HUNTER WATER SECTION s170 REGISTER



ITEM NAME:

Campvale 8 (Tomago) Vacuum Pumping Station

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ITEM DET	TAILS		
Item Name		Campvale 8 (Tomago) Vacuum Pumping Station	
Other / Former Names		Tomago #8 Vacuum Pumping Station	
		Tomago No. 8 Vacuum Pumping Station	
NSW SHI No.		3630139	
GID.		504566	
Plant No.		HS-CAV-008-VS1	
Lot and DP		N/A	
Co-Ordinates		Latitude -32.777658, Longitude 151.820344	
Curtilage		The curtilage of this asset is defined by its physical configuration and does not correspond to legal allotment boundaries.	



External view of the Station

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



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Current Use	Water extraction
Former Use	N/A
Designer / Builder	Hunter District Water Board
Historical Notes	Construction on the Tomago Sandbeds Scheme began in 1936-37, with work carried out under the Relief Works Scheme. During the 1938-39 financial year, drought conditions saw construction on this first unit (Pumping Stations No's. 1 and 2) of the Sandbeds Scheme sufficiently advanced to permit the delivery of water from the Tomago Pumping Station to Waratah Reservoir on the 3 rd January 1939, an event in itself, being the first time that water from the Sandbeds had entered the system.
	Officially completed by the close of the 1938-39 financial year, Vacuum Pumping Stations No's. 1 and 2 comprised two electrically driven pumping plants which, after drawing water from the Sandbeds, delivered it into a common spray basin (Spray Basin No. 1), before it was delivered by secondary pumps in the No. 1 Pump House or the Main Pumping Station (officially completed in 1939) through five miles of 20-inch pipeline to Sandgate.
	The effect of the drought on the Stockton-Raymond Terrace Sandbeds Scheme extended beyond this first pumping station. With the fall of the water level in Chichester Dam, the Board gradually approved the extension of the Sandbeds scheme to a total of fifteen pumping stations in the wake of fears of serious water shortages. Tomago Pumping Station No's. 3 and 4, authorised in June 1939, were completed in December 1940, with pumping commencing in March 1941.
	Whilst delays in the construction of the remainder of the extended scheme were experienced due to the war situation, all units of the major extension and a second trunk delivery main were available for use by the close of the 1941-42 financial year. On 4 th November 1944 the Tomago Sandbeds Scheme was officially opened by the then Premier William McKell.
	Almost from the time of the official opening of what would be only the first phase of the Tomago Sandbeds Scheme, investigations continued into the future development of the sandbeds as a major source of water supply. On the 19 th May 1944 Board was furnished with a report, which suggested the acquisition of the remaining viable property in the area, including the area between Pumping Station No. 2 and the Pacific Highway. The necessary action was subsequently carried out to resume the land and attain covenants over land bordering on the acquired land in order to protect the Board's interests. These works were largely completed by the 1950s.
	Observations in connection with the utilisation of Grahamstown Channel as an auxiliary to the Tomago Water Supply Works were also carried out at this time. To increase the quantity of water available to Board the Tomago Sandbeds Scheme was again strengthened in 1951, with five new primary pumping stations constructed, bringing the total to twenty. This likely included the Campvale 8 Vacuum Pumping Station.

(3)

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Level of Significance	Local	
Statement of Significance	Campvale 8 Vacuum Pumping Station is a representative, typical example of the vacuum pumping stations used throughout the Tomago Sandbeds Scheme, drawing the water from the bore pumps into the other part of the Scheme for treatment and reticulation. It is representative of the innovation of the Scheme and of its historical development as new approaches were explored.	
	It is significant within the context of the Scheme as the oldest remaining intact vacuum station and was one of the earlier vacuum pumping stations to be erected at the Scheme. Despite some issues with condition, the building retains a high degree of integrity and displays well the utilitarian design of comparable buildings from that period (1930s/1940s).	
	ugh the No. 2 Vacuum Pumping Station remains extant, it has been completely refurbished contains little original fabric. Other vacuum pumping stations are understood to remain ant, noting that Campvale 8, as a result of its age and integrity, has been identified as the st significant example of this building type remaining.	
Significant Elements	• Overall form and scale of the building.	
	General appearance and materiality of the building including:	
	• Dutch roof form.	
	 Multi-panel high set windows with original timber joinery. 	
	 Internal and external wall sheeting (appearance, not materiality) and timber batten detailing. 	
	 Gantry and timber supports. 	

DESCRIPTION	
Setting	The building is located within the Tomago Sandbeds Scheme. The Tomago Sandbeds Scheme covers 130 square kilometres of largely uncleared land adjacent to the Grahamstown Dam.
	The building is located along a cleared vehicle track within this context.
External Appearance	Campvale 8 Vacuum Pumping Station is a single storey rectangular building with a Dutch form roof clad in corrugated metal sheeting. The external walls are clad in a mixture of flat asbestos sheeting (from the window lines to the roof) and corrugated metal sheeting (from the windows to ground level).
	The building is accessible via a roller door and metal sheet door. Windows are high set and have original timber frames and frosted glazing panels. Each window comprises three separate panes, the outer two being fixed and the centre being an awning window. Soffits are also asbestos clad with timber batten detailing to the façade and the soffits.
	There are various concrete pits containing equipment located outside of the building footprint.
Internal Appearance	Internally, the building features a concrete dry well containing the vacuum pumping equipment. Associated equipment is present throughout the building.
	The floor is concrete and walls and ceiling are lined with asbestos sheeting with timber batten detailing to sheet joins. There is a gantry supported on large timbers fixed to the wall in a T-join. The light fittings are complementary to the style of the building.
Overall Condition	Fair
Moveable Heritage Objects	Tool board.



Priority Conservation Works

• Maintain overall form, shape and scale of the building and its significant fabric.

- Assess and replace asbestos sheeting to enable the ongoing use of the Station. Any replaced sheeting should be replaced in a like-for-like manner and timber batten detailing re-instated over.
- Changes to fabric may be supportable if no feasible alternative is available to ensure ongoing
 operation and/or safety. This includes removing asbestos sheeting and replacement with
 suitable wall coverings of a like-for-like profile. Timber batten detailing should be
 re- instated.
- Assess building for other structural issues such as damp, termites, etc and treat/repair as required.

KEY IMAGES



Image 1: External view showing windows, pedestrian door, wall sheeting and roof form

Image 2: External view showing windows, roof form, wall sheeting and associated concrete pits



Image 3: Detail external view showing window joinery and glazing, external wall sheet profiles, and eaves

Image 4: View of elevation with roller door







Image 5: Internal view showing wall and ceiling treatments

Image 6: Tool board stored within building



Image 7: Original valve handwheels with dry well beyond

Image 8: View into the dry well



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