

HUNTER WATER

SECTION s170 REGISTER



ITEM NAME:

North Lambton 1 Reservoir

Contents:



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ITEM DETAILS



Item Name	North Lambton 1 Reservoir
Other / Former Names	North Lambton Reservoir
NSW SHI No.	3630025
GID	400465
Plant No.	WR-NOL-001-RES
Local Government Area	Newcastle
Lot and DP	Lot 2 DP 565785
Address	40 Compton Street, North Lambton, NSW 2299
Curtilage	The curtilage of this asset is defined by its physical extent, not its legal allotment boundaries (as defined by the relevant Lot and DP).



External view of the Reservoir



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

Current Use	Water storage
Former Use	N/A
Designer / Builder	Public Works Department/Hunter District Water Board
Historical Notes	<p>North Lambton 1 Reservoir was constructed under the Government Relief Works Scheme in the late 1930s. An open concrete reservoir with a capacity of 23,000,000 gallons, it was completed and brought into service on 23rd December 1939.</p> <p>In 1946-47 the construction of a 36-inch cement-lined mild steel pipeline between Waratah and North Lambton Reservoirs commenced, being completed in 1948-49. In this same year, a 48-inch cement-lined mild steel continuously welded pipeline between North Lambton Reservoir and Shortland was commenced, in order to further amplify supply.</p> <p>Elevated tanks were installed at North Lambton in 1953 to further improve local supply.</p> <p>In 1962-63 a temporary boosting station at North Lambton was installed in order to improve supply to Lambton Pumping Station. In the mid-1960s it was reported that an alternative and supplementary treatment process was in operation for supplies from the Tomago Sandbeds, which saw the deliverance of chlorinated supplies to North Lambton Reservoir, where dosing with aluminium and lime took place.</p> <p>North Lambton 1 Reservoir was roofed in 1999 in order to further protect the treated water supply.</p>

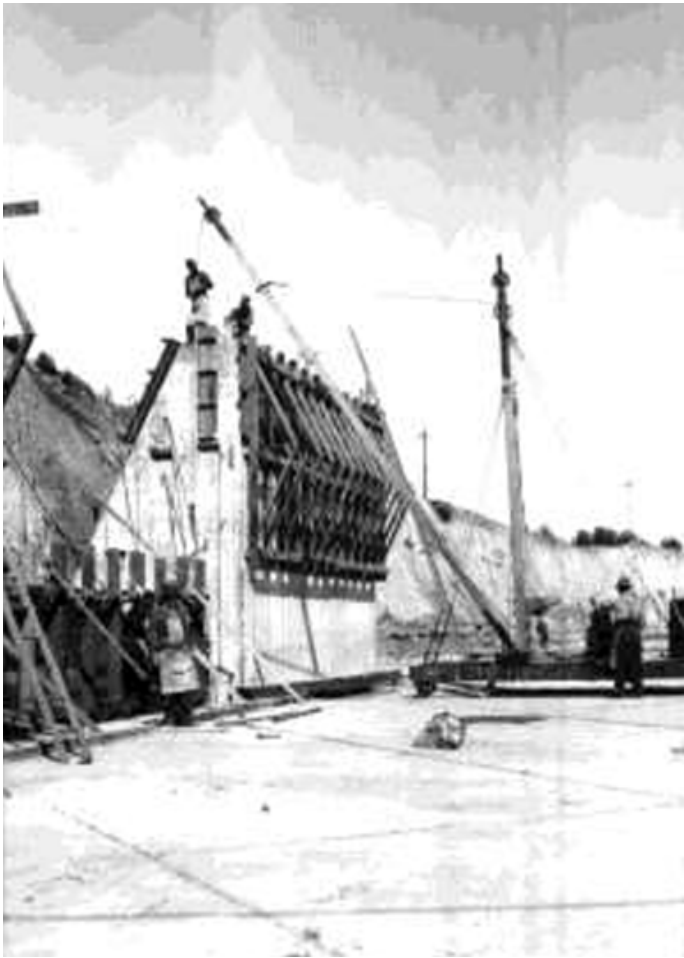


Figure 2: The Reservoir during construction
Source: Hunter Water Corporation



Figure 3: Early image of the Reservoir (unknown date)

Source: Hunter Water Corporation



Figure 4: Early image of the Reservoir (unknown date)

Source: Hunter Water Corporation

HERITAGE STATUS



Listing Details

- ☒ S170 Heritage and Conservation Register
- ☐ Local heritage listing
- ☐ State heritage listing

Conservation Management Plan

- ☐ N/A

Heritage Asset Action Plan

- ☐ N/A

Aboriginal Sites Registered within the Site

No sites were registered in or within 50 metres of the defined curtilage for this asset as of 19 September 2022.

Historical Archaeological Potential

Not assessed.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE



Level of Significance	Local.
Statement of Significance	North Lambton 1 Reservoir is significant as a major mid-twentieth century expansion to the city's water storage. It was also important to the community as a depression-era work relief project. It features a well-designed Egyptian Revival Valve House that is aesthetically distinctive and has maintained integrity over time. The physical scale of the Reservoir is also distinctive.
NSW SHR Criteria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) Historical <input type="checkbox"/> b) Associative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c) Aesthetic / Technical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d) Social <input type="checkbox"/> e) Research Potential (yield new information) <input type="checkbox"/> f) Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> g) Representative
Significant Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General form, scale and configuration of the reservoir and valve house. • Concrete structure of the reservoir and overall visual presentation of the structure. • Egyptian Revival presentation of the valve house, particularly as expressed through original elements and detailing such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Curved concrete stairs to entrance. ○ Painted concrete architraves to doors and windows. ○ Concrete elements including floors and ceilings. ○ Original timber joinery to windows and doors. ○ Timber flooring. • Original equipment and painted signage within the valve house.

DESCRIPTION



Setting	The Reservoir is located within a residential area but is surrounded by bushland to the north, east and west.
External Appearance	<p>North Lambton 1 Reservoir is a mass in-situ concrete structure with splayed sides and a later kliplok roof. On the northern-most point of the Reservoir is a large, two-storey rendered brick valve house constructed in the Egyptian Revival Style with a flat roof. An annex to the valve house featuring consistent detailing is located to the immediate south of the main valve house; this smaller building provides access to the roof of the Reservoir.</p> <p>The main valve house features curved concrete entry steps and an entry way with decorative concrete tapered architraves painted white and flush double doors. 'H. D. W. B. 1939' is written above the entry way. An opening to the second level of the building features a protruding gantry and is boarded up (with corrugated iron). Windows to the second level are timber framed with frosted glazing. A window to the ground floor has been bricked up and rendered.</p> <p>The annex is similarly constructed, also with a flat roof. It features timber framed windows with frosted glazing and an original timber door.</p> <p>Terracotta vents are present to both buildings. Both original and replacement equipment is present to both buildings. A significant number of contemporary services have been installed to the exterior of both buildings.</p>

	<p>A drainage channel lined in geofabric partially surrounds the reservoir and a concrete driveway runs along the western and north-eastern sides of the reservoir.</p> <p>The site is surrounded by metal security fencing. A chemical dosing facility, which is recent and non-significant, is located immediately adjacent to both the Reservoir and valve house. A contemporary (non-significant) brick site office and associated demountable building is located to the north-eastern elevation of the reservoir.</p> <p>There are a number of recent and non-significant buildings and structures within the allotment (to the north of the Reservoir), but outside of the defined heritage curtilage for this item.</p> <p>Several condition issues have been identified including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of spalling and concrete failure to soffit of reservoir. • General evidence of fabric deterioration to the reservoir caused by damp. • Spalling/concrete failure to curved entry steps of valve house.
Internal Appearance	<p><u>Valve House:</u> internal walls are rendered and painted brickwork, with original timber floorboards present. Concrete flooring is also present. The ceiling is painted concrete showing evidence of spalling. Doors have been replaced with flush doors. Original painted signage is present within the main valve house.</p> <p><u>Annex:</u> exposed brick walls, with an unpainted concrete ceiling. The floor is concrete.</p> <p><u>Reservoir:</u> N/A (internal inspection not undertaken).</p>
Overall Condition	Good
Moveable Heritage Objects	None identified.

MANAGEMENT



Approval and Assessment Requirements	<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>
General / Ongoing Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • The introduction of new buildings or structures within the curtilage is discouraged. If introduced, visual impacts to the reservoir and the valve house must be limited. • Maintain existing fenestration to valve house and annex. Reinstatement of windows encouraged. • Maintain original detailing and significant elements as outlined above. 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. • Removal and/or replacement of non-significant elements (such as recent doors, roof coverings, lighting, services, etc) is supportable, provided that any replacement is appropriate to the building.
Priority Conservation Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain overall form, shape and scale of the reservoir and valve house (including annex). • Assess all evidence of concrete failure and/or spalling, as well as issues caused by moisture. Repair where necessary.



Image 1: View of the Reservoir, facing north. The valve house is visible to the right of frame



Image 2: View of the southwestern corner of the Reservoir showing the concrete structure with splayed sides



Image 3: View of the southern side of the Reservoir showing the drainage channel lined in geofabric and non-original kliplok roof



Image 4: Evidence of concrete failure and damage caused by moisture to the soffit and wall of the Reservoir



Image 5: View of the Reservoir and valve house (right of frame) facing west. The main valve house is to the right, with the annex visible to the left



Image 6: Northern elevation of the main valve house showing curved concrete stairs, boarded up opening with gantry and rendered detailing to the entry way



Image 7: View of the main valve house showing architraves, windows, gantry and curved stairs



Image 8: Original equipment and timber flooring present within main valve house



Image 9: Original windows, gantry, ceiling and signage within the main valve house



Image 10: Interface between the main valve house (right) and annex (left) showing contemporary services



Image 11: External view of the annex (centre) to the main valve house (left of frame)



Image 12: Likely original equipment within the annex. Concrete flooring, brickwork walls and concrete ceiling also visible



Image 13: Later, non-significant buildings adjacent to but outside (to the north) the curtilage of the asset



Image 14: View of the contemporary (non-significant) site office to the northeastern elevation of the reservoir



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FIGURE 1

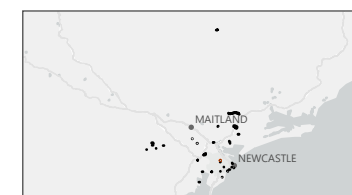
S170 Review - Heritage Curtilages

Legend

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



North Lambton 1 Reservoir



0 100
Metres

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

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