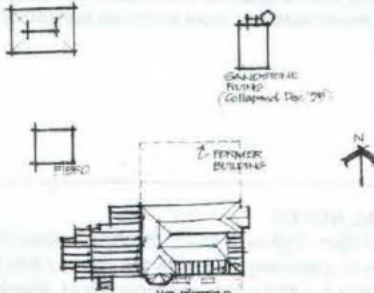




MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY

Inventory 1996

'MERTON' - DENMAN

PRESENT NAME 'Merton' PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES	REFERENCE No DENM/R001 PREVIOUS REFERENCE No DATE INSPECTED 22nd February 1996
LOCATION STREET No 4883 STREET NAME Jerrys Plains Road TOWN/SUBURB Denman POSTCODE 2328 LOCALITY Denman LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA MUSWELLBROOK	SITE SKETCH PLAN 
PRESENT OWNER [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	TYPE Private PROPERTY DETAILS: a REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION Lot 10 DP618867 Parish of Althorpe County of Durham b SITE AREA 13.910 haectares c EXISTING ZONING 7(L1) - Environment Protection - Alluvial Areas
CATEGORY Building SUB CATEGORY Homestead DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1825-- ARCHITECT/DESIGNER Unknown BUILDER Unknown	MAP REFERENCE '56' 285140E, 6413520N AMG Denman 9033-III-S 
PHOTOGRAPH 	

HERITAGE LISTING <input type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE (AHC) - REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE OF AUST. (AHC) - INTERIM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF NATIONAL TRUST (NSW) <input type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF SIGNIFICANT TWENTIETH CENT. ARCHITECTURE (RAIA) <input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HERITAGE AND CONS. REGISTER <input type="checkbox"/> COMMONWEALTH HISTORIC SHIPWRECKS ACT (DECLARED SITE) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - PERMANENT CONS. ORDER <input type="checkbox"/> HERITAGE COUNCIL REGISTER - INTERIM CONS. 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER	HISTORICAL PERIOD <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">PERIOD</th> <th style="text-align: center;">BUILT</th> <th style="text-align: center;">USED</th> </tr> <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1826 - 1850</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1851 - 1875</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> HISTORICAL THEMES <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">S.H.I.P. THEMES</th> <th style="text-align: left;">LOCAL THEMES</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Pastoralism</td> <td>Pioneer cattle farms of the Upper Hunter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Townships</td> <td>Pioneering Upper Hunter villages</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Persons</td> <td>Eminent pioneering families of the Upper Hunter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Government</td> <td>The establishment of law and order in the Upper Hunter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Death</td> <td>Early Upper Hunter cemeteries</td> </tr> </table>	PERIOD	BUILT	USED	PRE 1800	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1800 - 1825	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1826 - 1850	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1851 - 1875	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	S.H.I.P. THEMES	LOCAL THEMES	Pastoralism	Pioneer cattle farms of the Upper Hunter	Townships	Pioneering Upper Hunter villages	Persons	Eminent pioneering families of the Upper Hunter	Government	The establishment of law and order in the Upper Hunter	Death	Early Upper Hunter cemeteries
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HISTORICAL NOTES

Settled by William Ogilvie in 1825, this homestead became the centre of the first village in the Upper Hunter valley, possessing courthouse, church, school, cemetery, etc. Merton passed into the hands of the White family (outstanding pioneering dynasty) by 1875 and was owned by Reginald White in 1896 when described by H. Mackenzie in 'Pastoralists and Producers'. In the last thirty years it has been owned by L. Porter (about 1950), then P. Feeney and for the past 14 years by the Carter family. Under the Whites racehorses and cattle were bred here. Of the many buildings to survive are Merton Cottage c.1825 (disused) and the White's late nineteenth homestead - a complex of the highest significance. Merton was taken over in 1986 by the Carters, who have since been restoring the property from a previously abandoned and vandalised condition.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS / DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS	
a ARCH. STYLE <i>Victorian Filigree</i> b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE c MODIFICATIONS <i>Recent timber/metal deck skillion-roofed extensions to side. Verandah frieze modifications. Some painted brickwork.</i> d CURRENT CONDITIONS <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: <i>Extensive demolition and restoration works in the past 10 years</i> </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REPAIRS REQUIRED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC </div> </div>	MATERIALS: <i>Exterior Brick with corrugated galvanised iron roof. Stone flagging to verandahs. Timber posts.</i>

INFORMATION SOURCES

WRITTEN	A. Wood, 'Dawn in the Valley'; G. Farwell, 'Squatters in Grass Castles'
ORAL	Mrs Carter - 'Merton'
GRAPHIC	

EVALUATION CRITERIA (S) = STATE (R) = REGIONAL (L) = LOCAL		
HISTORIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>
AESTHETIC	RARE <input type="checkbox"/>	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>
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

Historically the property is of regional significance as it was settled by one of the region's founding families, bought by the region's best known successful pastoralist, and contains evidence of the original homestead buildings. It has remained continuously in use for its original purpose. Socially the homestead site has regional significance for the descendants of the Ogilvie, Reginald White and Porter families. Scientifically it has regional significance for its potential to reveal information which could contribute to an understanding of the lifestyle of successful pastoralists in the 19th and 20th centuries and about the changes in farming in the Upper Hunter over the past century. Because of the surviving evidence of settlement by its founders, the homestead has regional rarity.