

# Affordable Inspections

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Property Address:

1-103 Howe Street Lambton

Date:

23 January 2018

**Pest Report**





# VISUAL TIMBER PEST INSPECTION REPORT

## CLIENT & SITE INFORMATION:

**COMMISSIONED BY:** Your Agency.  
**YOUR CONTACT:** Affordable Inspections. Ph:0418 425 515 Lic No: 01826.  
**YOUR REF/FILE NUMBER:** P-1-103 Howe Street Lambton.  
**DATE OF INSPECTION:** 23 January 2018.  
**PROPERTY ADDRESS:** 1-103 Howe Street Lambton.  
**INSPECTED BY:** David Teasel  
License No. Builder 142105c  
License No. Pest 01826  
Contact: 0418425515  
Affordable Inspections.

**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.

## Details of the Inspection Agreement:

**AGREEMENT DETAILS:** Supplied with the report.  
**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** There are NO Special Requirements / Conditions requested by the Client/Clients Representative regarding this Inspection and Report:  
**AGREEMENT CHANGES:** There are NO changes to the Inspection Agreement:

**THIS IS A VISUAL INSPECTION ONLY in accord with the requirements of AS 4349.3 - 2010 - Inspection of buildings Part 3: Timber Pest Inspections.**

### 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 SUMMARY

## **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.

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.

## **ACCESS**

**Any area(s) to which access should be gained:** Other than some areas that are normally inaccessible areas due to construction methods, normal access was gained. Please read the report.

## **TIMBER PEST ACTIVITY OR DAMAGE**

**Active termites found:** At the time of the inspection no visible evidence of termite activity (live termites) was found in the areas able to be inspected. Please read the report.

**Damage caused by termites found:** At the time of inspection no visible evidence of termite activity or damage was found in the areas able to be inspected. Please read the report.

**Damage caused by borers found:** At the time of the inspection no visible evidence of borer activity or damage was found in the areas able to be inspected. Please read the report.

**Damage caused by wood decay found:** Evidence of damage resulting from wood decay fungi (wood rot) was found. Please read the report.

**Any major safety hazards identified:** Not at the time of the inspection.

**Are further inspections required:** Not at the time of inspection.

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

**The property inspected is a** Two storey Brick Veneer construction. Single Skin brickwork, Cladding Construction. townhouse, Concrete Flooring, Timber Flooring. Tiled roofing. 1 Car Garage.

# ROOF

Inspection within any accessible roof cavity will normally be limited by a number of factors including the method of construction, low pitched or inaccessible sections, insulating materials, ducting and in some instances, stored items.

## Restrictions to Access

**Access Restrictions** Clearance within sections of the roof was too low to allow body access. This allows only a limited visual inspection from a distance to be carried out. Roofing timbers above the area(s) listed below were not accessed.

**Above the following location or area** Low areas were noted to perimeter top plate of dwelling.

## Restrictions to Inspection

**Inspection Restrictions** Inspection over the eaves was restricted due to the low pitch and construction allowing only a limited visual inspection from a distance to be carried out.

Sarking paper covered tile battens restricting inspection.

**Above the following location or area** Perimeter of dwelling. Various areas of the roof void:

## Active Subterranean Termites Found

**Termite Activity** No evidence of Active Termites were found at time of inspection.

## Termite Damage

**Damage caused by termites found** No evidence of Termite Damage was noted at time of inspection.

## Anobium punctatum borer damage found

**Damage found** No Evidence of Anobium punctatum borer was found at time of inspection.

## Wood decay damage found

**Description** No evidence of wood decay was noted at time of inspection.

## Lyctus borer damage

**Description** No evidence of Lyctus Borer damage was noted at time of inspection.

# INTERIOR

## Restrictions

**Inspection Restrictions** Both floorcoverings and furnishings were present and restricted inspection within this area.

**Location/area** Various internal areas:

## Active Subterranean Termites Found

**Termite Activity** No evidence of Active Termites were found at time of inspection.

## Termite Damage

**Damage caused by termites found** No evidence of Termite Damage was noted at time of inspection.

## Anobium punctatum borer damage found

**Damage found** No Evidence of Anobium punctatum borer was found at time of inspection.

## Wood decay damage found

**Description** No evidence of wood decay was noted at time of inspection.

## Lyctus borer damage

**Description** No evidence of Lyctus Borer damage was noted at time of inspection.

# VENTILATION

## **Subfloor Ventilation**

### **Description**

Subfloor ventilation appears to be adequate at the time of inspection.

<h1>SUBFLOOR</h1>
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**Slab areas**

**Slab areas**

Some sections of the property are constructed on a concrete slab below which there is no subfloor for inspection. See important information in Section 4.0 Concrete Slab Homes (Part or Full Slab).

**Active Subterranean Termites Found**

**Termite Activity**

No evidence of Active Termites were found at time of inspection.

**Termite Damage**

**Damage caused by termites found**

No evidence of Termite Damage was noted at time of inspection.

**Anobium punctatum borer damage found**

**Damage found**

No Evidence of Anobium punctatum borer was found at time of inspection.

**Wood decay damage found**

**Description**

No evidence of wood decay was noted at time of inspection.

**Lyctus borer damage**

**Description**

No evidence of Lyctus Borer damage was noted at time of inspection.

**Conductive conditions**

**Description**

Bridging barriers of Piers can conceal termite entry. Bridging Barriers to Front Verandah can conceal termite entry. The underfloor soil appears damp. This should be monitored on a regular basis as moist soil conditions are highly conducive to timber pest attack.

**Below the following location or area**

Various areas of the subfloor:



# EXTERNAL TIMBERS

## Active Subterranean Termites Found

**Termite Activity** No evidence of Active Termites were found at time of inspection.

## Termite Damage

**Damage caused by termites found** No evidence of Termite Damage was noted at time of inspection.

## Anobium punctatum borer damage found

**Damage found** No Evidence of Anobium punctatum borer was found at time of inspection.

## Wood decay damage found

**Description** Yes - Wood decay damage was noted to the following timbers/areas.  
**Affected external timbers** Trim timbers: Pergola timbers:  
**Location/area** Rear section of the property: Front section of the property:  
**Severity** Visible timber damage appears moderate however, we are not builders and this is not to be considered a builder's opinion. Refer to the definitions section of this report - Section 1.6 - Timber Damage.

## Lyctus borer damage

**Description** No evidence of Lyctus Borer damage was noted at time of inspection.

## Conductive Conditions

**Description** The air-conditioning condenser discharges adjacent to the external walls. We recommend modification so that water is discharged over a drain.  
  
The hot water system overflow is discharging moisture adjacent to the structure. We recommend the overflow be situated over a drain.

# FENCES

## Active Subterranean Termites Found

**Termite Activity** No Evidence of Active Termites at time of inspection.

## Termite Damage

**Damage caused by termites found** No evidence of Termite Damage at time of inspection.

## Wood decay damage found

**Description** No evidence of wood decay at time of inspection.

# GARAGING

## **Description of garaging**

**Describe garaging**      A garage:

## **Restrictions**

**Description**      Stored items restricted inspection to the interior.

## **Active Subterranean Termites Found**

**Termite Activity**      No evidence of Active Termites were found at time of inspection.

## **Termite Damage**

**Damage caused by termites found**      No evidence of Termite Damage was noted at time of inspection.

## **Anobium punctatum borer damage found**

**Damage found**      No Evidence of Anobium punctatum borer was found at time of inspection.

## **Wood decay damage found**

**Description**      No evidence of wood decay was noted at time of inspection.

## **Lyctus borer damage**

**Description**      No evidence of Lyctus Borer damage was noted at time of inspection.

# OUTBUILDINGS

## Description of Outbuildings

**List of outbuildings**

No outbuildings were present at the time of inspection:

## EVIDENCE OF TREATMENT

It is not always easy to determine if a property has been treated for subterranean termites particularly if such a treatment was carried out during construction or the evidence of a treatment has been concealed. Treatments may consist of physical or chemical barriers or a combination of both. This summary of treatment evidence is in no way conclusive. Where no visible evidence of treatment was found, it does not necessarily mean that the property was not or has not been treated. Some signs of treatment are not readily visible during an inspection. Where any evidence of a termite treatment was noted, and the treatment was not carried out by this firm, we can give no assurances with regard to the work performed or other work carried out as a result of timber pest attack. Further enquiries should be made and any documentation obtained to verify work carried out. Where no evidence of a pre construction treatment is noted (or any subsequent treatment), any prospective purchaser should make their own enquiries to determine what protective measures were taken during the construction of the property to protect against termite attack.

### **Evidence of termite treatment to the property**

**Description**

There was no visible evidence of previous termite treatment.

## SUMMARY IN DETAIL

### IMPORTANT NOTE

**This summary must be read in conjunction with the entire report. Some comments and recommendations may be contained in the body of the report and not in the summary. The information contained in the terms and conditions, the body of the report, the summary and general information form the complete report.**

### **SUMMARY DETAILS:**

<b>Testing Equipment:</b>	Tramex Moisture Encounter was used for the testing of moisture during the inspection.
<b>Overall Assessment of Property:</b>	<b>At the time of the inspection the DEGREE OF RISK OF SUBTERRANEAN TERMITE INFESTATION to the overall property was considered to be moderate.</b>
<b>Further Access Required:</b>	Not at the time of inspection.
<b>Wood Decay</b>	Patching to timbers is required.

### **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.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**PLEASE NOTE:**                The following information is very important and forms an integral part of this report.

**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 or damage has been reported then you must have a building expert determine the full extent of damage and the estimated cost of repairs or timber replacement (See Terms & Limitations)

### **DEFINITIONS:**

For the purpose of this inspection, the definitions below apply.

**Active** - The presence of live timber pests at the time of inspection.

**Inactive** - The absence of live timber pests at the time of inspection.

Note: Where visual evidence of inactive termite workings and/or damage is located, 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 the benefit of further investigation and inspections over a period of time, to ascertain whether any infestation is active or inactive. Continued, regular inspections are essential.

**Moderate** - Damage that is more than surface damage but is unlikely to necessitate any timber replacement or repairs to be carried out.

**Severe** - Damage that appears to be significant and the integrity or serviceability of timbers may be impaired. A builder's opinion must be sought in the case of severe damage.

**Timber Damage** - Where this report includes comments in relation to the severity of timber damage, it must be understood that this is not a qualified builder's opinion. It is essential that any timber damage be referred to a suitably qualified building professional and obtain a special purpose building report relating to the extent of the timber damage. The full extent of damage may only be revealed by invasive inspection methods including probing and the removal of lining materials. This type of invasive inspection has not been carried out and you should understand that the extent and/or severity of timber damage may be found to increase significantly on such an invasive inspection. The references contained within this report that may refer to the extent of timber damage have only been included to assist in determining treatment specifications and not to quantify the damage and must not be relied upon to determine the costs of repair or replacement.

### **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 more than 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.

**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 3660.1-2014 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 or more 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.

**Lyctus 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.

**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.

#### **8. 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.

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.

----- End Of Report -----