

# HUNTER WATER

## SECTION s170 REGISTER



ITEM NAME:

## Cessnock 1 Wastewater Pumping Station

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### ITEM DETAILS



Item Name	Cessnock 1 Wastewater Pumping Station
Other / Former Names	Cessnock No 1 WWPS
NSW SHI No.	3630076
GID	211316
Plant No.	SS-CES-001-PS1
Local Government Area	Cessnock
Lot and DP	Lot 14 Section B DP 8991
Address	21–23 Melton Avenue, Cessnock NSW 2325
Curtilage	The curtilage of this asset is defined by the footprint of the building and its associated external pumping features.



View of the Pumping Station



Asset location and curtilage (red boundary) (refer to [Figure 1](#) for additional detail)

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW



Current Use	Wastewater pumping station
Former Use	N/A
Designer / Builder	Public Works Department
Historical Notes	<p>The need for a sewerage scheme for the Cessnock region was first emphasised in 1919, causing the Public Works Department to draw up three possible schemes. These plans were all deemed too costly however, and the proposal was deferred.</p> <p>From July 1921 the question of the provision of sewerage for the Cessnock District once again formed the subject of correspondence between the Minister for Public Works and the Board. In 1926 the Engineering Experts' Committee revised the original schemes, and in September 1928, following approval by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, work began on one of these revised schemes.</p> <p>The area included in the scheme covered the greater part of the towns of Cessnock and Aberdare, with the provision for an extension to Bellbird at a later date. 1931 saw the passage of the Cessnock Sewerage Act, and the Public Works Department completed the Cessnock Sewerage scheme in 1932. The major portion of works covered by the scheme was transferred to the Board on 13<sup>th</sup> June 1933. Under the scheme, a main sewer would run along Black Creek and discharge into collecting wells, from here the sewage would be pumped to the treatment works, which were to be located further down Black Creek.</p> <p>Most of sewage from Cessnock would gravitate to Cessnock No. 1 Wastewater Pumping Station. A small portion of Aberdare would be served by Cessnock No. 2 Wastewater Pumping Station, which would lift the sewage before it could gravitate to the No. 1 Pumping Station (the main pumping station). Cessnock No. 1 Wastewater Pumping Station came into operation in the year 1932-33.</p> <p>In February 2005, an upgrade to the Cessnock Wastewater Treatment Works was commenced, which included improvements to Cessnock No. 1 Wastewater Pumping Station.</p>

## HERITAGE STATUS



Listing Details	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S170 Heritage and Conservation Register <input type="checkbox"/> Local heritage listing <input type="checkbox"/> State heritage listing
Conservation Management Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Heritage Asset Action Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Aboriginal Sites Registered within the Site	AHIMS search undertaken on 25 October 2022. No sites were registered in or within 50 metres of the relevant Lot and DP.
Historical Archaeological Potential	Not assessed.

## HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE



<b>Level of Significance</b>	Local
<b>Statement of Significance</b>	Cessnock 1 Wastewater Pumping Station is an unusually well-built example of local sewerage infrastructure, with rendered concrete detailing to the brickwork. While modified, the structure remains in service and retains integrity. Modifications to the building have, however, somewhat obscured its original design intent.
<b>NSW SHR Criteria</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> a) Historical <input type="checkbox"/> b) Associative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c) Aesthetic / Technical <input type="checkbox"/> d) Social <input type="checkbox"/> e) Research Potential (yield new information) <input type="checkbox"/> f) Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> g) Representative
<b>Significant Elements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall form, shape, and scale of the Pumping Station.</li> <li>• Front entrance doors, including classical cornice detailing.</li> <li>• Stylised support columns for overhead crane.</li> </ul>

## DESCRIPTION



<b>Setting</b>	Located within a residential setting and backing onto the confluence of a number of deeply incised concrete-lined stormwater channels. The allotment is screened by chain wire fences.
<b>External Appearance</b>	<p>Rectangular brick building on concrete slab foundations constructed in 1933. Features cream painted brickwork laid in stretcher bond. The rear of the building has been extended, with the new brickwork only partially keyed into the original. The fascia has been painted grey and the fibrous cement soffit left bare. The roof is hipped and has recently been replaced with dark grey Colourbond sheets.</p> <p>The building is otherwise unadorned apart from a small portion of classical cornice (reminiscent of the inter-war beaux arts and free classical architectural styles) present above the street-facing doors. These doors are green-painted double framed and ledged timber sliding barn doors. The front doors are largely unused, and access to the building occurs predominantly through single flush steel doors present on either long side. Both steel doors are later intrusions to the brickwork. A steel pergola has also been added to the rear of the building as a cover for machine plant.</p> <p>There is one window currently present. The existing window has replaced the original, which was likely a timber sash construction. The current window has steel louvres, which are covered internally by a layer of wire mesh for security.</p> <p>The internal casing and trim are cream-painted steel. The spaces for two additional windows are present but have been infilled with bricks partially keyed into the original brickwork.</p> <p>Subsurface plant and associated surface infrastructure are present on the western aspect of the building.</p>

<b>Internal Appearance</b>	<p>The building comprises a single room. The floor is an exposed concrete slab. The internal brickwork face has been left exposed, demonstrating the rear extension and infilled windows. The centre of the space is dominated by a dry well and associated machinery lines the walls. A steel overhead crane beam runs the length of the building and has clearly replaced an earlier structure. In the original portion of the building, the crane is supported by plastered columns with stepped capitals, chamfered shafts, and inset detailing.</p> <p>The ceiling consists of white painted panels. These have been perforated in a number of places for electrical cables.</p>
<b>Overall Condition</b>	Excellent.
<b>Moveable Heritage Objects</b>	None identified.

## MANAGEMENT



<b>Approval and Assessment Requirements</b>	<p><u>Minor or inconsequential impacts:</u> Anything other than routine repair and maintenance must be discussed with the Environment Team to determine the level of heritage assessment required.</p> <p><u>More than minor or inconsequential impacts:</u> As above. Additionally, consultation with the relevant local council is required.</p> <p>Demolition or removal from the register requires consultation with Heritage NSW and archival recording.</p>
<b>General / Ongoing Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes within the defined curtilage should be preceded by the appropriate level of heritage assessment and approval. Advice and/or confirmation should be sought from the Environment Team prior to undertaking any works.</li> <li>• Maintain overall form, shape and scale of the building.</li> <li>• The introduction of new buildings or structures within the curtilage should be undertaken with care. Noting the quantity of plant that is currently present adjacent to the western façade, replacement or addition of infrastructure in this area should be consistent with the current form and scale. The ability to view the building 'in the round' is to be retained and not obscured.</li> <li>• Changes to fabric may be supportable if no feasible alternative is available to ensure ongoing operation and/or safety.</li> <li>• Replacement/removal of redundant or failing elements or equipment is acceptable to facilitate ongoing operation of the Station.</li> <li>• Removal of non-significant elements (such as unsympathetic window fittings, lighting, rainwater goods, services, external signage, etc.) is supportable, provided that any replacement is appropriate to the building.</li> </ul>
<b>Priority Conservation Works</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repaint timber front doors.</li> </ul>





Image 1: Surface infrastructure adjacent to wastewater pump station



Image 2: Eastern façade



Image 3: Original timber barn doors



Image 4: Classical cornice detail



Image 5: Dry well



Image 6: Brick infill in window space





Image 7: Entrance to dry well



Image 8: Plastered columns

## REFERENCES



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**FIGURE 1**

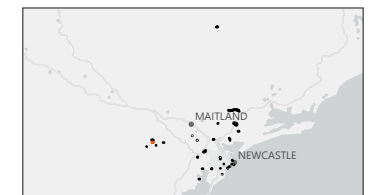
## S170 Review - Heritage Curtilages

### Legend

- Road
- + Railway
- Lot Boundary
- ▭ Heritage Curtilages



## Cessnock 1 Wastewater Pumping Station



0 100  
Metres

Scale 1:2,500 at A4  
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56

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