

# HUNTER WATER

## SECTION s170 REGISTER



ITEM NAME:

## Adamstown Heights 3 Reservoir and Adamstown Heights 4 High Level Tank

Contents:



Item details



Historical Overview



Heritage Status



Heritage Significance



Description



Management



Key Images



References

### ITEM DETAILS



Item Name	Adamstown Heights 3 Reservoir and Adamstown Heights 4 High Level Tank
Other / Former Names	Charlestown 1 Reservoir and Charlestown 2 High Level Tank
NSW SHI No.	3630009
GID	520498 and 521176
Plant No.	WR-ADH-003-RES and WR-ADH-004-HLT
Local Government Area	Lake Macquarie
Lot and DP	Lot 2 DP 226247
Address	123 Madison Drive, Adamstown Heights NSW 2289
Curtilage	The curtilage of this asset is defined by its legal allotment boundaries (defined by the relevant Lot and DP).



View of the Reservoir showing painted mural with HLT to the right



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

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW



Current Use	Water reservoir
Former Use	N/A
Designer / Builder	Hunter Water District Board
Historical Notes	<p>The Adamstown Heights 3 Reservoir was completed in 1954.</p> <p>In 1970, a high-level tank (HLT) was added to the site. This tank is an exact replica of a water tower located in Tonwell, England. The original Tonwell tower has since been awarded Grade II heritage status and converted into a domestic residence.</p>



**Figure 2: Construction of the Reservoir**  
Source: Hunter Water Corporation

## 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 14 November 2022. No sites were registered in or within 50 metres of the relevant Lot and DP.
Historical Archaeological Potential	Not assessed.

## HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE



Level of Significance	Local
Statement of Significance	<p>The Adamstown Heights 3 Reservoir and Adamstown Heights 4 High Level Tank includes a representative example of a mass, <i>in situ</i> concrete reservoir and an unusual and distinctive HLT.</p> <p>The 1970 replica Tonwell HLT is a good example of public infrastructure designed in the Brutalist architecture style and has some associative significance as a replication. It is uncommon in terms of design both within the region and within Hunter Water's asset portfolio.</p>
NSW SHR Criteria	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) Historical</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> b) Associative</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c) Aesthetic / Technical</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> d) Social</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> e) Research Potential (yield new information)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> f) Rare</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> g) Representative</p>
Significant Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall form, shape, and scale of both the reservoir and HLT.</li> </ul>

## DESCRIPTION



Setting	Located within the Centenary Lookout, an elevated setting within an area partially surrounded by bushland and with picnic tables available for public use.
External Appearance	<p>The 1950s reservoir consists of a mass <i>in situ</i> concrete tank completed in 1954. The reservoir has been rendered and a mural applied.</p> <p>The adjacent Tonwell replica HLT consists of eight concrete pillars that form a 'cage' around a central tapered conical tank. The lower portions of the concrete pillars have had murals applied.</p>
Internal Appearance	<p>The 1950s reservoir was not accessed internally.</p> <p>The Tonwell replica HLT comprises several floors, each consisting of a landing formed from metal grate material. The upper floors were not accessed. The ground level contains electrical infrastructure.</p>
Overall Condition	Good.
Moveable Heritage Objects	None identified.



## Approval and Assessment Requirements

**Minor or inconsequential impacts:** Anything other than routine repair and maintenance must be discussed with the Environment Team to determine the level of heritage assessment required.

**More than minor or inconsequential impacts:** As above. Additionally, consultation with the relevant local council is required.

Demolition or removal from the register requires consultation with Heritage NSW and archival recording.

## General / Ongoing Management

- 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.
- Maintain overall form, shape and scale of both the reservoir and HLT.
- The introduction of new buildings or structures within the curtilage is discouraged. If introduced, the ability to view both the reservoir and the HLT 'in the round' is to be retained and not obscured.
- Changes to fabric may be supportable if no feasible alternative is available to ensure ongoing operation and/or safety.
- Replacement/removal of redundant or failing elements or equipment is acceptable to facilitate ongoing operation of the Station.
- Removal of non-significant elements (such as contemporary services) is supportable. Any replacements must be appropriate/sympathetic.

## Priority Conservation Works

- Assess and repair damage to external concrete render, including spalling and cracking.

# KEY IMAGES



Image 1: 1950s reservoir



Image 2: Dedication plaque on public park facilities adjacent to reservoir and HLT





Image 3: Tonwell replica HLT



Image 4: Underside of Tonwell replica HLT



Image 5: Control room at base of HLT

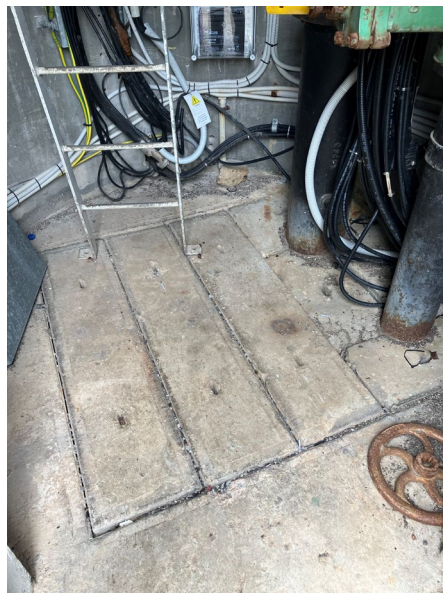


Image 6: Access to underground services below HLT



Image 7: Infrastructure within control room of HLT



Image 8: Interior of HLT



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**FIGURE 1**

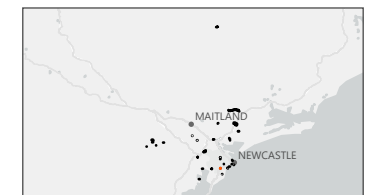
## S170 Review - Heritage Curtilages

### Legend

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



### Adamstown Heights 3 Reservoir and Adamstown Heights 4 High Level Tank



0 100  
Metres

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

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