

Proposal to Name BLACKWELL ALLEY, off Station Street, Bangalow

This narrow alley, only six meters wide, behind 19-39 Byron Street has no opportunity for turning a vehicle around, yet in a very short distance it serves as the Only access for five units/flats and a Laundromat, and the service delivery entrance for shops in Byron Street.

ALLEY is my choice to make it very clear to map and GPS readers that the access is very restricted and will be very difficult for larger vehicles.

Blackwell history in Bangalow.

Charles E Blackwell and family came from Balmain, buying McLelland's General store business in mid 1909. The fire of August 1911 destroyed five business including Chas E Blackwell and Son- the store was quickly rebuilt- today it is Wax Jambu and Elder's Real Estate. In 1912, the son Thomas Blackwell married Thomasina Robinson ( a daughter of Bangalow's earliest settlers Thomas and Charlotte Robinson ). 1922, Charles' wife died, Blackwells expanded their Federal Store, Thomas Blackwell became Masonic Grand Master as the Foundation Stone for Bangalow Masonic Temple was laid on the corner of this Alley and Station Street, and Thomas Robinson passed on. It seems the Great Depression really hurt the Blackwells, they moved to Esmonde Street, Lismore in 1934, after a civic farewell was given to the family in the A& I Hall. Charles died in 1944, aged 97, is buried in Bangalow next to his wife.

Storekeepers?... It is said that Broadhead opened the first store, READINGS of course is the long-lasting name, with a Lismore Road headquarters.. Loudon, McLelland, there was Power, Hando, Hollenberg, Hope and Lovett, many others. I choose Blackwell to recognize the position of the store at the head of the Alley, the name on the stone at the Masonic Temple, and the high regard for Blackwell and Robinson families. I have asked around and there is general acceptance of the name Blackwell. ( I also realise that there is another school- there was an access by Right-of way from Station Street to the Hotel and to Byron Street- I am reasonably sure that was extinguished after Council sold part of the Alley, behind " Blackwell's" somewhere around 1980. There is also a narrow walkway from Byron Street which serves no real purpose and should no longer allow public access. If the naming of Station Street arises, the first Railway Station was said to be on the North side of the track, opposite the A& I Hall- it would seem the station was moved west by 1905 or thereabouts- not the subject of this submission. I also think that Abdullah Skype, hawker of Lismore, was the building owner at that time, but Blackwell was the name over the building , in Large Letters.

I ask that the previously unnamed alley be Named BLACKWELL ALLEY in recognition of the Blackwell family and their store.

I acknowledge the research efforts of many locals in helping to form this submission, I will try to answer your questions. Col Draper 0408440243/66245560, PO Box 1 Bangalow 2479 18 June 2015