## MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY Inventory 1996

## FORMER COURT HOUSE GROUP - POLICE LOCK-UP & POLICE STATION & RESIDENCE COMPLEX - DENMAN

PRESENT NAME Private Residence / Arts & Crafts Centre REFERENCE No DENM/R006 PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES Court House / Police Station & Lock-up & PREVIOUS REFERENCE No Residence DATE INSPECTED 15th February 1996 LOCATION SITE SKETCH PLAN STREET No STREET NAME Palace Street TOWN/SUBURB Denman POSTCODE 2328 LOCALITY Denman LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA MUSWELLBROOK PRESENT OWNER TYPE Private PROPERTY DETAILS: a REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION Lot 227 & 228 DP 727761 b SITE AREA 897 m2 6(a) - Open Space c EXISTING ZONING 3(b) - Special Business CATEGORY Area (Buildings) MAP REFERENCE '56' 282380E, 6413360N AMG Denman 9033- III-S SUB CATEGORY Court House / Police Residence / Police Lock-up DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1881 (Courthouse) - 1860s (Police Residence) - c.1912 (Portable Lock-up) ARCHITECT/DESIGNER James Barnet (Court House) **BUILDER** Unknown

PHOTOGRAPH



## HERITAGE LISTING HISTORICAL PERIOD REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE (AHC) - REGISTERED BUILT USED REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE OF AUST. (AHC) - INTERIM PERIOD REGISTER OF NATIONAL TRUST (NSW) REGISTER OF SIGNIFICANT TWENTIETH CENT. ARCHITECTURE (RAIA) PRE 1800 1800 - 1826 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HERITAGE AND CONS. REGISTER 1826 - 1860 COMMONWEALTH HISTORIC SHIPWRECKS ACT (DECLARED SITE) 1861 - 1876 HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - PERMANENT CONS. ORDER 1876 - 1900 HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - INTERIM CONS. ORDER 1901 - 1925 HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - SECTION 130 ORDER 1926 - 1950 HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - NOMINATION 1951 - 1975 NSW GOVT DEPT HERITAGE REGISTER (\$170 HERITAGE ACT) POST 1976 NP&WS HISTORIC SITES REGISTER NP&WS ABORIGINAL SITES REGISTER (CONTACT SITES) HISTORICAL THEMES INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS (NSW) HERITAGE REGISTER EXISTING HERITAGE STUDY (WRITE NAME BELOW) S.H.I.P. THEMES LOCAL THEMES REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE OTHER Government & Administration Development of police services in Denman HISTORICAL NOTES The Court House was built in 1881 to the design of James Barnet, Colonial Architect. It served as a court house until 1973 when it was renovated and in 1975 the building was leased by the Denman Shire Council for use as a museum. This was unsuccessful and the building was sold: it is now the private residence of G. Piper. At the rear of the Court House is the earlier (1860s) police residence. Government plans to demolish this building were resisted by citizens and it is now an Arts and Crafts Centre. Portable lock-ups were used in many parts of the state: another exists at Morpeth. This one was brought into use c.1912 when the police station was re-organised. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS / DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS ARCH. STYLE Court House: Victorian Italinate MATERIALS: Exterior Residence: Brick with stone detailing Residence: Victorian Georgian Courthouse: Stone Verandah flagging and columns. Metal roofing and stucco wall finish b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE Open bed gable pediment MODIFICATIONS C **CURRENT CONDITIONS** ✓ INTACT ☐ REPAIRS REQUIRED d ✓ ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC □ ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC ✓ ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Court House: Cast iron fridge brackets a later addition Residence: Rear porch added INFORMATION SOURCES WRITTEN Newcastle Morning Herald 17.4.75 / 19.6.75; W. Bridges, 'Historic Courthouses of NSW' ORAL GRAPHIC **EVALUATION CRITERIA** (S) = STATE (R) = REGIONAL (L) = LOCAL HISTORIC RARE / (L) REPRESENTATIVE ✓ (R) **AESTHETIC** RARE V (R) REPRESENTATIVE D SOCIAL RARE / (L) REPRESENTATIVE [ RARE √ (L) SCIENTIFIC REPRESENTATIVE D

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Historically the complex is of local significance because it represents the stage of growth of Denman and the organisation of the administration of law and order in the town. Aesthetically the buildings have regional significance as excellent examples of the work of the state's highly regarded government Architect of the period. Socially the buildings have local significance for their association with the activities of local police administration over a period of a century. Scientifically these major Palace Street buildings, St Matthias' Church and others, have the potential to contribute to an understanding of the role of that area of Palace Street in the development of the town and its law enforcement needs both in the late 19th century and over the next century. In this context they have local significance. As a composition, the buildings have regional rarity.