

## **NOMINATION TO THE ACT HERITAGE REGISTER**

*Please note that the information below represents indicative heritage values only, and not the views of the ACT Heritage Council (the Council).*

*This nomination is yet to be assessed by the Council against the heritage significance criteria established under the Heritage Act 2004.*

*Acceptance of a nomination is a preliminary, threshold step and ought not to be taken as indicative of any particular outcome concerning the Council's assessment of the nomination.*

### **THE WOOD HOUSE 43 MAYO STREET BLOCK 18, SECTION 17, WEETANGERA**

The Wood House is a significant example of the domestic architecture of the celebrated Canberra architect Dr Enrico Taglietti AO LFRAIA (1926-2019), who was awarded the Gold Medal of the RAIA, its highest honour, in 2007. He was posthumously made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2020.

The house, designed by Taglietti in 1970 in the Late Twentieth-Century Organic style and completed in 1972, has considerable privacy and is integrated with its secluded well-treed garden on a battle-axe block. The carefully-planned experience of arrival begins at the narrow driveway and leads indirectly to the front door. After entry it reaches a climax in the lower-level central hall, centred around a fireplace, for living, study, dining and the kitchen. This interlocking series of internal spaces, ranging from open to intimate, each being in accord with its particular function, is another attribute which adds to the house demonstrating a high degree of creative achievement.

The way Taglietti took advantage of the slope of the site to plan the house on two levels followed his concept of space flowing vertically as well as horizontally, which he first experienced seeing underground rock-hewn medieval churches in Ethiopia and developed when he studied the principle Frank Lloyd Wright had introduced to the United States as "A new sense of space."