but can also provide conditions that are conducive to termite and timber pest activity. Blockages in gutters should therefore be removed to ensure dry conditions are maintained.

Consult a Licensed Plumber for further specific advice on remedial works that may be required. In the interim, it is highly advised that blocked gutters be removed by the homeowner or a general handyperson as a matter of urgency.



### Finding 3.18

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Roof Void
Finding:	Chemical delignification identified
Information:	Chemical delignification also known as wood defibration refers to the chemical breakdown of timber building elements. This breakdown of the Lignin deteriorates the wood impacting on the structural integrity and tensile strength of the affected building element.

Chemical delignification is most common near marine environments due to the high levels of salt in the air however this deterioration may also occur in other areas where timber elements are frequently exposed to damaging gases chemicals etc.

I recommend appointing a roofing contractor to see what necessary works are required.



### Live Timber Pest Activity

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No evidence was found

### **Timber Pest Damage**

### **Conditions Conducive to Timber Pest Activity**

#### Finding 6.01

Building:	Main Building
Location:	All Areas
Finding:	Termite Management System - no evidence of a chemical installation
Information:	The application of a post-construction chemical termite barrier is highly recommended
	for all properties, particularly if live termite activity has been found on the site
	previously. Such barriers are highly effective in preventing termite attack on any timber
	building elements throughout the property.

A durable notice should be placed in the switchboard unit to indicate current termite barriers. At the time of inspection, it appeared as though no termite management system has been installed, with no evidence to suggest preventative works taking place.

The client may consider gaining further advice from a pest controller as to the costs and procedures involved with this application. It is recommended that obtaining such advice be a short-term priority.



### Evidence of fungal decay activity and/or damage

### Finding 7.01

Building:	Main Building
Location:	External Areas
Finding:	Fungal decay - present (localised)
Information:	Fungal decay also known as wood decay or wood rot generally refers to the
	deterioration of timber elements when in contact with excessive levels of moisture for a
	prolonged period of time.

The development of fungal decay is accelerated by temperatures in the range of 5degreeC to 40degreeC as well as the presence of oxygen. Generally fungal decay develops on timber elements that are in use in an external environment which are exposed to rain penetration.

In this case although the affected timber element is in a decaying state the extent of any visible damage appears to be localised to a specific area and is yet to spread to other parts of the building element or affect adjoining structures. The fungal decay is therefore likely to be of a relatively superficial nature with minimal impact on the structural integrity or tensile strength of the timber element.









### Evidence of wood borer activity and/or damage

#### Finding 8.01

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Flooring
Finding:	Evidence of wood borer activity identified
Information:	Wood borers small beetles that colonise in exposed timber elements are a common
	timber pest that are regularly mistaken for termites.

The Lyctid borer which generally attacks hardwoods such as subfloor and roofing

structures is generally identified by a fine dust surrounding the affected timbers.

As no live wood borer activity was identified treatment is not required at this time.



### Section D Significant Items

#### **D4 Further Inspections**

We advise that you seek additional specialist inspections from a qualified and, where appropriate, licensed

- As identified in summary and defect statements
- Damp Proofing Specialist
- Registered/Licensed Builder

Jim's Building Inspections can put you in contact with qualified and licensed providers of these and other trades services. Please contact your inspector for recommendations, or visit www.jims.net.

#### D5 Conclusion - Assessment of overall condition of property

- BUILDING SUMMARY.

The building compared to others of a similar age and construction appears to be in good condition. It does however have issues that will require attention and remedial maintenance. Left unmanaged some of these defects may become costly in the future and develop into more major defects over time.

Please be aware that limitation's did affect the inspection and areas of low clearance and poor access meant a complete inspection of the roof space and subfloor was not possible.

- It was noted at the time of inspection that there was a moderate - high reading of rising damp detected in sections of the walls throughout the building. I recommend appointing a damp proofing specialist to see what necessary works are required. A new DPC may need to be installed in sections of the walls throughout.

- It was noted at the time of inspection that there was a number of the floors throughout the property that are not level. This appears to have been caused due to minor settlement over the life of the build or installed in this manner. Although they do appear to be structurally sound I recommend appointing a builder to give further advice and to see what necessary works are required.

PEST SUMMARY.

The following items are highly recommended:

- Install a termite barrier system to the property (consult a suitably qualified termite expert for advice).
- Improve the sub floor ventilation &/or Drainage
- Treat, repair or replace any Fungal decay/wood rot.
- Clean blocked guttering regularly.

- Regular inspections every 6-12 months.

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Additional information:

- No active termites were found at the time of inspection.
- Trees within 50m of the house that are on other properties can not be inspected.

For further information, advice and clarification please contact John Markham on: 0448 440 082

## Section D Significant Items

## The following items were noted as - For your information

### Noted Item

Building:	Main Building
Location:	All Areas
Finding:	Photos Added
Information:	Additional photos are provided for your general reference.





### **Noted Item**

Building:	Main Building
Location:	Roof Void
Finding:	Photos Added
Information:	Additional photos are provided for your general reference.





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## Definitions to help you better understand this report

Access hole (cover)	An opening in flooring or ceiling or other parts of a structure (such as service hatch, removable panel) to allow for entry to carry out an inspection, maintenance or repair.
Accessible area	An area of the site where sufficient, safe and reasonable access is available to allow inspection within the scope of the inspection.
Appearance defect	Fault or deviation from the intended appearance of a building element.
Asbestos-Containing Materia (ACM)	Asbestos-containing material (ACM) means any material or thing that, as part of its design, contains asbestos.
Building element	A portion of a building that, by itself or in combination with other such parts, fulfils a characteristic function. NOTE: For example supporting, enclosing, furnishing or servicing building space.
Client	The person or other entity for whom the inspection is being carried out.
Conditions Conducive to Termite Activity	Noticeable building deficiencies or environmental factors that may contribute to the presence of Termites.
Defect	Fault or deviation from the intended condition of a material, assembly, or component.
Detailed assessment	An assessment by an accredited sampler to determine the extent and magnitude of methamphetamine contamination in a property.
Inspection	Close and careful scrutiny of a building carried out without dismantling, in order to arrive at a reliable conclusion as to the condition of the building.
Inspector	Person or organisation responsible for carrying out the inspection.
Instrument Testing	Where appropriate the carrying out of Tests using the following techniques and instruments: (a) electronic moisture detecting meter - an instrument used for assessing the moisture content of building elements (b) stethoscope - an instrument used to hear sounds made by termites within building elements (c) probing - a technique where timber and other materials/areas are penetrated with a sharp instrument (e.g. bradawl or pocket knife), but does not include probing of decorative timbers or finishes, or the drilling of timber and trees and (d) sounding - a technique where timber is tapped with a solid object. (e) T3I - an instrument used to detect movement, moisture and changes in temperature within timber
Limitation	Any factor that prevents full or proper inspection of the building.
Major defect	A defect of sufficient magnitude where rectification has to be carried

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out in order to avoid unsafe conditions, loss of utility or further deterioration of the property.

- Methamphetamine An amphetamine-type stimulant that is highly addictive. Methamphetamine is a controlled substance, classified as a Class A (very high-risk) drug under the Misuse of Drug Act. This term is used as a grouping term to include all substances screened for, specifically: Ephedrine, Pseudoephedrine,Amphetamine, Methamphetamine, MDA and MDMA.
- Methamphetamine A property or part of a property where the level of methamphetamine contamination has been tested in accordance with this standard and found to exceed 0.5 micrograms/100 cm2 (Residential) or 10 micrograms/100 cm2 (Commercial).
- Methamphetamine The manufacture of methamphetamine, including processing, production/manufacture packaging, and storage of methamphetamine and associated chemicals.
- Minor defect A defect other than a major defect.

Roof space/Roof void Space between the roof covering and the ceiling immediately below the roof covering.

- Screening assessment An assessment by a screening sampler to determine whether or not methamphetamine is present.
- Serviceability defect Fault or deviation from the intended serviceability performance of a building element.
- Significant item An item that is to be reported in accordance with the scope of the inspection.

Site Allotment of land on which a building stands or is to be erected.

- Structural defect Fault or deviation from the intended structural performance of a building element.
- Structural element Physically distinguishable part of a structure. NOTE: For example wall, columns, beam, connection.
- Subfloor space Space between the underside of a suspended floor and the ground.
- Subterranean TermiteA written proposal in accordance with Australian Standard AS 3660.2 toManagement Proposaltreat a known subterranean termite infestation and/or manage the riskof concealed subterranean termite access to buildings and structures.

Termites Wood destroying insects belonging to the order 'Isoptera' which commonly attack seasoned timber.

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Additional attention to the visual examination was given to those accessible areas which the consultant's experience has shown to be

	particularly susceptible to attack by Termites. Instrument Testing of those areas and other visible accessible timbers/materials/areas showing evidence of attack was performed.
Timber Pest Activity	Tell-tale signs associated with 'active' (live) and/or 'inactive' (absence of live) Timber Pests at the time of inspection.
Timber Pest Attack	Timber Pest Activity and/or Timber Pest Damage.
Timber Pest Damage	Noticeable impairments to the integrity of timber and other susceptible materials resulting from an attack by Timber Pests.
Urgent and Serious Safety Hazards	Building elements or situations that present a current or immediate potential threat of injury or disease to persons.

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#### Terms on which this report was prepared

This report is based on the condition of the property at the time of inspection. We strongly recommend re-inspection 30 days after this report is issued as the general condition of the property is likely to have changed, including the extent of defects described and instance of potential undetected defects.

This report has been prepared in accordance with and subject to the pre-inspection agreement in place between the parties, which forms part of this Report.

This Report is prepared for the client identified above and may not be relied on by any other person without our express permission or by the purchase of this Report on our website.

SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE SCOPE, LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS IN YOUR PRE-INSPECTION AGREEMENT AND THIS REPORT

Any of the exclusions or limitations identified for this Report may be the subject of a special-purpose inspection which we recommend being undertaken by an appropriately qualified inspector

#### **RELIANCE AND DISCLOSURE**

This report has been prepared based on conditions at the time of the report.

We own the copyright in this report and may make it available to third parties.

If your Property is in the Australian Capital Territory, you acknowledge we will make certain information about this Report available to the ACT Government for inclusion in the building and pest inspections public register if required under the *Civil Law (Sale of Residential Property) Act 2003*. This will include the fact the report has been prepared, the Property street address, date of the inspection, the name of the person who prepared the report and (if applicable) the entity that employs them.

#### UNDETECTED DEFECT RISK RATING

If this Report has identified a medium or high-risk rating for undetected defects, we strongly recommend a further inspection of areas that were inaccessible. This may include an invasive inspection that requires the removal or cutting of walls, floors or ceilings.

If the Property has been vacant for a period of time, moisture levels or leaks may not be detectable at the time of the inspection because often only frequent use of water pipes (showers, taps etc) result in a leak being identifiable. We advise further testing on pipes and water susceptible areas (such as the bathroom and laundry) after more frequent use has occurred.

#### **IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:**

This is not a report by a licensed plumber or electrician. We recommend a special-purpose

report to detect substandard or illegal plumbing and electrical work at the Property

**This is not a smoke alarm report.** We recommend all existing detectors in the Property be tested and advice sought as to the suitability of number, placement and operation.

**This is not an asbestos report.** There are potential products in the Property containing asbestos that will not be identified in this report. In order to accurately identify asbestos, we recommend performing an asbestos inspection, particularly for buildings built prior to 1988.

**This is not a report on safety glass.** Glazing in older homes may not reflect current standards and may cause significant injury if damaged. Exercise caution around the glass in older homes.

This is not a report on window opening restrictions. We have not inspected window opening restrictors. Window openings in older buildings may not reflect current standards and can be a potential risk. Window opening restrictors are advised for all second story or above windows with sill heights below 900mm. Some states make this a mandatory requirement. Owners should enquire of their local and state requirements to ensure compliance.

**This is not a report on pool safety.** If a swimming pool is present it should be the subject to a special purpose pool inspection.

**External Timber Structures - Balcony and Decks.** It is strongly recommended that a Structural Engineer is required to assess distributed load capacity of external timber structures such as balconies and decks, alerting users of the load capacity. Regular maintenance and inspections by competent practitioners to assess the ongoing durability of exposed external timber structures are needed.

**This is not a Group Titled Property Report as per AS4349.2.** If you require a report for a Group Titled Property as per this standard, please seek a separate inspection for Group Titled Properties.

#### MOISTURE

The identification of moisture, dampness or the evidence of water penetration is dependent on the weather conditions at the time an inspection. The absence of dampness identified in this Report does not necessarily mean the Property will not experience some damp problems in other weather conditions or that roofs, walls or wet areas are watertight.

Where the evidence of water penetration is identified we recommend detailed investigation of waterproofing in the surrounding area monitoring of the affected area over a period of time to fully detect and assess the cause of dampness.

#### MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPERTY

This Report is not a warranty or an insurance policy against problems developing with the Property in the future. Accordingly, a preventative maintenance program should be implemented which includes systematic inspections, detection and prevention of issues. Please contact the inspector who carried out this inspection for further advice.

It is strongly advised that appropriate steps be taken to remove, rectify or monitor any evidence of

conditions conducive to timber pest activity. Undertaking thorough regular inspections at intervals not exceeding twelve months (or more frequent inspections where the risk of timber pest attack is high or the building type is susceptible to attack). To further reduce the risk of subterranean termite attack, implement a management program in accordance with Australian Standard AS3660. This may include the installation of a monitoring and/or baiting system, or chemical and/or physical barrier. However, AS3660 stresses that subterranean termites can bridge or breach barrier systems and inspection zones and those thorough regular inspections of the building are necessary.

#### **NO CERTIFICATION**

- a) The Property has been compared to others of a similar age, construction type and method that had an acceptable level of basic maintenance completed.
- b) We don't advise you about title, ownership or other legal matters like easements, restrictions, covenants and planning laws. None of our inspections constitutes approval by a Building Surveyor, a certificate of occupancy or compliance with any law, regulation or standard, including any comment on whether the Property complies with current Australian Standards, Building Regulations or other legislative requirements.

#### **RECTIFICATION COSTS**

We don't provide advice on the costs of rectification or repair unless specifically identified in the scope of the Report. Any cost advice provided verbally or in this report must be taken as of a general nature and is not to be relied on. Actual costs depend on the quality of materials, the standard of work, what price a contractor is prepared to do the work for and may be contingent on approvals, delays and unknown factors associated with third parties. No liability is accepted for costing advice.