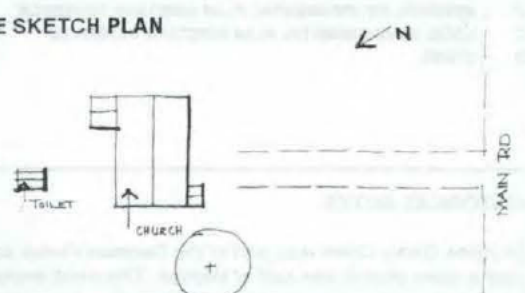




MUSWELLBROOK HERITAGE STUDY

Inventory 1996

ST JOHNS ANGLICAN CHURCH - MERRIWA ROAD - GIANTS CREEK

PRESENT NAME <i>St Johns Anglican Church</i>		REFERENCE No <i>GIAN/R003</i>
PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES		PREVIOUS REFERENCE No <i>MUSW/R035 - Hunter REP Sch.4 Review</i>
		DATE INSPECTED <i>22nd February 1996</i>
LOCATION STREET No <i>1824</i> STREET NAME <i>Merriwa Road</i> TOWN/SUBURB <i>Sandy Hollow</i> POSTCODE <i>2333</i> LOCALITY <i>Sandy Hollow</i> LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA <i>MUSWELLBROOK</i>		SITE SKETCH PLAN 
PRESENT OWNER [REDACTED]	TYPE <i>Church</i>	PROPERTY DETAILS: a REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION <i>Portions 300 & 301 DP750963 Parish Wickham</i> b SITE AREA <i>6070m²</i> c EXISTING ZONING <i>7(d) - Environment Protection - Scenic</i>
CATEGORY <i>Building</i>		MAP REFERENCE <i>'56' 269700E, 6420700N AMG Sandy Hollow 9033-III-N</i> 
SUB CATEGORY <i>Church</i>		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION <i>1877</i>		
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER <i>Unknown</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 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;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">PERIOD</th> <th style="text-align: center;">BUILT</th> <th style="text-align: center;">USED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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 - 1826</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 type="checkbox"/></td><td style="text-align: center;"><input 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> </tbody> </table> HISTORICAL THEMES <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> S.H.I.P. THEMES Religion Townships </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> LOCAL THEMES <i>The Anglican Church in the Muswellbrook area</i> <i>The Emergence of Giants Creek</i> </td> </tr> </table>	PERIOD	BUILT	USED	PRE 1800	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1800 - 1826	<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 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 Religion Townships	LOCAL THEMES <i>The Anglican Church in the Muswellbrook area</i> <i>The Emergence of Giants Creek</i>
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HISTORICAL NOTES

St Johns Giants Creek was part of the Denman Parish and was built in 1877, the same year as the Church at Spring Creek and the following year a stone church was built at Widden. The small wooden church of St John, Giants Creek, built with hand hewn and pit sawn timber, that has withstood the ravages of time and termites, bears eloquent testimony to a pioneering age. The miles that stretch between Hollydeen and Wappinguy and points north and south were, at the time of the church's construction, peopled by closely grouped smallholders. Some were ethnic groups of European origin, skilled in many trades, especially those associated with fruit and winegrowing. Travellers by Cobb & Co. coaches of that era would have viewed scenes of rural charm. For more than fifty years St John's was covered with a roof of wooden shingles until necessity caused their stripping off and replacement with a utility roof of corrugated iron.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS / DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

a ARCH. STYLE <i>Victorian Carpenter Gothic</i>	MATERIALS: <i>Exterior Weatherboard, corrugated iron roof</i>
b OTHER DETAILS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE <i>Steep pitched roof, pointed arch motif, roof over entry, timber cross.</i>	
c MODIFICATIONS <i>In original condition.</i>	
d CURRENT CONDITIONS	✓ REPAIRS REQUIRED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTACT <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - UNSYMPATHETIC <input type="checkbox"/> ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED - SYMPATHETIC

INFORMATION SOURCES

WRITTEN	<i>Notes prepared for the Centenary Souvenir of the Denman Parish of the Anglican Church, J. Fitzgerald; Notes on 60th Anniversary of St Matthias, Denman, C.M. Mills; 1920 Register of Church Properties.</i>
ORAL	
GRAPHIC	<i>1920 Register of Church Properties, Church Archives; J. Fitzgerald - NUA A633A Newcastle University.</i>

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At the time of its construction Giants Creek was at the centre of a relatively populous area of small landholders. It was significant as the only place of worship in the group of buildings forming the Giants Creek township and as such has local historic significance. Its cemetery remains an integral part of this record and contributes to the historic significance of the Church. Aesthetically the building itself is representative of a style not common in the area. As such it has regional aesthetic significance. Socially it is a rare intact survivor of a period when worship was central to the activities of a small community and has local significance. Scientifically the Church and cemetery could reveal information about the lifestyle of a close-knit late 19th century Upper Hunter Valley community. For this they are a rare group and have regional scientific significance.