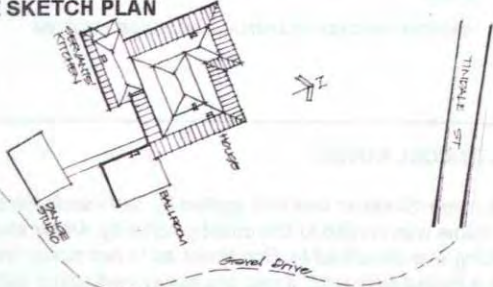




MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY

Inventory 1996

'SKELLATAR' (ST JAMES SCHOOL) - TINDALE STREET - MUSWELLBROOK

<p>PRESENT NAME <i>St James Catholic School</i></p> <p>PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES <i>'St Marys Catholic School'; 'Skellatar'</i></p>	<p>REFERENCE No <i>MUSWR037</i></p> <p>PREVIOUS REFERENCE No</p> <p>DATE INSPECTED <i>14th February 1996</i></p>
<p>LOCATION</p> <p>STREET No STREET NAME <i>17 Fitzgerald Avenue</i></p> <p>TOWN/SUBURB <i>Muswellbrook</i> POSTCODE <i>2333</i></p> <p>LOCALITY <i>Muswellbrook</i></p> <p>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA <i>MUSWELLBROOK</i></p>	<p>SITE SKETCH PLAN</p> 
<p>PRESENT OWNER TYPE <i>Church Property</i></p> <p>NAME <i>Mr BJ & Mrs LI Birnie</i></p> <p>OWNERS ADDRESS <i>17 Fitzgerald Avenue</i></p> <p>STREET No STREET NAME</p> <p>TOWN/SUBURB <i>Muswellbrook</i> POSTCODE <i>2333</i></p>	<p>PROPERTY DETAILS:</p> <p>a REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION</p> <p><i>Lot 18 DP702560</i></p> <p>b SITE AREA <i>8520 m²</i></p> <p>c EXISTING ZONING <i>2(c) - Residential 'C'</i></p>
<p>CATEGORY <i>Building</i></p> <p>SUB CATEGORY <i>Homestead</i></p>	<p>MAP REFERENCE <i>'56' 300760E, 6426760N AMG</i> <i>Muswellbrook 9033-II-S</i></p> 
<p>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION <i>1881</i></p>	
<p>ARCHITECT/DESIGNER <i>Cyril Blacket</i></p>	
<p>BUILDER <i>Unknown</i></p>	
<p>PHOTOGRAPH</p> 	

HERITAGE LISTING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE (AHC) - REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE OF AUSTRALIA (AHC) - INTERIM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF NATIONAL TRUST (NSW) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF SIGNIFICANT TWENTIETH CENT. ARCHITECTURE (RAIA) <input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION REGISTER <input type="checkbox"/> COMMONWEALTH HISTORIC SHIPWRECKS ACT (DECLARED SITE) <input type="checkbox"/> HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - PERMANENT CONSERVATION ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - INTERIM CONSERVATION ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - SECTION 130 ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - NOMINATION <input type="checkbox"/> NSW GOVT DEPT HERITAGE REGISTER (S170 HERITAGE ACT) <input type="checkbox"/> NP&WS HISTORIC SITES REGISTER <input type="checkbox"/> NP&WS ABORIGINAL SITES REGISTER (CONTACT SITES) <input type="checkbox"/> INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS (NSW) HERITAGE REGISTER <input type="checkbox"/> EXISTING HERITAGE STUDY (WRITE NAME BELOW) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MAITLAND HERITAGE REGISTER	HISTORICAL PERIOD <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">PERIOD</th> <th style="text-align: center;">BUILT</th> <th style="text-align: center;">USED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>PRE 1800</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>1800 - 1825</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>1826 - 1850</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>1851 - 1875</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>1876 - 1900</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>1901 - 1925</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>1926 - 1950</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>1951 - 1975</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr><td>POST 1975</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </tbody> </table> HISTORICAL THEMES <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">S.H.I.P. THEMES</th> <th style="text-align: left;">LOCAL THEMES</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Townships</td> <td>The spread of settlement in Muswellbrook</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Persons</td> <td>Eminent 19th century Muswellbrook families</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	PERIOD	BUILT	USED	PRE 1800	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1800 - 1825	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1826 - 1850	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1851 - 1875	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1876 - 1900	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1901 - 1925	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1926 - 1950	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1951 - 1975	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	POST 1975	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	S.H.I.P. THEMES	LOCAL THEMES	Townships	The spread of settlement in Muswellbrook	Persons	Eminent 19th century Muswellbrook families
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HISTORICAL NOTES <p><i>The name 'Skellatar' was first applied by Sir Francis Forbes to his grant on the Hunter in the 1820s: after its purchase by the Bowman family the name was applied to this country home by Arthur and Edward Bowman in 1881-1883 when Cyril Blacket was engaged as architect. The building was described by Ron Bown as "a two storey late Victorian residence designed by Blacket ... the building is constructed of brick and has a hipped slate roof. It has two storey verandahs with cast iron supporting columns and decorative lacework and bullnosed corrugated iron roofing. It also includes a brick ballroom. Most detail including interior joinery is intact". The stables have been demolished. In 1983 the Catholic Church built St James school at Skellatar.</i></p>																																					
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE <p><i>Historically the name of the homestead has links to one of the very early land grants in the Hunter Valley and is therefore regionally significant. The homestead was built by the direct descendants of the pioneering George Bowman, the design commissioned from Sydney's most eminent private architects. For these reasons it is regionally significant historically. It is of aesthetic significance to the region as one of few Blacket designs of its scale and because it evolved through a series of designs, all of which remain on record. Scientifically it is also of regional significance for its potential to reveal information which could contribute to an understanding of the lifestyle of wealthy pastoralists in the late 19th century and their relationship with their architects. The building is of a type and origin rare locally and regionally.</i></p>																																					