

# HUNTER WATER

## SECTION s170 REGISTER



ITEM NAME:

## West Wallsend 1 Reservoir

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### ITEM DETAILS



Item Name	West Wallsend 1 Reservoir
Other / Former Names	West Wallsend Reservoir and Valve House
NSW SHI No.	3630032
GID	400412
Plant No.	WR-WWA-001-RES
Local Government Area	Lake Macquarie
Lot and DP	Lot 1 DP923587
Address	30A George Booth Drive, West Wallsend NSW 2286
Curtilage	The curtilage of this asset is defined by its legal allotment boundaries (defined by the relevant Lot and DP).



View of the Reservoir and Valve House



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

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW



Current Use	Water storage but soon to be decommissioned
Former Use	Water storage
Designer / Builder	Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board
Historical Notes	West Wallsend 1 Reservoir was completed in 1904. It was filled by means of a small duplex pump, placed at Minmi Reservoir, and a 6-inch delivery pipe.

## 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 15 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>West Wallsend 1 Reservoir is a good example of a small-scale underground reservoir in a rural context. The Reservoir was part of the early expansion of the Walka Pumping Scheme to extend the water supply into the areas surrounding Newcastle.</p> <p>The associated Valve House is complementary and provides a visible marker of the Reservoir's presence.</p>
NSW SHR Criteria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) Historical <input type="checkbox"/> b) Associative <input 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
Significant Elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overall form, shape, and scale of the Valve House.</li><li>• Brickwork externally and internally.</li><li>• Original timber floorboards.</li><li>• Original winch and machinery fixtures.</li><li>• Rhythm and presentation of fenestration (window and door openings).</li><li>• General form of the Reservoir mound.</li></ul>

## DESCRIPTION



Setting	Located within regenerated bushland.
External Appearance	<p>The Valve House consists of a small rectangular brick building on concrete slab foundations completed in 1904. It features pale green painted brickwork laid in English bond. The roof is gabled with dark green-painted timber fascia. One small louvred window is present in each gable. These have been covered in metal mesh for security. It is unknown whether they are the original windows or later replacements.</p> <p>A single hinged flush steel door is present on the eastern façade. This has likely replaced an original hinged flush timber door. The threshold has been rendered in concrete and painted pale green. On the northern façade is a curved concrete cover for infrastructure connecting the valve house with the reservoir. Depth measuring sticks are fixed adjacent to the entry door.</p> <p>The Reservoir is entirely subsurface. Its surface presentation consists of a raised grassy mound, with a monitoring well in the centre.</p>
Internal Appearance	The Valve House consists of a single room. The floor comprises original timber floorboards and the brick walls have been painted cream. In the space of the curved concrete cover, several short steps descend to the access point for the reservoir. Associated electrical infrastructure and original winch fixtures line the walls.
Overall Condition	Fair.
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"> <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 Valve House.</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 recent steel door, lighting, rainwater goods, services, external signage, etc.) is supportable. Any replacements must be appropriate/sympathetic.</li> <li>Reinstatement of sympathetic entrance door may be suitable.</li> </ul>
Priority Conservation Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess and repair damage to brickwork, including mortar loss, spalling, and cracking.</li> <li>Assess and repair damage to internal timber floorboards.</li> <li>Remove graffiti from external walls.</li> </ul>





Image 1: Southern façade of the Valve House



Image 2: Entrance of the Valve House

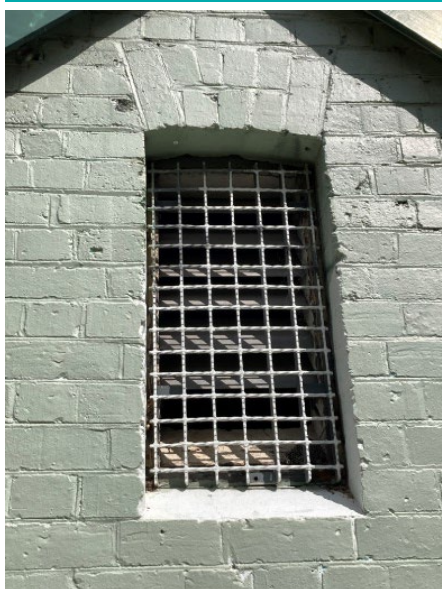


Image 3: Metal mesh over window of the Valve House



Image 4: Window louvres of the Valve House



Image 5: Steps to access point for Reservoir within the Valve House



Image 6: Original winch within the Valve House





Image 7: Reservoir mound



Image 8: Reservoir mound

## REFERENCES



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