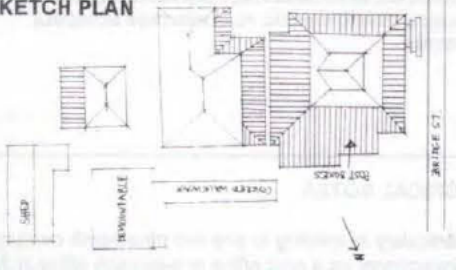



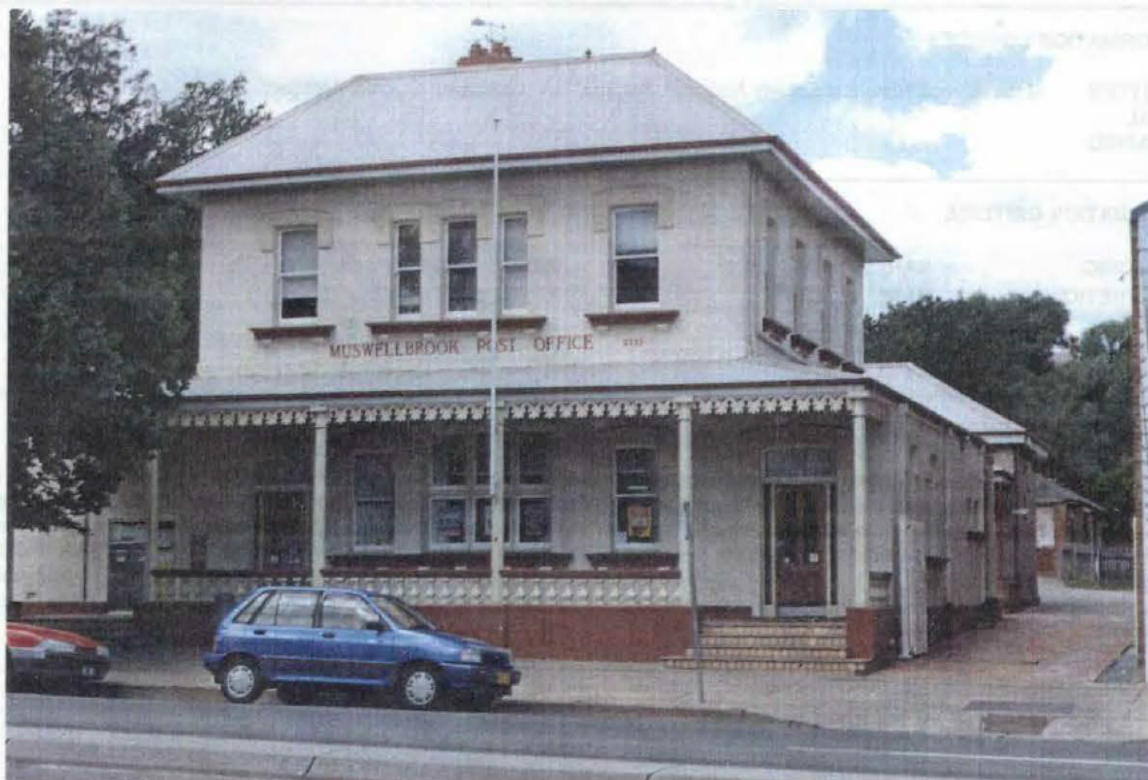
MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY

Inventory 1996

POST OFFICE - BRIDGE STREET - MUSWELLBROOK

PRESENT NAME <i>Muswellbrook Post Office</i>		REFERENCE No <i>MUSWR005</i>
PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES		PREVIOUS REFERENCE No
		DATE INSPECTED <i>13th February 1996</i>
LOCATION STREET No <i>7</i> STREET NAME <i>Bridge Street</i> TOWN/SUBURB <i>Muswellbrook</i> POSTCODE <i>2333</i> LOCALITY <i>Muswellbrook</i> LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA <i>MUSWELLBROOK</i>		SITE SKETCH PLAN 
PRESENT OWNER [REDACTED]	TYPE <i>Federal Government</i>	PROPERTY DETAILS:
		a REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION <i>Section 2, Lot 17</i>
		b SITE AREA <i>1328m²</i>
		c EXISTING ZONING <i>5(a) - Special Uses 'A'</i>
CATEGORY <i>Building</i>	MAP REFERENCE <i>'56' 301020E, 6428080N AMG</i> <i>Muswellbrook 9033-II-N</i>	
SUB CATEGORY <i>Post Office</i>		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION <i>1861 and 1883-5</i>		
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER <i>James Barnet</i>		
BUILDER <i>Unknown</i>		

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 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 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 checked="" 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>Communication</td> <td>The development of postal services in Muswellbrook</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Persons</td> <td>Eminent 19th century NSW Architects</td> </tr> </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 checked="" 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	Communication	The development of postal services in Muswellbrook	Persons	Eminent 19th century NSW Architects
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 checked="" 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																																				
Communication	The development of postal services in Muswellbrook																																				
Persons	Eminent 19th century NSW Architects																																				
HISTORICAL NOTES <p><i>It is particularly interesting to see two nineteenth century post offices on the same site. The building at the rear of the site was constructed by the Government as a post office or telegraph office in 1861 when the telegraph first came to the region. The postmaster, John Arnott, was also influential in the construction of the first Methodist Church.</i></p> <p><i>The 1883-85 post and telegraph office building represents the Colonial Architect James Barnet who joined the Colonial Architect's department just before the first office was constructed, when Alexander Dawson was in charge.</i></p>																																					
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS / DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> a ARCH. STYLE Rear Building: <i>Victorian Georgian</i> Front Building: <i>Victorian Filigree</i> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> MATERIALS: Rear Building: <i>Stone/galvanised iron</i> Front Building: <i>Rendered brick plaster detail and galvanised iron roof</i> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE <i>Substantial alterations - See Below</i> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> c MODIFICATIONS </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> d CURRENT CONDITIONS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> REPAIRS REQUIRED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: <i>Steel post columns to older building. Cast iron decoration, cast fibreglass balustrading and skillion roof on front extension.</i> </td> </tr> </table>		a ARCH. STYLE Rear Building: <i>Victorian Georgian</i> Front Building: <i>Victorian Filigree</i>	MATERIALS: Rear Building: <i>Stone/galvanised iron</i> Front Building: <i>Rendered brick plaster detail and galvanised iron roof</i>	b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE <i>Substantial alterations - See Below</i>		c MODIFICATIONS		d CURRENT CONDITIONS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> REPAIRS REQUIRED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: <i>Steel post columns to older building. Cast iron decoration, cast fibreglass balustrading and skillion roof on front extension.</i>																													
a ARCH. STYLE Rear Building: <i>Victorian Georgian</i> Front Building: <i>Victorian Filigree</i>	MATERIALS: Rear Building: <i>Stone/galvanised iron</i> Front Building: <i>Rendered brick plaster detail and galvanised iron roof</i>																																				
b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE <i>Substantial alterations - See Below</i>																																					
c MODIFICATIONS																																					
d CURRENT CONDITIONS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> REPAIRS REQUIRED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: <i>Steel post columns to older building. Cast iron decoration, cast fibreglass balustrading and skillion roof on front extension.</i>																																					
INFORMATION SOURCES WRITTEN <i>Muswellbrook Historical Society Notes; P. Bridges, 'James Barnet, Colonial Architect'</i> ORAL GRAPHIC																																					
EVALUATION CRITERIA (S) = STATE (R) = REGIONAL (L) = LOCAL <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">HISTORIC</td> <td style="width: 33%;">RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)</td> <td style="width: 33%;">REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>AESTHETIC</td> <td>RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)</td> <td>REPRESENTATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SOCIAL</td> <td>RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)</td> <td>REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>SCIENTIFIC</td> <td>RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)</td> <td>REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		HISTORIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>	AESTHETIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)	REPRESENTATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	SOCIAL	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>	SCIENTIFIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>																								
HISTORIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>																																			
AESTHETIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)	REPRESENTATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)																																			
SOCIAL	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (L)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>																																			
SCIENTIFIC	RARE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (R)	REPRESENTATIVE <input type="checkbox"/>																																			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE <p><i>Historically the group must be considered to have regional significance because of the combination of buildings, both more than a century old, on the same site, designed and built for the same purpose, but of different generations and styles. Aesthetically the later building is of greater importance for being the work of an eminent 19th century government Architect. They are both representative of type at a regional level. Socially the two buildings have local significance to the Muswellbrook community for being identified with the commercial hub of the town over a long time frame. Scientifically, the buildings and site are significant to the region for their potential to reveal information which could contribute to an understanding of two different stages of the development of postal and telegraph services in Muswellbrook and districts. It is also a rare combination at the regional level.</i></p>																																					