

## Item Details

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### Name

Veteran Hall Archaeological Site

### SHR/LEP/S170

s170

### Address

Reservoir Road PROSPECT NSW 2148

### Local Govt Area

Blacktown

### Local Aboriginal Land Council

Unknown

### Item Type

Archaeological-Terrestrial

### Group/Collection

Farming and Grazing

### Category

Homestead Complex

## All Addresses

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### Addresses

Records Retrieved: 1

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

### Boundary Description

UBD Sydney 37th Edition 2001 Map 208, Q5.

The listing includes the archaeological remains of the house, outbuildings and landscape with plantings along the road access to the site. It includes views over Prospect Reservoir to the south.

## Significance

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### Statement Of Significance

Veteran Hall and its surrounds are associated with the explorer and statesman, William Lawson, who built the first substantial house on the site. The remains of the house can provide archaeological evidence relating to the living and working conditions on the property, when it was a large pastoral establishment, through to its later occupation by the MWS&DB and final military use.

The historical landscape around the house remains, including plantings, fences and access road provide important insight into the former landscape of the historical property. The remains make a positive contribution to the landscape and relate harmoniously to the visual catchment of the Prospect Reservoir curtilage.

See main listing - Upper Nepean Scheme for other heritage items at Prospect reservoir.

### Criteria a)

#### Historical Significance

Veteran Hall and its surrounds are associated with the explorer and statesman, William Lawson, who built the first substantial house on the site.

The historical landscape around the house remains, including plantings, fences and access road provide important insight into the former landscape of the historical property.

### Criteria c)

#### Aesthetic/Technical Significance

The remains make a positive contribution to the landscape and relate harmoniously to the visual catchment of the Prospect Reservoir curtilage.

### Criteria e)

#### Research Potential

The remains of the house, outbuildings and well can provide archaeological evidence relating to the living and working conditions on the property, when it was a large pastoral establishment, through to its later occupation by the MWS&DB and final military use.

### Criteria f)

#### Rarity

The archaeological remains of the house provide a rare opportunity to investigate the house and landholdings of a prominent and important historical figure.

## Owners

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Records Retrieved: 0

Organisation	Stakeholder Category	Date Ownership Updated
No Results Found		

## Description

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### Designer

### Builder/Maker

William Lawson.

### Physical Description

Updated

The homestead site is marked by wall footings and scattered sandstock bricks.

An avenue of mature Araucaria (Hoop and Bunya Pines) leads to the house site. Other established plantings in the vicinity include wild olive, and a former Pyracantha (Firethorn) hedge. Ancillary elements associated with the house site include cellars (filled) and a well discovered near the Prospect Hill Reservoir access road. A memorial cairn constructed of bricks from the house and erected in 1970, and several explanatory signs attached to an old style timber post and rail fence now also indicate the presence of the house site.

The bronze plaque provided by the Macquarie Historical Society reads as follows, "This cairn marks the site of Veteran Hall, the home of explorer William Lawson and commemorates his life and achievements. Erected 1970".

Recent works near the access road to Prospect Hill reservoir have uncovered a 25.5meter well approximately 182 metres from the site of Veteran Hall. It is 2 metres across, lined with sandstock bricks and contains 7.5 metre deep water.

### Physical Condition

Updated 12/18/2000

The site contains well preserved archaeological remains.

### Modifications And Dates

The site of the house has recently been cleared of vegetation.

### Further Comments

## Current Use

House site, archaeological site.

## Former Use

House, residence of W Lawson, resumed for engineer

## Listings

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### Listings

Records Retrieved: 1					
Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Heritage Act - s.170 NSW State agency heritage register	Veteran Hall - House Remains	01351	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM		

## Procedures/Exemptions

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Records Retrieved: 0

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

## History

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### Historical Notes or Provenance

Updated

"Veteran Hall" was the property owned and occupied by the explorer, William Lawson between 1810 and 1850. The main homestead was erected in about 1821 and either replaced or was an enlargement of Lawson's first house, which was built on the same site around 1810.

It was a large, single-storey building in typical Colonial Georgian style, Veteran Hall was approximately 65 squares in size, which expanded to a size of approximately 110 squares including verandahs. The property was resumed during the 1880's for the construction of the Prospect Reservoir, and the building became the residence and local office of the Water Board's Engineer-In-Charge of Headworks from 1888 until 1912, when the position was moved to Potts Hill.

The homestead was then leased with the surrounding paddocks to the Commonwealth military authorities until 1915 as a remount depot. The building then became vacant and was demolished in 1929. Several of the decorative fittings and architectural details, such as the quoins, were donated to the Vaucluse House Trust and some of Lawson's descendants.

William Lawson, a key figure in Australian history, died at Veteran Hall in 1850, and was buried at nearby St.Bartholomew's Church.

### Historic Themes

Records Retrieved: 3

National Theme	State Theme	Local Theme
4. Settlement	Utilities	Unknown
3. Economy	Pastoralism	Unknown
3. Economy	Agriculture	Unknown

## Recommended Management

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## 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: 0

Report/Study Name	Report/Study Code	Report/Study Type	Report/Study Year	Organisation	Author
No Results Found					

## 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:

<b>Data Source</b>	<b>Record Owner</b>	<b>Heritage Item ID</b>
State Government	Sydney Water	4575807

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