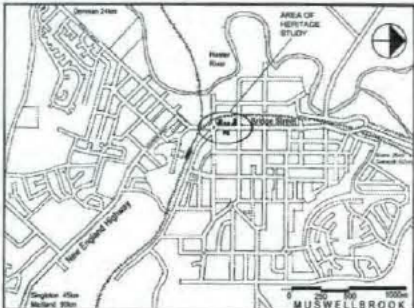
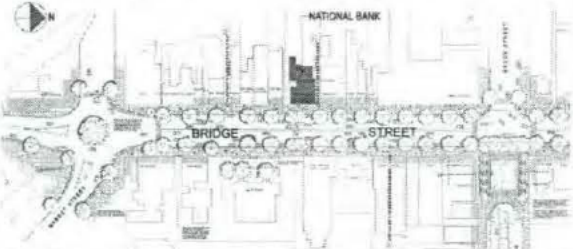



# MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY

## National Bank Premises - Inventory 2000

<p><b>PRESENT NAME</b> <i>National Bank Premises</i></p> <p><b>PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES</b>          Royal Hotel (original site of).          Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney</p>	<p><b>REFERENCE No</b> <i>MUSW/R001a</i></p> <p><b>PREVIOUS REFERENCE No</b></p> <p><b>DATE INSPECTED</b> <i>27 October 2000</i></p>
<p><b>LOCATION</b></p> <p><b>STREET No</b> <i>46</i> <b>STREET NAME</b> <i>Bridge Street</i></p> <p><b>TOWN/SUBURB</b> <i>Muswellbrook</i> <b>POSTCODE</b> <i>2333</i></p> <p><b>LOCALITY</b> <i>Muswellbrook</i></p> <p><b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA</b> <i>MUSWELLBROOK</i></p>	<p><b>SITE SKETCH PLAN</b></p> 
<p><b>PRESENT OWNER</b></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><b>TYPE</b> <i>Commercial</i></p>	<p><b>PROPERTY DETAILS:</b></p> <p><b>a REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION</b>          Lot 259          DP 738307</p> <p><b>b SITE AREA</b> <i>approx. 600 sq.m</i></p> <p><b>c EXISTING ZONING</b>  <i>3 (a) General Business</i></p>
<p><b>CATEGORY</b> <i>Building</i>  <b>SUB CATEGORY</b> <i>Bank</i></p> <p><b>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</b> <i>1940</i></p> <p><b>ARCHITECT/DESIGNER</b> <i>J H F Cunninghame (Tamworth)</i></p> <p><b>BUILDER</b> <i>unknown</i></p>	<p><b>MAP REFERENCE</b></p> 
<p><b>PHOTOGRAPH</b></p> 	



<b>HERITAGE LISTING</b> <input type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE (AHC) - REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE OF AUST. (AHC) - INTERIM <input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN HERITAGE SCHEDULE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">HISTORICAL PERIOD</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="width: 40%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">BUILT</th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">USED</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">PERIOD</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">PRE 1800</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1800 - 1825</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1826 - 1850</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1851 - 1875</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1876 - 1900</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1901 - 1925</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1926 - 1950</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1951 - 1975</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">POST 1975</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">HISTORICAL THEMES</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <b>S.H.I.P. THEMES</b>            Persons            Townships         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <b>LOCAL THEMES</b>            Eminent Regional Architect            The streetscape of the Commercial precinct,            Bridge Street         </td> </tr> </table>	HISTORICAL PERIOD				BUILT	USED	PERIOD			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1901 - 1925	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1926 - 1950	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1951 - 1975	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	POST 1975	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HISTORICAL THEMES		<b>S.H.I.P. THEMES</b> Persons Townships	<b>LOCAL THEMES</b> Eminent Regional Architect The streetscape of the Commercial precinct, Bridge Street
HISTORICAL PERIOD																																									
	BUILT	USED																																							
PERIOD																																									
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																																							
1901 - 1925	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																																							
1926 - 1950	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																																							
1951 - 1975	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																																							
POST 1975	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																																							
HISTORICAL THEMES																																									
<b>S.H.I.P. THEMES</b> Persons Townships	<b>LOCAL THEMES</b> Eminent Regional Architect The streetscape of the Commercial precinct, Bridge Street																																								

**HISTORICAL NOTES**  

The site was the original location of the Royal Hotel owned by Henry Nowlan and then his wife Harriet from 1839 up until 1874. From that time until 1940 the Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney owned the building in its former state. During 1940 the bank in its current form was built reusing the original sandstone blocks, slate tile, and cedar fittings. The new bank was fitted with a bronze door and bronze signage over the door. It is interesting to note that while the building was designed in a Georgian Revival style, the windows of the original design were of horizontal "residential-like" proportion, contrary to the typical vertical proportions of a Georgian revival building. The Commercial Bank merged with the National Bank in 1983 and by 1984 the name of the building was changed to the National Australia Bank. Around this time the bronze doors were replaced and the windows altered.

**PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS / DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS**  

<b>a ARCH. STYLE</b> Inter-War Georgian Revival	<b>MATERIALS:</b> Exterior - Sandstone block, slate tile roof.
---	--

**b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**  
 The street façade consists of a symmetrical composition and fenestrations of tall slender vertical proportion. The width of the façade has a granite plinth. The central entrance with high style treatment is framed by double pilasters each side of the door and headed by a relief architrave, frieze and cornice. The eaves around the two storey section of the building typically are decorated with cornice and exposed eaves brackets. The windows on the street façade are of vertical slender proportions with tinted glazing. Windows on the side elevations have been infilled with a concrete panel designed and coloured so the original window openings are obvious. The rear of the building is of single storey "lean-to" type construction also clad in sandstone blocks.

**c MODIFICATIONS**  
 Most notable are the modifications to the street façade windows. The original windows of horizontal proportion have been modified to windows of tall, slender vertical proportions extending link a glass curtain wall over the two storeys. While the change to vertical proportioning is a gesture to the Georgian Revival style, slender, dark coloured frames with tinted glazing and no panes is an extreme introduction of modern component contrasting starkly with the intended style of the 1940 building.  
 The sections of building to the rear have been altered incorporating a metal sheet clad plant room on the roof. This plant is accessed via a steel stair at the side of the building. The single storey sections have been re-roofed in recent times with a profiled metal sheet cladding. The interior of the bank at ground floor has been modernized to suit current day business use, including the installation of an automatic teller machine. This installation intum affects the exterior street façade of the building in that it detracts from the symmetry set up in the design of the building. The upper level rooms have also been converted incorporating staff toilets in a reconfigured layout. The walls in the upper level rooms fronting the street display signs of movement with large vertical cracks evident at corners and around window openings.

<b>d CURRENT CONDITIONS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTACT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REPAIRS REQUIRED <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC
--	--

**INFORMATION SOURCES**  
**WRITTEN** National Trust Classification Sheet  
                   Muswellbrook Historical Society  
**ORAL**  
**GRAPHIC** National Trust Classification Sheet

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

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  

Establishment of larger corporations in the local areas is a historical event of local significance to country towns. The employment of a regional architect to compose a design resulted in a building of representational aesthetics of Inter-War Georgian revival style commonly adopted by the banking corporations in country districts at the time. The design displays an attempt at symmetry, however recent window modification to the front façade have detracted from the aesthetics of the building with exaggerated vertical proportions. There is therefore no real aesthetic significance.

The economic growth of the township is reflected in the establishment of the bank. The growth of commercial life with the workings of the bank into everyday workings of the town also reflects a quality of life in the town and therefore its establishment stood to represent ongoing social significance.

The building has remained in good condition, testament to the initiatives of resourceful construction techniques used at the time, namely the re-use of sandstone block work and slate roof tiles from the original 1840's hotel building. The building is therefore of rare local scientific significance.