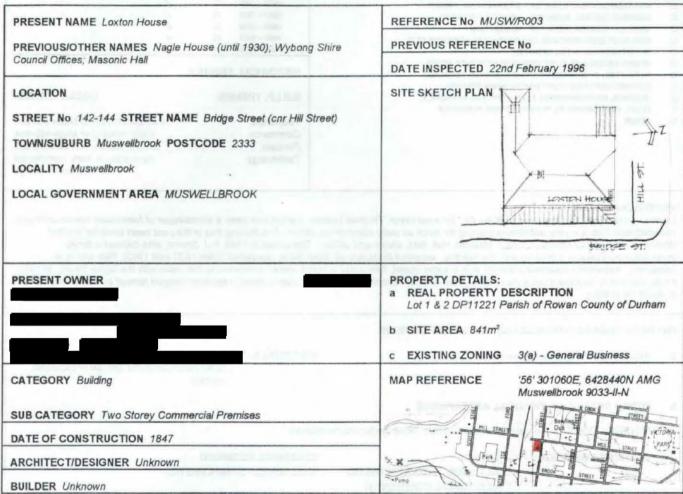
MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY Inventory 1996

LOXTON HOUSE - BRIDGE STREET - MUSWELLBROOK



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 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HERITAGE AND CONS. REGISTER 1800 - 1825 COMMONWEALTH HISTORIC SHIPWRECKS ACT (DECLARED SITE) 1826 - 1850 1 HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - PERMANENT CONS. ORDER 1861 - 1875 п HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - INTERIM CONS. ORDER 1876 - 1900 HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - SECTION 130 ORDER 1901 - 1925 HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - NOMINATION 1926 - 1960 NSW GOVT DEPT HERITAGE REGISTER (\$170 HERITAGE ACT) 1961 - 1976 **NP&WS HISTORIC SITES REGISTER** POST 1975 NP&WS ABORIGINAL SITES REGISTER (CONTACT SITES) HISTORICAL THEMES INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS (NSW) HERITAGE REGISTER EXISTING HERITAGE STUDY (WRITE NAME BELOW) REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE S.H.I.P. THEMES LOCAL THEMES LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE OTHER The establishment of Muswellbrook Townships Commerce Early retailing in Muswellbrook Persons Early Retailers in Muswellbrook Technology Innovation in early commercial Muswellbrook buildings HISTORICAL NOTES Loxton House is said to have been built in 1847 for a surveyor, Thomas Loxton. Loxton had been a storekeeper of Newcastle before settling in Muswellbrook. This is a very substantial building for such an early commercial period. The building has in the past been used for the first Wybong Shire Council offices (c.1906); Masonic Hall, flats, shops and offices. The owner in 1966, K.J. Brown, who claimed a family association in excess of a century with the building, recorded its history as store, hotel, residential (from 1920 until 1963), flats and now restaurant. Apparently equipped originally with a water closet, it also had a 'dumb waiter' device to link the cellar with the higher floors. In 1981 it was restored to become a restaurant. The ghost of a Mr Hutchison, a former resident, having reputedly hanged himself in the building, is said to haunt the building. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS / DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS ARCH. STYLE Victorian Regency MATERIALS: Exterior Stone galvanised iron roof, cast iron upper verandah detail and lower verandah columns b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE MODIFICATIONS Stone parapet a later addition. Rear timber stair enclosure. **CURRENT CONDITIONS** ✓ INTACT ☐ REPAIRS REQUIRED □ ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC □ ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC ☐ ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: INFORMATION SOURCES WRITTEN Newcastle Sun 17.3.1966 ORAL K.J.Brown, Muswellbrook (Building Owner, 1966) GRAPHIC **EVALUATION CRITERIA** (S) = STATE (R) = REGIONAL (L) = LOCAL HISTORIC RARE √ (L) REPRESENTATIVE **AESTHETIC** RARE / (L) REPRESENTATIVE / (R) RARE / (L) SOCIAL REPRESENTATIVE [SCIENTIFIC RARE / (L) REPRESENTATIVE [STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Historically the building is of great local significance for its role in the establishment of Muswellbrook as a commercial centre in the middle of the

Historically the building is of great local significance for its role in the establishment of Muswellbrook as a commercial centre in the middle of the 19th century. It is a rare survivor of its type and period. Aesthetically the building is of a scale and sophistication of detail rare in the area at the time and as such, has local significance. Socially the building is of local significance to the descendants of Thomas Loxton, in whose hands it remained for so long. Scientifically the building is of great local interest and significance for its innovative features, which have the potential to reveal information which could contribute to an understanding of the activities of an innovative retailer in early Muswellbrook.