

Item Details

Name

Prospect Reservoir (operational land)

SHR/LEP/S170

s170

Address

Reservoir Road PROSPECT NSW 2148

Local Govt Area

Blacktown

Local Aboriginal Land Council

Unknown

Item Type

Built

Group/Collection

Utilities - Water

Category

Water Supply Reservoir/ Dam

All Addresses

Addresses

Records Retrieved: 2

Street No	Street Name	Suburb/Town/Postcode	Local Govt. Area	LALC	Parish	County	Electorate	Address Type
	Reservoir Road	PROSPECT/NSW/2148	Fairfield	Unknown			Unknown	Alternate Address
	Reservoir Road	PROSPECT/NSW/2148	Blacktown	Unknown			Unknown	Primary Address

Boundary Description

UBD Sydney 37th Edition 2001 Map 208

Significance

Statement Of Significance

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme - for significance as part of the Upper Nepean Scheme.
See listing for Veteran Hall for significance as part of the William Lawson Estate.

The listing includes Prospect Reservoir, landscape elements and all associated structures, including pumping stations, to the property boundary. The environs of the reservoir and hence this listing also include a wide range of items, which relate to later amplification of water supply. These include examples of 1920s and 30s pumping stations, a residence, and the 72" (1,800 mm) main, constructed between the Upper Canal and Pipe Head in 1937. Later items associated with the Warragamba Supply Scheme and more modern developments include several more recent pumping stations, screening and boosting plants on the eastern and southern sides of the Reservoir, and the 84 inch (2,100 mm) water main from Prospect, to Pipe Head, completed in 1958.

Criteria a)**Historical Significance**

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme.

Criteria c)**Aesthetic/Technical Significance**

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme.

Criteria d)

Social/Cultural Significance

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme.

Criteria e)

Research Potential

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme.

Criteria f)

Rarity

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme.

Criteria g)

Representative

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme.

Owners

Records Retrieved: 0

Organisation	Stakeholder Category	Date Ownership Updated
No Results Found		

Description

Designer

Public Works Department

Builder/Maker

Physical Description

Updated

Prospect Reservoir, part of the Upper Nepean Scheme.

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme - for supplementary information.

The Upper Nepean Scheme includes, among other items, the Upper Canal, Prospect Reservoir and the Lower Canal. Each of these elements was originally divided up into one or more maintenance sections. The use of the term 'section' therefore usually refers to a maintenance section. These sections were used as the basic framework for the Listings.

There are 11 maintenance sections on the Upper Canal, numbered 1 to 11 from Pheasants Nest in a northerly direction. The north end of the Upper Canal and the western end or commencement of the Lower Canal fall within the maintenance section for Prospect Reservoir. The Lower Canal forms one maintenance section and finishes at Pipe Head, itself forming another maintenance section.

Within each section, there are a variable number of precincts. A precinct was allocated when there was a concentration of items in close (geographical) proximity, for example, Broughton's Pass Precinct within Section 1 of the Upper Canal. A precinct is however an artificial division created for the purpose of the site survey, and does not have any historical meaning.

The Upper Canal commences by tunnel from Pheasant's Nest Weir on the Nepean River. In all historical documentation, measurement along the Upper Nepean Scheme commences at Pheasant's Nest.

Prospect Reservoir.

Prospect Reservoir encompasses the environs around the reservoir, formed by the Prospect Dam. Developed for water supply purposes in the 1880s, the area originally formed part of the "Veteran Hall" property of explorer William Lawson. The area includes remains from this early period and a large number of items associated with the various phases of development of the water supply for Sydney around Prospect Reservoir.

Items associated with the initial construction of the Upper Nepean Scheme include the Prospect Dam and Reservoir itself, associated items such as a road bridge and spillway, Pincott's Roller, the Upper and Lower Canals and associated structures, and the Upper and Lower Valve Houses. Although many activities and developments took place in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, some activities have not left any surviving physical evidence. An example is the extensive trout hatchery developed at the base of the dam wall from 1895. This area now comprises extensive gardens and a car-park area. The cottage for the controller of valves located near the Lower Valve House (shown in the Official Handbook, 1913) has also vanished.

The environs of the reservoir also include a wide range of items, which relate to later amplification of water supply. These include examples of 1920s and 30s pumping stations, a residence, and the 72" (1,800 mm) main, constructed between the Upper Canal and Pipe Head in 1937. Later items associated with the Warragamba Supply Scheme and more modern developments include several more recent pumping stations, screening and boosting plants on the eastern and southern sides of the Reservoir, and the 84 inch (2,100 mm) water main from Prospect, to Pipe Head, completed in 1958.

The Prospect Reservoir Maintenance Section includes parts of the Upper and Lower Canals:

Upper Canal at Prospect Reservoir.

The final section of the canal was not a separate maintenance section, but was included within the maintenance of the environs of Prospect Reservoir.

The final section of the Upper Canal commences at about 39 3/4 miles (63.6 kilometres), just before the end (north portal) of the Trafalgar Tunnel, recorded as an inventory item in Section 11. The final section of the canal continues into Prospect Reservoir at about 40 1/16 miles (64.1 kilometres) from the Pheasants' Nest Weir on the Nepean River. From the northern portal of the Trafalgar Tunnel the open canal is of U-shaped section and is masonry lined. This section is only about 440 feet (133.5 metres) long, ending at the measuring weir and basin at about 39 13/16 miles (63.7 kilometres). A small brick gauge house and a concrete footbridge across the canal and stop-board / weir site are adjacent to the measuring weir.

Above the measuring weir and basin a side overflow weir and sluice gates are situated on the east side of the Upper Canal at about 39 3/4 miles (63.6 kilometres). The sluice gate leads to a separate channel with an in-ground screening chamber for the 72" (1800 mm) pipeline from the Upper Canal to Pipe Head. The former 30" by-pass from the Upper Canal to the Lower Canal left the Upper Canal near the measuring weir. The by-pass was essentially removed in 1937 following the completion of the 72" (1800 mm) main. (The 30" bypass was part of the Hudson Emergency Scheme. Then there was the 54" offtake in 1927 further up the canal in woodstave construction and finally the 72" offtake, with the Upper Canal effectively providing additional head of water).

Beyond the measuring weir the canal is of Type 10 construction, a semicircular, concrete lined race. This race originally ran from the measuring weir at 39 13/16 miles (63.7 kilometres) into Prospect Reservoir at 40 1/16 miles (64.1 kilometres). The race was partly reconstructed in 1925. About 51 yards (47 metres) north of the measuring weir, the race is interrupted by a newly constructed square sided concrete channel about 2 metres wide, which feeds a new inverted syphon aqueduct. This aqueduct has been constructed to carry the Upper Canal below the new Prospect Reservoir by-pass pipeline from Warragamba. On the north side of the aqueduct pipe is a vertical concrete inlet tower and square sided stilling basin. The concrete channel (aqueduct abutment) then rejoins the concrete lined semicircular race section of the Upper Canal into Prospect Reservoir. This race ends with a small vertical drop into a square section Bluestone (probably basalt or diorite) lined channel into the Reservoir.

This final section of the Upper Canal has a single stormwater flume across the open canal section north of the Trafalgar Tunnel just before the overflow weir.

Lower Canal at Prospect Reservoir.

The Lower Canal commences adjacent to the Lower Valve House at Prospect Reservoir, which passes water from the Reservoir into the Receiving Basin at the head of the canal. The maintenance section for the Lower Canal commences approximately 90 metres from the receiving basin.

Prospect Reservoir.

The following items are listed in the Upper Nepean Scheme Heritage Study, 1992.

Listed by Inventory Number, Precinct Name*, Item Name, Item Type*, Type No* (* if applicable).

1, Canal, 6

2, Flume, Flume, 3

3, Waste (Overflow) Weir, Waste Weir (Overflow Weir)

4, Sluice Gate, Sluice Gate,

- 5, Measuring Weir and Basin, Measuring Weir
- 6, Sluice Gate and Screening Chamber for 72 inch main, Screening Chamber
- 7, Canal, 10
- 8, Prospect Dam and Reservoir, Dam
- 9, Weir and Spillway, Weir
- 10, Bridge, Road Bridge
- 11, South Prospect Pumping Station (WPS No.24), Pumping Station
- 12, 72 " Main , Upper Canal to Pipe Head, Mains Pipe
- 13, Pincott's Roller, Roller
- 14, Training Centre (former Residence), Residence
- 15, Upper Valve House (Outlet Tower), Valve House
- 16, Avenue of Palms to Upper Valve House, Landscape Feature
- 17, Lower Valve House, Valve House
- 18, Lower Valve House - Commemorative Plaque, Valve House
- 19, Lower Valve House - "Venturi" Flow Meters, Flow Meter
- 20, Maintenance Office (former Pumping Station), Pumping Station
- 21, Site of "Veteran Hall ", Archaeological Site
- 22, Main Entry Avenue, Prospect Reservoir, Road
- 23, Residences, Main Entry Avenue Prospect Reservoir, Residence
- 24, Receiving Basin and Commencement of Lower Canal, Receiving Basin
- 25, Former inlet for 30 " by-pass,

Additional heritage items include:

54" By-pass.

72" By-Pass.

Bridge over By-Wash Channel.

WPS 24. Prospect - Fairfield Pumping Station.

WPS 117. Prospect South.

WPS 138. Prospect.

WPS 147. Widemere.

WPS 184. Prospect Creek.

WS 96. Prospect Hill.

Residences on Avenue including item 23 in the Upper Nepean Heritage Study.

Residence at Reservoir Road entrance.

Other landscape elements include the following: The Upper Canal defines a distinctive cultural landscape, in part by its serpentine course and fine masonry though also on account of the notable surviving plantings that function as major reference points in the local rural landscape. At various strategic locations throughout its route there are a mixture of plantings that are typical of the late 19th century with later plantings of palms that are also typical for the early 20th century.

Marker plantings include species such as Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*), Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*), Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*), Roman Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) and Oleander (*Nerium oleander*). Where the Upper Canal ends at Prospect Reservoir there are other species typical of this period such as the palms *Washingtonia filifera* and Chilean Wine Palm (*Jubaea chilensis*).

Near the junction between the Cowpasture Road and the Upper Canal there is a line of Stone Pines, Araucarian Pines and a memorial site to a slain WWII soldier.

Physical Condition

Updated 12/18/2000

Most of the items associated with the Upper Nepean Scheme at Prospect Reservoir are in fair condition.

Modifications And Dates

Further Comments

See other listings for Upper Nepean Scheme.

Current Use

Reservoir

Former Use

Reservoir

Listings

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Heritage Act - s.170 NSW State agency heritage register			1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM		

Records Retrieved: 1

Procedures/Exemptions

Section of Act	Description	Title	Comments	Action Date	Outcome
No Results Found					

Records Retrieved: 0

History

Historical Notes or Provenance

Updated

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme - historical context as part of the Upper Nepean Scheme.
See listing for Veteran Hall for historical context as part of the William Lawson Estate.

Historic Themes

Records Retrieved: 1

National Theme	State Theme	Local Theme
4. Settlement	Utilities	Unknown

Recommended Management

Management Summary

Manage the place and its significant components in accordance with the Heritage Council State Owned Heritage Asset Management Guidelines and the Minimum Standards of Maintenance and Repair in the NSW Heritage Regulations.

Manage significant site elements in accordance with a Conservation Management Plan (CMP). If no CMP exists, consult with Asset Management Commercial Services with respect to commissioning a CMP. When commissioning a CMP, do so in accordance with the Model Brief for CMPs available on ConnectNet.

Seek endorsement of the CMP from the Heritage Council of NSW. Works undertaken in accordance with a Heritage Council-endorsed CMP do not require further approval under the NSW Heritage Act.

Involve heritage professionals as required under the terms of the CMP, or as otherwise determined necessary.

Review CMP every 5 years or in a major change of circumstances, whichever is sooner. Review of a CMP should only be undertaken following consultation with Asset Management Commercial Services . When commissioning a CMP review, do so in accordance with the Model Brief for CMPs available on ConnectNet.

Where no CMP is in place, or where works are outside the scope of the existing CMP, assess heritage impacts of proposed works in accordance with Sydney Water Environment Impact Assessment guidelines (e.g. undertake a Heritage Assessment and/or Statement of Heritage Impact as required, obtain Heritage Council approval as required).

Consult with the Heritage Manager, Environment and Innovation, when major works are planned which affect items of State heritage significance.

Undertake archival and photographic recording before major changes, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines. Lodge copies of the archival record with the Sydney Water Archives and the NSW Heritage Office.

Where the item is listed in a Local Environmental Plan Schedule of Heritage items, determine if works are exempt from approval under the LEP provisions. Where works are not exempt, obtain necessary approvals from the local council, in accordance with SWC EIA Guidelines.

Management

Records Retrieved: 0

Management Category	Management Name	Date Updated
No Results Found		

Report/Study

Heritage Studies

Records Retrieved: 2

Report/Study Name	Report/Study Code	Report/Study Type	Report/Study Year	Organisation	Author
Heritage Study of the Upper Nepean Scheme			1992		Edward Higginbotham & Associates
Heritage Study of the Upper Nepean Scheme			1992		Edward Higginbotham & Associates Pty Ltd

Reference & Internet Links

References

Records Retrieved: 0

Type	Author	Year	Title	Link
No Results Found				

Data Source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Data Source	Record Owner	Heritage Item ID
State Government	Sydney Water	4575804

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