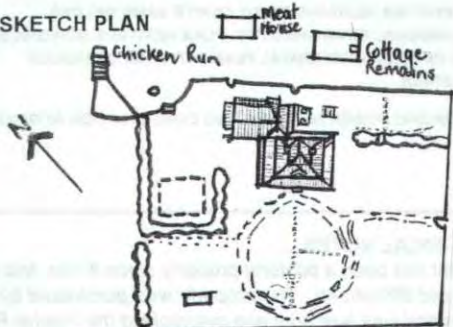




# MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY Inventory 1996

## PLASHETT HOMESTEAD - MUSWELLBROOK

<p><b>PRESENT NAME</b> 'Plashett' Homestead</p> <p><b>PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES</b></p>	<p><b>REFERENCE No</b> MUSWR062</p>
<p><b>LOCATION</b></p> <p><b>STREET No</b> 1477 <b>STREET NAME</b> Edderton Road</p> <p><b>TOWN/SUBURB</b> Muswellbrook <b>POSTCODE</b> 2333</p> <p><b>LOCALITY</b> Jerrys Plains</p> <p><b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA</b> MUSWELLBROOK</p>	<p><b>PREVIOUS REFERENCE No</b></p> <p><b>DATE INSPECTED</b> 19th March 1996</p> <p><b>SITE SKETCH PLAN</b></p> 
<p><b>PRESENT OWNER</b> <b>TYPE</b> Private</p> <p><b>NAME</b> Mount Arthur South Coal</p> <p><b>OWNERS ADDRESS</b> c/-Elcom Property Officer PO Box 666</p> <p><b>TOWN/SUBURB</b> Muswellbrook <b>POSTCODE</b> 2333</p>	<p><b>PROPERTY DETAILS:</b></p> <p><b>a REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION</b> Lot 2 DP616024 Psh Wynn County Durham</p> <p><b>b SITE AREA</b> 340.7 hectares</p> <p><b>c EXISTING ZONING</b> 1(a) - Rural 'A'</p>
<p><b>CATEGORY</b> Building</p> <p><b>SUB CATEGORY</b> Homestead</p> <p><b>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</b> 1827</p> <p><b>ARCHITECT/DESIGNER</b> Oswald Lewis</p> <p><b>BUILDER</b> Unknown</p>	<p><b>MAP REFERENCE</b> '56' 300160E, 6406460N AMG Jerrys Plains 9033-111-S</p> 
<p><b>PHOTOGRAPH</b></p> 	

HERITAGE LISTING	HISTORICAL PERIOD																																				
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### HISTORICAL NOTES

Plashett has been a pastoral property since it was first settled by James Robertson in 1827. It consisted of 2000 acres, in 1828 running 250 cattle and 800 sheep. The property was purchased by Joseph Pearse in 1854, subsequently remaining in that family for 117 years. The homestead was built on a rise overlooking the Hunter River with the original dairy and stable groups of outbuildings located below and to the rear of the house - all surrounded by a planned native garden. The original cottage (now demolished) and meathouse group are close to the rear of the house. Subsequent additions and alterations include verandah infill, attached wing and lean-tos. All weatherboard additions date from the early 20th century. The property remains in use for pastoral purposes.

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS / DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- a ARCH. STYLE** *Victorian Georgian & Federation Georgian*
- MATERIALS:** **Exterior** Stone walls, galvanised iron roof, timber verandah posts & timber additions.  
**Interior** Elaborate cellar & entry hall, marble fireplaces & elaborate cornices, ceiling roses & window & door assemblies
- b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE** *The general layout of the homestead buildings and garden exhibit characteristics of the major garden styles of the mid-19th century. Original gates and fencing with some new NE and SE fencing on the original fence alignment. Existing stables and stone pathways. Plaster and lath interior features.*
- c MODIFICATIONS** *Extensions and additions dating from the early 20th century*
- d CURRENT CONDITIONS**  INTACT  REPAIRS REQUIRED  
 ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC  ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC  
 **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** *Some original building fabric has been removed but in general the integrity of the original house remains evident.*

### INFORMATION SOURCES

- WRITTEN** *"Plashett Homestead Conservation Plan", Anne Bickford & Associates, June 1994*  
*"Cherish the Earth - The Story of Gardening in Australia", Beatrice Bligh*  
*National Trust Classification Sheet*  
*Maitland Weekly Mercury, 1896-97*  
*Some Northern Homes of NSW, 1954*
- ORAL** *James Broadbent, Historian*

### EVALUATION CRITERIA (S) = STATE (R) = REGIONAL (L) = LOCAL

HISTORIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>
AESTHETIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (S)
SOCIAL	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>
SCIENTIFIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The property is a rare, almost intact survivor of its mid-19th century period in the region and as such has regional historic significance. Aesthetically it consists of a sophisticated building design set in a carefully conceived garden consisting of up-to-the minute design elements. In this context it is of the very highest regional significance. Socially the property also has regional significance for being associated with the eminent pioneering Robertson and Pearse families. Scientifically the property is likely to be one of the most significant in the region for being able to reveal information which could contribute to an understanding of the conduct of a major mid-19th century pastoral property and of the manner in which wealthy pastoralists lived at that time.