

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

Address: 3 Lewisham Scenic Lewisham 7173		UPI: 2900734	PID: 5919171
Name: ROSE AND CROWN TAVERN PARKERS HOTEL			
Feature Type: Hotel Shed	Structure Type	Dating:	1800 - 1829 c1823
	Site Feature Type	Access Restrictions:	Restricted
		Inspection Date:	November 96 P Davies
		Style:	Colonial Georgian
		Grid ref:	5425 549800 5258850
Indication of Significance: High probable significance		Theme: Pubs	
Material:	Brick nog Corrugated iron	Listings: National Trust SMC Schedule 3	
Condition:	Good		
Integrity:	Intact		
National Estate Criteria: A4 B2 C2 D2 E1 F1		Photograph Index: 9:7-9	
Risk:		Excavation: ☐ Development: ☐ Maintenance: ☐ Vandalism: ☐	

SITE DESCRIPTION:

A very fine and rare brick nog building indicating an early construction date. The building is set on a stone base with a small cellar under the tap room with trap door under the stairs. The walls are supported on round timber logs sitting on top of the stone walls and the brick nogging on top of this. The building is plastered internally and externally. It has a corrugated iron roof, once shingled and retains some of its original windows and doors, a number having been replaced. The internal joinery survives intact with fine colonial joinery seen on doors, surrounds and fireplaces, particularly the tap room fire surround which is made up as a series of drawers around the opening. Their use is not known but it may have been related to pipe storage or mug storage for regular patrons. The upper floor is lath and plaster construction, ceilings are timber throughout with some battening. The roof is mansard form and interestingly the upper ceilings are low not taking advantage of the shaped ceiling form.

There are three outbuildings, all recently upgraded and refitted for gallery use but retaining their external form and materials. One was a garage, another a blacksmiths and retains some fitout, the other a carriage shed. These add to the completeness of the site.

The building is prominently sited on a rise at the entrance to the town and the main road would have originally been over the brow of the hill, not cut through as now. Its location is near the road to the school and cemetery.

HISTORY:

The Rose and Crown is located on land granted to Ann Shuttleworth in 1817 and acquired by Samuel Thorne in 1823. Thorne had a store and sly grog shop there, which he leased to Alexander Simpson in 1825. Simpson was murdered on the premises in the same year with his body and head being thrown into the sea. His spirit is still said to inhabit the building. The inn closed after Simpson's death, but reopened in 1835 with Robert Thorne then having its first official licence. Later in the century it was taken over by rival publican, James Jones. Although it has not been licensed since 1865 the property remained in the Jones family until its acquisition by the current owner who has spent a number of years conserving the building.

The Rose and Crown reopened as a tearoom in 1997.

BOUNDARY:

The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property.

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COMMENTS:

One of the very fine early hotel buildings on the old main road to the peninsula displaying a rare form of construction seen in buildings such as the officers mess at Eaglehawk Neck and Sunnyside at Port Arthur. It is a form of construction abandoned during the 1840's. It is one of the earliest surviving buildings in the district.

It meets Criteria A4, B2, C2, D2, E1 and F1 for inclusion in the Register of the National Estate.
It should continue to be included in Schedule 3 of the Sorell Planning Scheme and should be nominated for inclusion in the Tasmanian Heritage Register and the Register of the National Estate.

BIBLIOGRAPHY + PREVIOUS STUDIES:

Alexander Laing Story - facsimile held by Sorell Municipal Council

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