

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery**Location:** 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Address: 506 Summer Hill Road**Planning:** Hunter & Central Coast**Suburb/nearest town:** Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421**Local govt area:** Dungog**Parish:****State:** NSW**County:****Other/former names:****Area/group/complex:****Group ID:****Aboriginal area:****Curtilage/boundary:****Item type:** Built**Group:** Religion**Category:** Church**Owner:** Multiple Owners**Admin codes:****Code 2:****Code 3:****Current use:** Church**Former uses:** Church**Assessed significance:** Local**Endorsed significance:**

Statement of significance: The place is a record of the settlement of Irish Catholics in the Paterson Valley, the development of this site for religious use beginning with the mass station on the Kealy property, the 1840s church (now demolished) and the 1912 church and the cemetery (c 1840s). The site of the 1840s church records the use of this site for a Catholic Church and was amongst the first three Catholic Churches built outside Sydney. This site has archaeological potential. Movable items from the 1840s church include the tabernacle, baptismal font and holy water vestibule and are important items of the historical record.

The place is associated with the first Irish Catholic settlers and in particular the Clarke and Kealy families who received grants of land in the 1830s. Both Kealy and Clarke are directly associated with the establishment and building of the 1840s church on this land as each donated land along their dividing fence for the Sacred Heart Church. The 1840s church is associated with Dean J.J. Lynch who was priest at Maitland and supported the development of churches in the region and as far as Queensland. Lynch supported the building of the first Summer Hill Church in 1840.

The church is a representative example of the work of the architect Thomas Silk who designed other Catholic Churches and favoured a transitional use of both Gothic and Romanesque details. The cemetery is representative of the styles of burials stone from the 1840s. The first are carved sandstone and some marble and later gravestones are marble and granite. The carving includes Norman, Celtic and and Gothics decoration. The types are obelisks, a celtic cross, and one dolman with a cast iron palisade fence.

The setting of the church and cemetery within a property and with the mountain backdrop enhances the value of this place. The place has been in continuous use for Catholic worship since the establishment of the mass station on the Kealy property and the place, the church and cemetery are valued by the local community and parishioners.

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Historical notes of provenance: In 1827 Fr Therry toured the Hunter Valley including the Paterson Valley. There were few Catholic Churches and until father Therry's arrival in the Colony there had been no official Catholic Church. St Joseph's East Maitland was built in 1830. By 1838

Until the building of the church, Summer Hill property was used as mass station for the Paterson Plains area for a period of almost 10 years. This was the property of Edward and Mary Kealy. Fr Therry baptised a number of the Kealy children in 1827. This included Catherine, Ellen and Ann Keily [sic] and these are most likely to have been on the Kealy property.

Edward was born in Kilkenny and had worked as a shepherd. He migrated to Australia in 1822 with his employer and family by free passage as recommended by Commissioner Bigge. Edward Kealy married Mary Lannan in Newcastle on August 14, 1824 who was a female servant of Edward's employer. Kealy arrived in Sydney on 8th October 1822. He continued to work for Nowlan on a property near Maitland (now known as Eelah). In January 1830 Kealy was granted 200 acres on the Paterson River and during his life he added to this original grant.

Richard Clarke was transported from Ireland to Van Diemens Land and emancipated in 1819 and placed with J.P. Webber at Tocal in 1822-23 and then as overseer for John Cory in 1826. Richard had married Catherine (unknown maiden name) in 1816 and she was pardoned before 1823. In 1832 he was granted 120 acres on the Paterson River to the north-east of Edward Kealy and added to this grant with purchases of land up until 1852.

Richard Clarke and Edward Kealy donated equal portions of land for the new Catholic church which included an area of 1 acre 1 rood 221/2 perches with a frontage to the Paterson River at an unknown date. The first record in the Land Titles Office is November 1910 with conveyance to Dr Dwyer, Fr Cullen and Edward Kealy as trustees by the owners at this time Richards Charles Healy and Bridget Clare Murray nee Healy. (Richard Clarke's inheritance had passed to the Healy name.)

The original church was 140' by 20'. It was timber framed of split slab construction clad with a shingle roof. Three lancet windows were located to each side of the nave with diamond pattern and lead bars. The cost of building was 150 pounds or 42.16.0 pounds and built by John Dobson as recorded by P. Kealy. Cedar was used in the joinery including the altar with cedar sawn log stools for pews. There was a well and towards the river were two sheds for toilets.

A post and rail fence was erected by W. Butler and A Fairhall. The fence to the south of the church was removed in the 1950s and to the cemetery in the late 1970s or 80s. Access from the Clarke's "Bird Hill" property was closed in 1968 and from 1974 access has been from the private road dedicated as a right of way by the Kealy family.

The 1840s church was extant on the laying of the foundation stone for the new church as noted in caption of photograph, 28th September 1913 (source: Bernadette Richardson) and the date of demolition is unknown. The location is still identifiable in the ground. The pews went to Gresford and the split slabs from the walls were stored though these were destroyed later in a fire. Some movable items including the tabernacle and baptismal font are extant in the later church.

In October 1912 the plans for a new church were drawn by Maitland architect Thomas Silk. Arthur Howarth was given the building contract for 585 pounds. McNerney of Maitland supplied the bricks. The foundation stone reads in translation:

"The Right Rev. Patrick Vincent Dwyer, Bishop of Maitland
Laid this stone on November 24 1912."

Mrs Ann Kealy donated the cedar altar made by A.S. Meehan and Co. of Maitland and was described in the Maitland Daily Mercury 5.9.1913. Mrs F.A Drinan of Glendonbrook donated brass candlesticks and Mr Drinan the Stations of the Cross. A crucifix was donated in the memory of Fr Hugh O'Neill and a statue of the Virgin

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Mary was dedicated to the soul of M. McKeown. The altar rails were removed and an altar table installed following Vatican II. The table top of the cupboard used in the Kealy house for mass is now used as an altar. The bell that has recently been installed on a post to the south-west of the church was originally used to summon convict workers at the end of a day's labour on the Kealy and Clarke properties.

Cemetery

Located to the south of the church with 96 burial sites marked by headstones and 23 unmarked graves. The two main families represented are the Kealy and Gippel families. The oldest grave is dated the 5th March 1846, Mary Bryan from Nenagh, Tipperary. The nationalities of those buried here are Irish, English, Scottish and German.

The Church and cemetery were the beginnings of a settlement at Summer Hill developed with a school operating from 1871-1975, originally called Summer Hill Provisional School and a Post Office known as Fishers Hill from 1909-1959.

Themes: National theme

State theme

Local theme

Designer: Thomas Silk

Builder: Arthur Howarth

Year started: 1912

Year completed: 1913

Circa: No

Physical description: Chapel constructed in brick sourced from Maitland and timber framed roof clad with galvanised iron. The building is Gothic in proportions and detail with Romanesque details including circular arch windows and portal. The interior is painted brick and a timber board ceiling. The timber floor has been carpeted. It is a simple plan form with nave and vestry. The building is designed with a ventilation system in the walls and ceiling with hinged metal covers to wall vents and lined openings in the ceiling for roof ventilation and mechanical fans. Movable items include the Stations of the Cross, brass candlesticks (number 6), altar and altar table, baptismal font, tabernacle, cedar chair, Sacred Heart statue and painting, statue of the Virgin Mary, pews, vase stands vestibule for holy water. Other objects are displayed in a cabinet and include an early missal, vestments and chalice. Simple plan form with nave, raised sanctuary and vestry.

The churchyard includes a cemetery with 96 burial sites marked by headstones and 23 unmarked graves. A toilet is located to the, a bell attached to a timber post to the and a garden area surrounds the church. The grounds are surrounded by recent rural fences with star pickets and timber posts and wire.

Physical condition level:

Physical condition: The Church is in good condition and well maintained. The cemetery is being maintained and requires some expert conservation work.

Archaeological potential level:

Archaeological potential Detail:

Modification dates:

Recommended management:

Management: Management category

Management name

Further comments:

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Criteria a): The site of the 1840s church records the early use of this site for a Catholic Church. This site is amongst the first three Catholic Churches to have been built outside Sydney.
[Historical significance]

The cemetery is a record of the use of this site for Catholic burial since the 1846.

The place is a record of the settlement of Irish Catholics in the Paterson Valley, the development of this site for religious use beginning with the mass station on the Kealy property, the 1840s church and the 1912 church and cemetery.

The tabernacle, baptismal font and holy water vestibule and other items dating from the 1840s Church are important items of the historical record.

The 1840s church was extant on the laying of the foundation stone for the new church as noted in caption of photograph, 28th September 1913 (source: Bernadette Richardson) and the date of demolition is unknown. The location is still identifiable in the ground. The pews went to Gresford and the split slabs from the walls were stored though these were destroyed later in a fire. Some movable items including the tabernacle and baptismal font are extant in the later church.

In October 1912 the plans for a new church were drawn by Maitland architect Thomas Silk. Arthur Howarth was given the building contract for 585 pounds. McNerney of Maitland supplied the bricks. The foundation stone reads in translation:

"The Right Rev. Patrick Vincent Dwyer, Bishop of Maitland
Laid this stone on November 24 1912."

Mrs Ann Kealy donated the cedar altar made by A.S. Meehan and Co. of Maitland and was described in the Maitland Daily Mercury 5.9.1913. Mrs F.A Drinan of Glendonbrook donated brass candlesticks and Mr Drinan the Stations of the Cross. A crucifix was donated in the memory of Fr Hugh O'Neill and a statue of the Virgin Mary was dedicated to the soul of M. McKeown. The altar rails were removed and an altar table installed following Vatican II. The table top of the cupboard used in the Kealy house for mass is now used as an altar. The bell that has recently been installed on a post to the south-west of the church was originally used to summon convict workers at the end of a day's labour on the Kealy and Clarke properties.

Cemetery

Located to the south of the church with 96 burial sites marked by headstones and 23 unmarked graves. The two main families represented are the Kealy and Gippel families. The oldest grave is dated the 5th March 1846, Mary Bryan from Nenagh, Tipperary. The nationalities of those buried here are Irish, English, Scottish and German.

The Church and cemetery were the beginnings of a settlement at Summer Hill developed with a school operating from 1871-1975, originally called Summer Hill Provisional School and a Post Office known as Fishers Hill from 1909-1959.

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Criteria b): The place is associated with the first Irish Catholic settlers and in particular the Clarke and Kealy families who received grants of land in the 1830s. Both Kealy and Clarke are directly associated with the establishment and building of a church on this land as each donated land along their dividing fence for the Sacred Heart Church.

[Historical association significance]

The 1840s church is associated with Dean J.J. Lynch who was priest at Maitland and supported the development of churches in the region and as far as Queensland. Lynch supported the building of the first Summer Hill Church in 1840.

Criteria c): The church is a representative example of the work of Thomas Silk who designed other Catholic Churches and favoured a transitional use of both Gothic and Romanesque details.

[Aesthetic/Technical significance]

The cemetery is representative of the styles of burials stone from the 1830s. The first are carved sandstone and some marble. Later gravestones are marble and granite. The carving includes Norman, Celtic and Gothic decoration. The types are obelisks, a Celtic cross, and one dolmen the latter which is for the Kealy family. There are palisade fences from cast iron.

The setting of the church and cemetery within a property and with the mountain backdrop enhances the value of this place.

Criteria d): The place has been in continuous use for Catholic worship since the establishment of the mass station on the Kealy property and the place and church and cemetery are valued by the local community and the parishioners.

[Social/Cultural significance]

Criteria e): The site of the first church may have archaeological potential

[Research significance]

Criteria f):

[Rarity]

Criteria g): The church is a representative example of the work of Thomas Silk who designed other Catholic Churches and favoured a transitional use of both Gothic and Romanesque details.

[Representative]

Intactness/Integrity: The 1913 church is intact. The cemetery is substantially intact with a number of unmarked graves

References:	Author	Title	Year
	Kay Ingle	Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery Summer Hill Paterson Vall	2001
	J.A. and D.R. Jones	Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Cemetery Summerhill	

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
	Perumal, Wrathall & Mur	Dungog Heritage Study		1986
	Carste Studio	Dungog Heritage Study Review		2013

Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
----------	-------------	------------	----------------	-----------	-------------

Latitude:

Longitude:

Location validity:

Spatial accuracy:

Map name:

Map scale:

AMG zone:

Easting:

Northing:

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery**Location:** 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Listing: Name**Title**
Heritage study**Number****ListingDate****Data entry:** Data first entered: 18/02/2013

Data updated: 18/11/2013

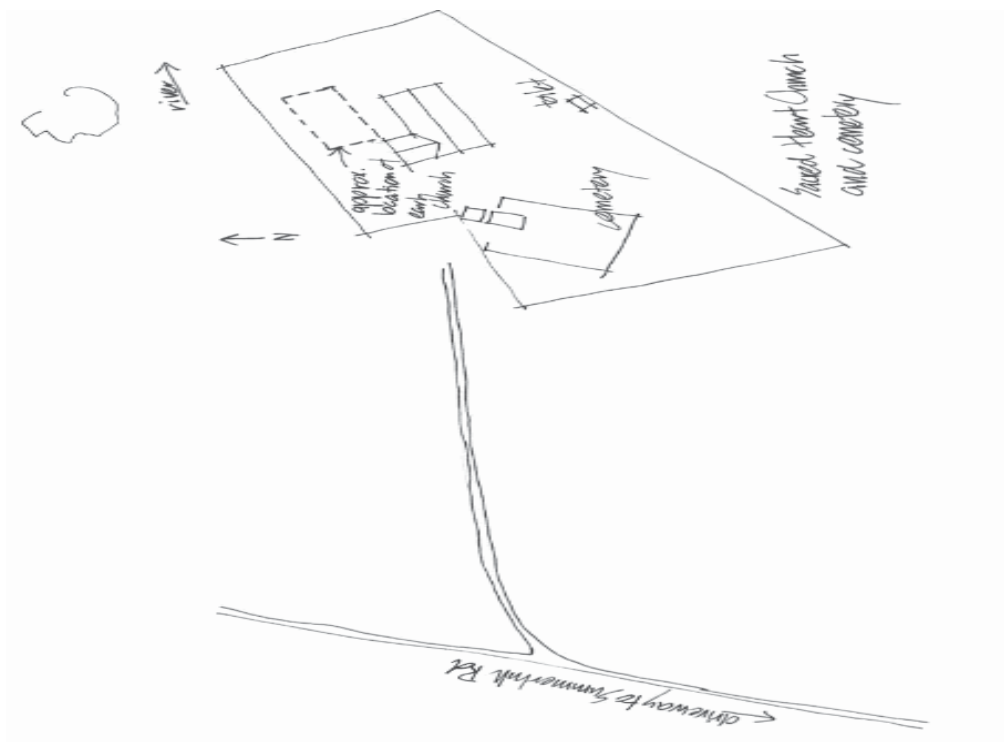
Status: Partial

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345957dd022946f43af941291c00be27c3f.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345957dd022946f43af941291c00be27c3f.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3459554921f66914970b4e7970b1a4c8dd7.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3459554921f66914970b4e7970b1a4c8dd7.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345b2e25e3e997f4b5fad97d24575d4f39b.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345b2e25e3e997f4b5fad97d24575d4f39b.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34599a3f02f2b1b4f09acbc85166102554e.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34599a3f02f2b1b4f09acbc85166102554e.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345dcaa2cb2b8354102a68101640617f841.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345dcaa2cb2b8354102a68101640617f841.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345d797684959c24c8f9bc065e55a7b5dad.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345d797684959c24c8f9bc065e55a7b5dad.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345fd77dd2ba3fa4bb59438c6d8ca27af70.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345fd77dd2ba3fa4bb59438c6d8ca27af70.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:

ough
r the
chard

ough
Of

r-old
e was
well

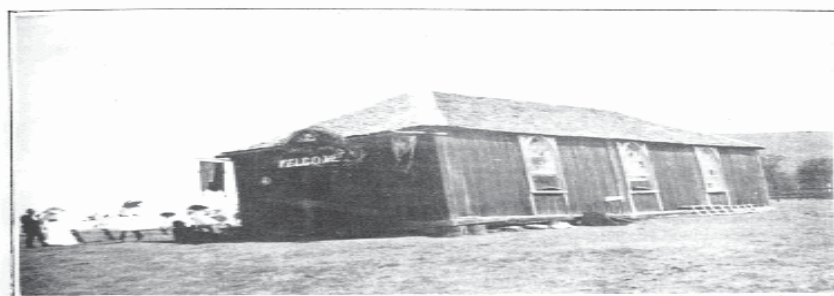
actions
acres

aterial
g of

olved

ecause

ne and
h
sford
es
ife of



*First Catholic Church at Summer Hill
built in 1849*

*Photograph taken November 24 1912 at the laying
of the foundation stone for the new church which was
opened September 28 1913.*

(In the possession of Bernadette Richardson)

13

Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345358907d1b1d9408bb7baa725e74113af.jpg>

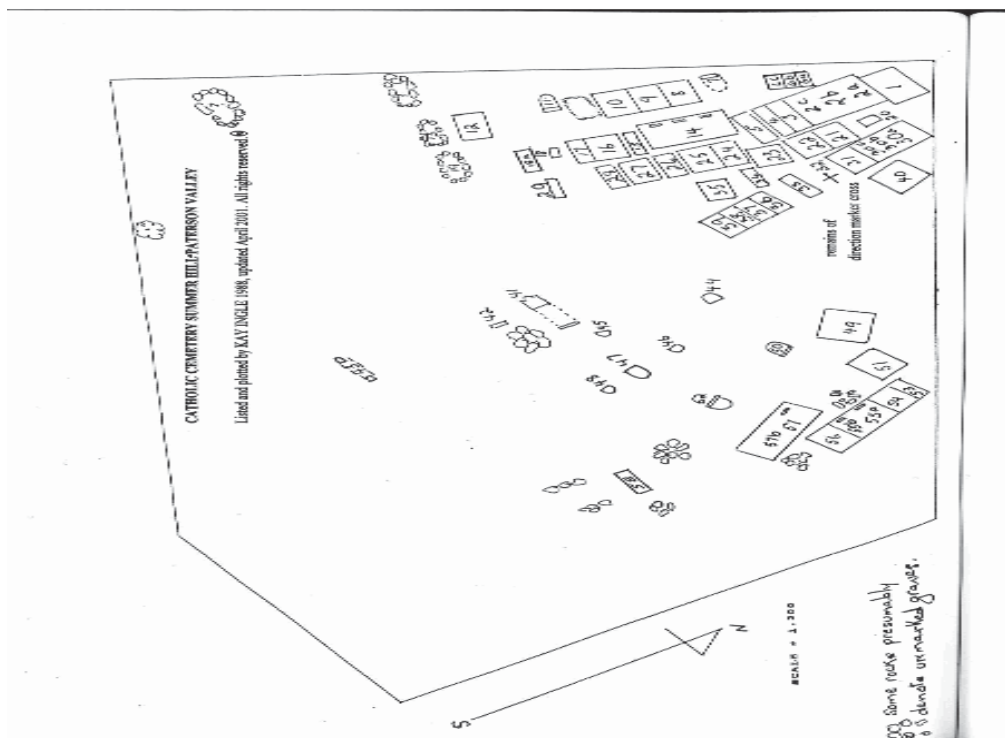
Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345358907d1b1d9408bb7baa725e74113af.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345bde1ac952ff647daba5f8bbc58111da3.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345bde1ac952ff647daba5f8bbc58111da3.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34576378cbb9b17431092b8ced9d49cda50.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34576378cbb9b17431092b8ced9d49cda50.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345e0857f73016b4cd0a65f238e174eff4c.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345e0857f73016b4cd0a65f238e174eff4c.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/3452766ac524b634282961e7ba5779c7909.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test3452766ac524b634282961e7ba5779c7909.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/3456abb427b5ef44ed782e87d40c6147c70.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test3456abb427b5ef44ed782e87d40c6147c70.jpg

Item name: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Location: 506 Summer Hill Road Summer Hill Paterson Valley 2421

Dungog

Image:



Caption: Sacred Heart Church and Cemetery

Copy right:

Image by: Carste

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3452b093f6a286440cab810289174830fff.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3452b093f6a286440cab810289174830fff.jpg