

Item name: St John the Baptist Church, Liston including original moveable fittings and lights.

Location: 5119 Mount Lindesay Road Liston 2372

Tenterfield

Address: 5119 Mount Lindesay Road

Planning: Northern

Suburb/nearest town: Liston 2372

Local govt area: Tenterfield

State: NSW

Parish:

County:

Other/former names:

Area/group/complex:

Group ID:

Aboriginal area:

Curtilage/boundary: The property boundary

Item type: Built

Group: Religion

Category: Church

Owner:

Admin codes:

Code 2:

Code 3:

Current use: Church

Former uses: Church and adjoining Vicarage.

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance: Local

Statement of significance: St John the Baptist at Liston Anglican Church, demonstrates historical significance as an important element of the development of the historical village settlement of Liston, NSW. The building is aesthetically significant as a landmark element in the village streetscape and retains a high degree original fabric. The church is socially significant to the local community, past and present, for its contribution to the social development of the local area and has demonstrated ongoing use for 110 years.

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Historical notes of provenance: 'A number of Aboriginal groups occupied the Tenterfield area at the time of European contact, including the Badjalong people (Bundjalung), from the headwaters of the Clarence and Richmond Rivers to Tabulam and Baryulgil; Kitabal (Githabul, a dialect group of the Bundjalung) whose territory included Urbenville, Woodenbong and Tooloom, south to Tabulum and Drake; and the Ngarabal, people who traditionally occupied the land from Bolivia to Stonehenge. The Jukambal people were known for historic seasonal movement through the shire.

European exploration to the region started in the early 1800s dominated by major pastoralists with land controlled by Governor Macquarie. By 1836 the first squatting licences were issued and the 1862 Land Acts, then enabled the free selection of unalienated land by selectors. Early homesteads often included a complex of buildings with their own butchers, bakers and blacksmiths. Closer settlement occurred during the 19th century with the Returned Soldiers Settlement Act 1916 which allowed larger estates to be cut up for smaller family farms.

A network of crown villages and reserves was laid out by Government surveyors, although some never developed beyond early mining settlements. Evidence of the gold, silver, tin, silica and arsenic mining history of the region is evident in many locations. The completion of the railway line to Tenterfield in 1886 boosted the development of Tenterfield as a regional centre and the development of smaller villages on the route such as Bolivia and Sandy Flat.

Early industries were developed for processing of agricultural products for local use and economic gain. Meatworks, flour mills, and bakeries are still evident from these early days whilst other processes such as brickworks and timber mills may now yield only archaeological evidence. The township of Tenterfield boomed between 1870s and 1930s, with the development of the School of Arts, several large hotels, banks and a majestic Post Office. A Victorian complex of police station, courthouse and gaol were added to the town. The town is well known for its association with Henry Parkes and the foundation of the Federation of Australia movement. The development of accommodation, commerce, education and health, religion, and leisure are all illustrated by a variety of original buildings and sites throughout the area. The impact of politics and economic tariffs by Queensland, triggered developments such as the tobacco industry from the 1930s

Tenterfield has strong association with defence through early recruiting and cavalry training. During World War 11, Tenterfield was a location for large military encampments and evidence still exists of some significant structures such as the Tank Traps and several drill halls.

In terms of economy, traditional processing and local manufacturing has declined in recent decades due to centralisation. The Tenterfield area has developed an increasingly important economic role with more service industry, and as a tourist destination based on its high altitude location, abundant natural heritage in the varied national parks and reserves, and its appealing collection of well conserved historic buildings from the 19th and 20th centuries.

THIS ITEM

A detailed history of this item is set out in the Historic Heritage Assessment Report by Clarence Heritage dated March 2020.

1827 Early exploration of the Liston area by European Settlers. Alan Cunningham, an explorer, travelled through the Liston area and camped near Undercliffe.

Liston was part of the Maryland Station, other nearby stations were Rivertree and Undercliffe.

1830s Diocese establishment North Coast and Tablelands.

1870s Influx of Settlers.

Discovery of Tin at Quart Pot Creek in Stanthorpe. Further discoveries and settlements at Ruby Creek, Rivertree, Willsons Downfall and Amosfield. Coaching was the main form of transport with Cobb and Co having various staging posts in the Liston area.

1873 Survey of Liston village. Proclamation of the Village of Liston by Government Gazette on 3 November 1879.

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21 July 1880 Plan re auction of land Liston Village. Sale of the 2 church blocks to Arthur Harriman 3 Sept 1907. Land Title transferred from A W Harriman of Willsons Downfall in sale to trustees of Diocese of Grafton & Armidale 8 Nov 1909
1909 Building of St John The Baptist Church (Church of England) and adjoining Vicarage.
1910 Dedication of St Johns Church Liston by the Bishop of Grafton & Armidale Diocese (RR Henry Edward Cooper) on 24 Jan 1910.
Liston was then part of the Tenterfield Parish.

Themes: **National theme**
4. Settlement

State theme
Towns, suburbs and villages

Local theme
Religion

Designer:

Builder: unknown

Year started: 1909

Year completed: 1909

Circa: No

Physical description: This delightful historic timber church and bell tower enjoy a rural setting within the small village precinct and sit among a group of historic timber and iron early buildings. The exterior and interior are highly intact. The building has a steeply pitched gabled roof with a smaller gable over the vestry porch. The building is characteristic of the carpenter Gothic style and displays the timber and iron aesthetic character of many early buildings in the region. Double gable presentation with crosses to peaks. Gothic arched top timber framed windows, weatherboard walls. The entry porch and vestry was extended in 1964, which is indicated by the change of weatherboards. The original smaller entry is shown in the historical photograph. There are vertical jointed timber arched top entry doors on the northern and southern entries.
Weatherboard walls. Previous colours are evident on the original vestry and front wall; a traditional red/brown earthy colour, a grey/green, an eau de nil green evident in 1980s and the current cream. Reinstatement of the original scheme would be ideal.
Footings comprises original timber stump footings and some steel post footings which have been installed to replaced some deteriorated timber stumps. Hardwood floor. There is an early water tank foundations, with a new water tank.
Interior. Highly intact with original fixtures and moveable items.
Vaulted timber lined ceiling and walls.
Original blue and yellow intact coloured glass Gothic style windows to southern and northern sides. Original Oil Lights x 2
Timber Pews, Altar, and Baptismal Font dedicated to memory of G E Parry, AIF WW1.
Lectern/Pulpit, organ and hymn board. Brass chalices and altar items.

Physical condition Good
level:

Physical condition:
Archaeological
potential level:

Archaeological
potential Detail:

Modification dates: Timber footings replaced in part with steel posts. Old water tank removed and replaced with new tank.

Recommended St John the Baptist Church meets the heritage assessment criteria to be included on Schedule 5 of the Tenterfield
management: Shire LEP 2013 as an item of environmental heritage of local significance including significant interior items. It should be appropriately conserved in its original setting in accordance with the conservation articles of the ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013. Regular maintenance to conserve the fabric is required.

Management: **Management category**

Management name

Further comments: Highly intact. Maintenance required to conserve fabric. Repainting should reinstate early colour scheme.

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Criteria a): The St John the Baptist Church demonstrates historical significance for the establishment of the Church of England in the rural community of Liston in 1909-10 and its ongoing use for 110 years.
[Historical significance]

Criteria b): The Church holds Historical Associative significance at a local level with local families, clergy and parishioners, past and present, who are connected to this place.
[Historical association significance]

Criteria c): The church with its bell tower, and spatial setting, demonstrates aesthetic significance as a historic carpenter gothic style timber and iron church which retains its scale, form and original detailing, including interior original details of timber linings, coloured glass multi paned windows and vertical jointed timber entry doors. It is also aesthetically significant as a landmark element in the village streetscape within a setting and context of other contributory historic buildings.
[Aesthetic/Technical significance]

Criteria d): The subject building demonstrates social significance for its association with the Church of England/ Anglican Church and for its contribution to the social development of local communities in this rural location.
[Social/Cultural significance]

Criteria e): The building is not likely to yield new or substantial information and is not considered to meet this criterion.
[Research significance]

Criteria f): The church is rare locally as the only church remaining in Liston. (The former Methodist church in Liston was removed after sale and much of its contents are in the Stanthorpe Museum. There was no Catholic Church in Liston.)
[Rarity]

Criteria g): The church is a representative example of a Carpenter Gothic timber and iron rural church.
[Representative]

Intactness/Integrity: High The building retains a high degree of original fabric including the interior and moveable items which are connected to its significance and demonstrates a high degree of integrity and intactness and retains an appropriate setting.

References:	Author	Title	Year
	Clarence Heritage	Historic Heritage Assessment St John the Baptist Church Liston	2020

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
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Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
	LOT	7	13	DP	758616

Latitude:

Longitude:

Location validity:

Spatial accuracy:

Map name:

Map scale:

AMG zone:

Easting:

Northing:

Listing: Name

Title

Number

ListingDate

Potential Heritage Item

Data entry: Data first entered: 27/09/2020

Data updated: 01/10/2020

Status: Completed

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Image:



Caption: Historic image earliest (undated) image of St John the Baptist Church Liston with adjoining Rectory

Copy right:

Image by:

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345e1b66b6de69746e6bc648a69c6e5f2c7.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/P/Thumb_test345e1b66b6de69746e6bc648a69c6e5f2c7.JPG

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Caption: Interior showing stained glass windows

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Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 21/03/2020

Image number:

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Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3450b3ba05966054e2cbc6db28b9b2004d4.JPG

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Caption: Front of church and bell tower

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Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 21/03/2020

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3458b1b65fd70e24675adadd92f0d459bfe.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3458b1b65fd70e24675adadd92f0d459bfe.jpg

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Caption: Bell Tower detail

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Image date: 21/03/2020

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34534203b2dec744d0db35f99ca42966453.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34534203b2dec744d0db35f99ca42966453.jpg

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Caption: Original light fittings

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Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345ff198a4c842846329c8534940bab004e.jpg>

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Caption: Interior

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