

Statement of Heritage Impact

Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)

for

Penrith City Council



*Castlereagh Hall
Inventory Sheet Image*

Prepared by:

Archnex Designs

Wentech Pty Ltd (ABN 310 735 41803) trading as Archnex Designs.

January 2019

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Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)
(Proposed Alterations and Additions)

Statement of Heritage Impact
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- (ii) Inventory Sheet: State Heritage Inventory 2260018
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- (iv) DP 198257

Archnex Designs

Nominated Architect: Greg Patch (Reg. No. 4820)
Wentech Pty Ltd (ABN 310 735 41803) trading as Archnex Designs.
Architects, Heritage Building Consultants, Interior Designers

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE IMPACT [SoHI]:

Date: 12 December 2018
Premises: 1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh, NSW 2749
Property Description: 1 / DP198257
Prepared By: Greg Patch
B Sc Arch, B ARCH (Hons), M Herit Cons (Hons), AIA
14 Winchcombe Ave,
Haberfield NSW 2045
For: Penrith City Council

A. PURPOSE OF STATEMENT

This statement has been prepared to assess potential heritage impacts of proposed alterations and additions to the above premises.

B. GROUNDS OF STATEMENT

Castlereagh Council Chambers (former) are listed as a heritage item. This has been established through a search Schedule 5 of Penrith LEP 2010.

C. LIMITS OF STATEMENT

This statement is based on SHI data sheet 2260018, the material cited at Part E1, and an inspection of the place in October 2018.

D. LOCATION



1. Location of Castlereagh Council Chambers (former)- Source: SLX Maps © NSW Lands 2018.

E. CONTEXT

E1. DOCUMENTARY

Penrith Heritage Study 2007

The Paul Davies heritage study acknowledges the establishment of Castlereagh as one of the 5 “Macquarie Towns” by Governor Macquarie shortly after his assumption of the role of Governor of New South Wales in December 1809. These towns, including Windsor, Richmond, Wilberforce, and Pitt Town, were established to provide flood-free building sites for grantee farmers with floodplain holdings in the respective localities. Castlereagh was named in honour of the Marquess of Castlereagh (1769-1822), an Irish/ British statesman.



2. Parish Map of the Town of Castlereagh- Part AO Map 203. (Source: <http://hlrv.nswlrs.com.au/pixel.htm#>)

Inventory Sheet [SHI 2260018]

The item is described as:

The item is a community hall on Castlereagh Road. The rendered brick façade of the building is dated 1933 in the central parapet, but the weatherboard rear of the building is contemporary with the incorporation of the council in 1895. The simple façade is an example of the Inter-War Free Classical style characterised by its symmetrical design, parapet and rendered stringcourses and window label moulds. The windows are multiple paned sashes (6 over 6 large panes). The earlier side elevations are simply detailed with double-hung timber sash windows and constructed in brick. The roof over the main hall is gabled and sheeted in corrugated metal. The earlier rear hall has sashed windows and ledged and sheeted doors. There is a modern public lavatory block at the rear of the building. The building is set close to Castlereagh Road behind a recently planted hedge and there is public car parking space to the north side with a small area set aside as public reserve. Located on the eastern side of the road, the building is set against the backdrop of the Blue Mountains and above the river plain. The building is located diagonally opposite a small public reserve (Smith Park) and the former public school is a short distance away.

A history of the place is given as:

The new Castlereagh Chambers were opened by Mr J. Jackson, M.L.A., May 1934. The item replaced the old weatherboard hall that had done duty for Council meetings and public functions for 40 years, the addition comprised a room 24ft by 18ft with a council clerk's office of 18ft by 16ft.

Its significance is stated as:

Unique in the Castlereagh and surrounding localities, this modest public building is significant in the Castlereagh locality for its historic association with the now defunct municipal council and for demarcating a village precinct on Castlereagh Road. The façade of the building is distinctive on the Castlereagh Road while the hall continues as a community space.

Images are provided:



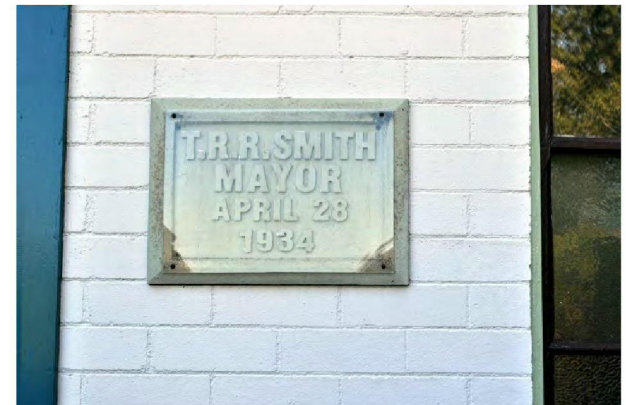
Images Date: 7/11/2004, Copyright: Paul Davies Pty Ltd.

E2. PHYSICAL

The place was inspected on 30th October 2018, when the following photographs were taken:



3. Foundation plaque to front wall- original building.



4. Foundation plaque- current building



5. Parapeted wings for the north.



6. Detail- strings & windows.



6. South wall.



7. Front wings from the south.



8. South wall- existing escape doors and steps.



9. Rear (west gable).



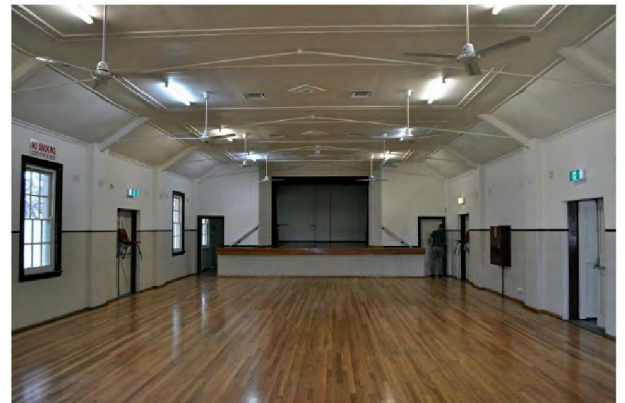
10. Amenities addition to north- from the west.



11. Rear (west wall).



12. North wall.



13. Main Hall from the east.



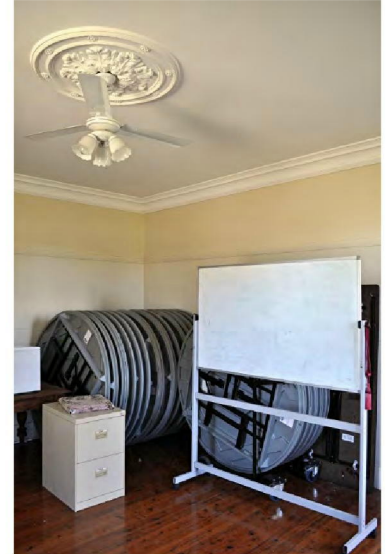
13. Proscenium and stage.



14. The hall looking east from the stage.



15. Dining Room.



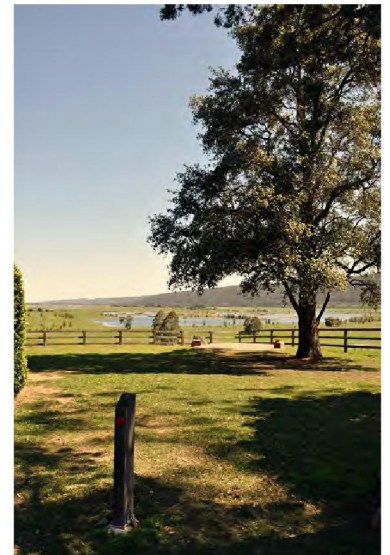
16. Store Room.



17. Typical Window.



18. Condenser units- south wall.

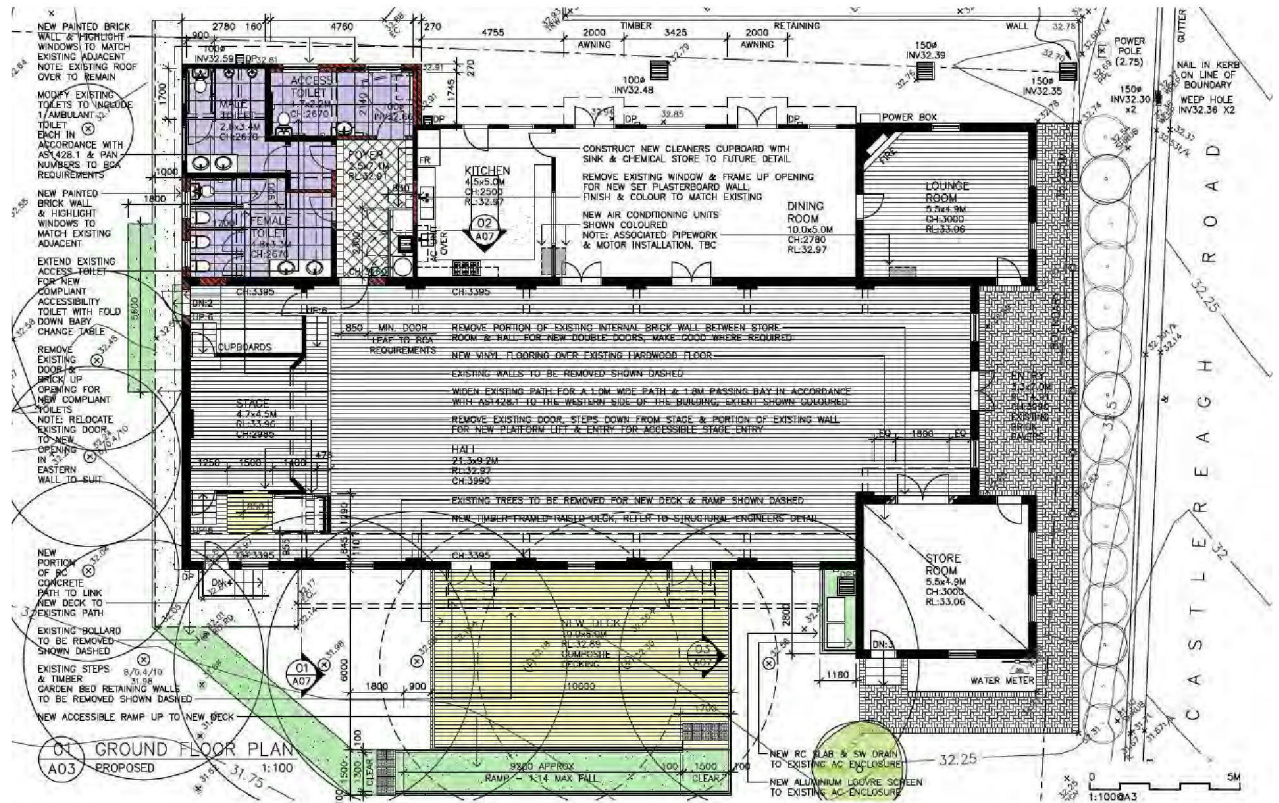


19. View to Nepean floodplain.

F. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I have examined drawings N^{os}. 12/2018/ DA00 to -/DA9 (inclusive) prepared by Justin Long Design [JLD], dated 12.12.18.

They depict proposed alterations and additions to the Hall:



20. Proposed Ground Floor Plan- new works coloured (Source: JLD dwg. A03 [NTS]).



21. Proposed West Elevation- new works coloured (Source: JLD dwg. A05 [NTS]).



22. Proposed East Elevation- new works coloured (Source: JLD dwg. A05 [NTS]).



23. Proposed South Elevation- new works coloured (Source: JLD dwg. A06 [NTS]).



24. Proposed North Elevation- new works coloured (Source: JLD dwg. A06 [NTS]).

Proposed external materials, finishes and colours include:

AREA	FINISH	COMMENT	IMAGE
BRICKWORK	RECYCLED COMMON BRICKWORK TO MATCH THE EXISTING, PAINT FINISH	COLOR: OFF WHITE TO MATCH EXISTING OR PREVIOUSLY USED HERITAGE COLOR UPON IDENTIFICATION ON SITE, TBC	
EXTERNAL CLADDING	SELECTED HORIZONTAL TIMBER CLADDING TO MATCH EXISTING	COLOR: OFF WHITE TO MATCH EXISTING OR PREVIOUSLY USED HERITAGE COLOR UPON IDENTIFICATION ON SITE, TBC	
EXTERNAL DECORING	INEX MARIDECK 140 X 19MM BEARING BOARDS OR SIMILAR APPROVED FINISH TO JOISTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUFACTURERS SPECIFICATIONS	COLOR: MERBAU	

DOOR AWNING	TIMBER FRAMED ROOM AWNING WITH COLORBOND ROOFING OVER TO NORTHERN SIDE DOUBLE DOORS TO MATCH THE AWNINGS TO THE SOUTHERN SIDE DOUBLE DOORS	FRAME COLOUR: TO MATCH EXISTING ROOF COLOUR: TO MATCH EXISTING	
AC UNIT LOUVER ENCLOSURE	ALUMINIUM LOUVER ENCLOSURE	COLOR: COLORBOND 'PAPERBARK' OR 'DEEP OCEAN' TBC	

25. Proposed External Finishes and Colours (Source: JLD dwg. A00).

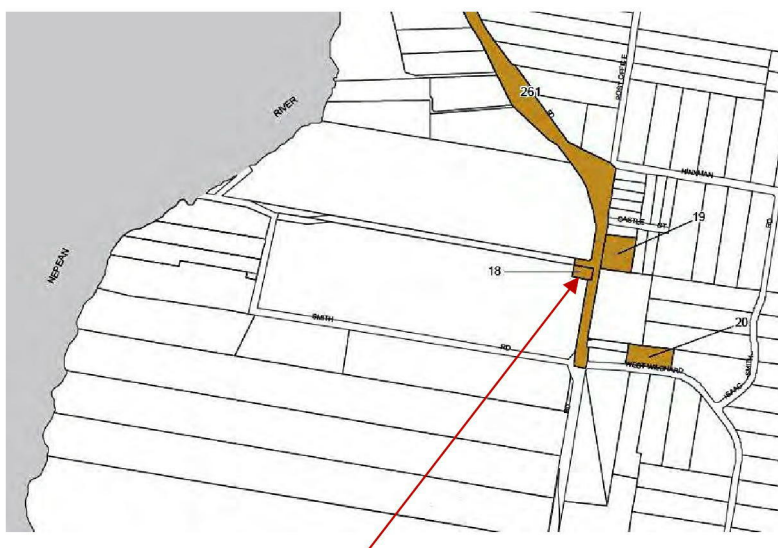
G. IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The former Castlereagh Council Chambers are listed at:

**Penrith Local Environmental Plan 2010
Schedule 5 Environmental heritage
Part 1 Heritage items**

Suburb	Item name	Address	Property description	Significance	Item no
Castlereagh	Castlereagh Council Chambers (former)	1158-1160 Castlereagh Road	Lot 1, DP 198257	Local	18

It is mapped as:



26. Extract Map HER_004. Subject item.

The relevant provisions of the Penrith LEP 2010 are:

5.10 Heritage conservation

Note. Heritage items (if any) are listed and described in Schedule 5. Heritage conservation areas (if any) are shown on the [Heritage Map](#) as well as being described in Schedule 5.

Clause	Comment
<p>(1) Objectives</p> <p>The objectives of this clause are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) to conserve the environmental heritage of Penrith,(b) to conserve the heritage significance of heritage items and heritage conservation areas, including associated fabric, settings and views,(c) to conserve archaeological sites,(d) to conserve Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places of heritage significance.	
<p>(2) Requirement for consent</p> <p>Development consent is required for any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) demolishing or moving any of the following or altering the exterior of any of the following (including, in the case of a building, making changes to its detail, fabric, finish or appearance):<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) a heritage item,(ii) an Aboriginal object,(iii) a building, work, relic or tree within a heritage conservation area,(b) altering a heritage item that is a building by making structural changes to its interior or by making changes to anything inside the item that is specified in Schedule 5 in relation to the item,(c) disturbing or excavating an archaeological site while knowing, or having reasonable cause to suspect, that the disturbance or excavation will or is likely to result in a relic being discovered, exposed, moved, damaged or destroyed,(d) disturbing or excavating an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,(e) erecting a building on land:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or(ii) on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance,(f) subdividing land:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) on which a heritage item is located or that is within a heritage conservation area, or	<p>The proposed works are to a heritage item</p> <p>Heritage Items N^{os} 261 & 19 (Castlereagh Road Alignment & Memorials—Smith Park) are within the vicinity of the subject place. The nature and extent of the proposed development is, however, such that there will be no potential impact on these items.</p>

- (ii) *on which an Aboriginal object is located or that is within an Aboriginal place of heritage significance.*

(3) When consent not required

However, development consent under this clause is not required if: Consent is required.

- (a) *the applicant has notified the consent authority of the proposed development and the consent authority has advised the applicant in writing before any work is carried out that it is satisfied that the proposed development:*

- (i) *is of a minor nature or is for the maintenance of the heritage item, Aboriginal object, Aboriginal place of heritage significance or archaeological site or a building, work, relic, tree or place within the heritage conservation area, and*
- (ii) *would not adversely affect the heritage significance of the heritage item, Aboriginal object, Aboriginal place, archaeological site or heritage conservation area, or*

- (b) *the development is in a cemetery or burial ground and the proposed development:*

- (i) *is the creation of a new grave or monument, or excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of conserving or repairing monuments or grave markers, and*
- (ii) *would not cause disturbance to human remains, relics, Aboriginal objects in the form of grave goods, or to an Aboriginal place of heritage significance, or*

- (c) *the development is limited to the removal of a tree or other vegetation that the Council is satisfied is a risk to human life or property, or*

- (d) *the development is exempt development.*

(4) Effect of proposed development on heritage significance

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause in respect of a heritage item or heritage conservation area, consider the effect of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the item or area concerned. This subclause applies regardless of whether a heritage management document is prepared under subclause (5) or a heritage conservation management plan is submitted under subclause (6).

The heritage significance of the item is recounted at p.3, above. The proposed development will have minimal impact upon this stated significance and will, in effect, enhance the amenity of the place and hence contribute to its ongoing conservation.

(5) Heritage assessment

The consent authority may, before granting consent to any development:

- (a) *on land on which a heritage item is located, or*
- (b) *on land that is within a heritage conservation area, or*

The proposed development is to land on which a heritage item is located.

(c) on land that is within the vicinity of land referred to in paragraph (a) or (b),

require a heritage management document to be prepared that assesses the extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development would affect the heritage significance of the heritage item or heritage conservation area concerned.

This document has been prepared having general regard to the guideline document "Statements of Heritage Impact" as published by the Heritage Branch of the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage.

(6) Heritage conservation management plans

The consent authority may require, after considering the heritage significance of a heritage item and the extent of change proposed to it, the submission of a heritage conservation management plan before granting consent under this clause.

The proposed development is to an identified local item. The preparation of a Conservation Management Plan is not warranted by the nature of the existing building nor the proposed development.

(7) Archaeological sites

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause to the carrying out of development on an archaeological site (other than land listed on the State Heritage Register or to which an interim heritage order under the [Heritage Act 1977](#) applies):

The subject place is not identified as being of archaeological significance.

(a) notify the Heritage Council of its intention to grant consent, and

(b) take into consideration any response received from the Heritage Council within 28 days after the notice is sent.

(8) Aboriginal places of heritage significance

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause to the carrying out of development in an Aboriginal place of heritage significance:

The subject place is not identified as being of Aboriginal significance.

(a) consider the effect of the proposed development on the heritage significance of the place and any Aboriginal object known or reasonably likely to be located at the place by means of an adequate investigation and assessment (which may involve consideration of a heritage impact statement), and

(b) notify the local Aboriginal communities, in writing or in such other manner as may be appropriate, about the application and take into consideration any response received within 28 days after the notice is sent.

(9) Demolition of nominated State heritage items

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause for the demolition of a nominated State heritage item:

The subject place is not identified as being of State significance.

(a) notify the Heritage Council about the application, and

(b) take into consideration any response received from the Heritage Council within 28 days after the notice is sent.

(10) Conservation incentives

The consent authority may grant consent to development for any purpose of a building that is a heritage item or of the land on which such a building is erected, or for any purpose on an Aboriginal place of heritage significance, even though development for that purpose would otherwise

Conservation incentives are not sought.

not be allowed by this Plan, if the consent authority is satisfied that:

- (a) the conservation of the heritage item or Aboriginal place of heritage significance is facilitated by the granting of consent, and*
- (b) the proposed development is in accordance with a heritage management document that has been approved by the consent authority, and*
- (c) the consent to the proposed development would require that all necessary conservation work identified in the heritage management document is carried out, and*
- (d) the proposed development would not adversely affect the heritage significance of the heritage item, including its setting, or the heritage significance of the Aboriginal place of heritage significance, and*
- (e) the proposed development would not have any significant adverse effect on the amenity of the surrounding area.*

Penrith Development Control Plan

Part C7- Culture and Heritage

7.1.2. Heritage Items

B. Objectives

- a) To encourage the retention of existing heritage items and their significant elements;*
- b) To ensure development is based on the understanding and conservation of the heritage significance of the item;*
- c) To encourage heritage items to be used for purposes that are appropriate to their heritage significance;*
- d) To maintain the setting of the heritage item including the relationship between the item and its surroundings;*
- e) To encourage the removal of inappropriate alterations and additions, and the reinstatement of significant missing details and building elements; and*
- f) To protect and conserve built heritage in accordance with the principles of the Burra Charter.*

C. Controls

1) Development Application

- a) Any Heritage Impact Statement for development that may impact on a heritage item must address the following (at a minimum):*
 - a) The heritage significance of the item as part of the environmental heritage of Penrith;*
 - b) The impact that the proposed development will have on the heritage significance of the item and its setting, including any landscape or horticultural features;*
 - c) The measures proposed to conserve the heritage significance of the item and its setting;*
 - d) Whether any archaeological site would be adversely affected by the proposed development;*
 - e) The extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development would affect the form of any significant subdivision pattern; and*
 - f) The issues raised by any submission received in relation to the proposed development in response to the notification or advertising of the application.*

b) *Development of a heritage item must:*

a) *Be consistent with an appropriate Heritage Impact Statement or Conservation Management Plan;*

Comment: there is no known Conservation Management Plan or previous Heritage Impact Statement for the item.

b) *Be consistent with the information on the State Heritage Inventory [SHI] for that heritage item;*

Comment: SHI data sheets 2260018 (see copy at the Appendix) contain no recommendations as to the management of the item.

c) *Protect the setting of the heritage item;*

Comment: the proposed works will have a negligible impact on the setting of the item, which is a function of its siting adjacent Castlereagh Road and above the Nepean floodplain.

d) *Retain significant internal and external fabric and building elements;*

Comment: the extant fabric of the item is generally retained, with the proposed works largely of an additive nature, or a re-fitting of later additions (such as the proposed augmentation of the toilet facilities). The introduction of access door to the Store Room and works associated with the provision of a platform lift to the stage will have some impact on early/ original fabric, but will benefit the ongoing operation of the hall through improved function and accessibility.

e) *Retain significant internal and external spaces;*

Comment: all significant internal and external spaces are retained.

f) *Remove unsympathetic alterations and additions;*

Comment: it is proposed to remove the intrusive condenser unit enclosure adjacent the store room and replace it with a more sympathetic one.

g) *Reinstate missing details and building elements; and*

Comment: there are no known *missing details and building elements* that are proposed to be reinstated.

h) *Use materials, finishes and colours that are appropriate to the significant periods of development or architectural character of the item.*

Comment: the proposed external materials, finishes and colours are included at p7. above (JLD dwg. A00) and are considered appropriate to the nature of the item.

c) *Alterations to the room layout of heritage items are to ensure that the original room configuration remains discernible and can be interpreted.*

Comment: the proposed works do not entail change to the original room configuration.

d) *If there is any likelihood of an impact on any significant archaeological relics from a period prior to the current building, development must ensure that the impact is managed according to the assessed level of significance of those relics.*

Comment: the proposed works are to areas of the site that have been subject to ground disturbance in the past. However, should relics be discovered during the course of the works, they are necessarily subject to the “at large” provision of the NSW Heritage Act 1977, in terms of notification, documentation and/ or recovery.

H. CONCLUSION

The proposed works to the Castlereagh Hall (former Council Chambers) are intended to improve the amenity and function of the building. These are relatively low-impact works to improve the WC facilities, the logistics of furniture, access to the stage, and a more functional indoor/ outdoor facility.

In my opinion, the works should serve to assist in the conservation of the item through improved amenity ad function, and are supportable in terms of potential heritage impact.

Prepared by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Greg Patch'.

Greg Patch
Architect/Heritage Consultant

Appendix: Documents

Penrith Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number

2260018

Study Number

C-2

Item Name: **Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)**

Location: **1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh [Penrith]**

Address: 1158-1160 Castlereagh Road

DUAP Region: Sydney West

Suburb / Nearest Town: Castlereagh 2749

Historic region: Sydney

Local Govt Area: Penrith

Parish:

State: NSW

County: Cumberland

Other/Former Names:

Area/Group/Complex:

Group ID:

Aboriginal Area:

Curtilage/Boundary:

Item Type: Built

Group: Community Facilities Category: Administration Office

Owner: Local Government

Admin Codes: 61876

Code 2:

Code 3: Current LEP Item

Current Use: Public hall

Former Uses:

Assessed Significance: **Local**

Endorsed Significance:

Statement of Significance: Unique in the Castlereagh and surrounding localities, this modest public building is significant in the Castlereagh locality for its historic association with the now defunct municipal council and for demarcating a village precinct on Castlereagh Road. The façade of the building is distinctive on the Castlereagh Road while the hall continues as a community space.

Historical Notes or Provenance: The new Castlereagh Chambers were opened by Mr J. Jackson, M.L.A., May 1934. The item replaced the old weatherboard hall that had done duty for Council meetings and public functions for 40 years, the addition comprised a room 24ft by 18ft with a council clerk's office of 18ft by 16ft.

Themes: National Theme

State Theme

Local Theme

7. Governing

Government and administra Municipal government

8. Culture

Creative endeavour (Cultur Rural villages

Designer: A. Hodgson, architect, of Glenbrook

Maker / Builder:

Year Started: 1895

Year Completed: 1933

Circa: No

State Heritage Inventory

Date: 03/06/2016

Full Report with Images

Page 1

This report was produced using the Heritage Database Software provided by the Heritage Branch, NSW Department of Planning.

Penrith Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number

2260018

Study Number

C-2

Item Name: **Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)**

Location: **1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh [Penrith]**

Physical Description: The item is a community hall on Castlereagh Road. The rendered brick façade of the building is dated 1933 in the central parapet, but the weatherboard rear of the building is contemporary with the incorporation of the council in 1895. The simple façade is an example of the Inter-War Free Classical style characterised by its symmetrical design, parapet and rendered stringcourses and window label moulds. The windows are multiple paned sashes (6 over 6 large panes). The earlier side elevations are simply detailed with double-hung timber sash windows and constructed in brick. The roof over the main hall is gabled and sheeted in corrugated metal. The earlier rear hall has sashed windows and ledged and sheeted doors. There is a modern public lavatory block at the rear of the building. The building is set close to Castlereagh Road behind a recently planted hedge and there is public car parking space to the north side with a small area set aside as public reserve. Located on the eastern side of the road, the building is set against the backdrop of the Blue Mountains and above the river plain. The building is located diagonally opposite a small public reserve (Smith Park) and the former public school is a short distance away.

Physical Condition: Good condition.

Modification Dates: Administrative front added in 1933.

**Recommended
Management:
Management:**

Further Comments: Exterior inspected

Criteria a) The building as former council chambers demonstrates the coming of local government representation in the region and the emergence of a village centre.

Criteria b)

Criteria c) The façade of the building is an example of Inter-War Free Classical style of architecture set against the backdrop of the Blue Mountains.

Criteria d) The hall continues to function for community uses.

Criteria e)

Criteria f) The building is unique in the Castlereagh locality for its style, historic association, and as a significant element in the village precinct.

Criteria g) The façade is representative of many rural and semi-rural council chambers erected around 1930.

Integrity / Intactness: Interior was not inspected, but in other respects is high.

References:

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
	Paul Davies Pty. Ltd.	Penrith Heritage Study Review	C-2	2005
	Fox & Associates	Heritage Study City of Penrith	C-2	1987

State Heritage Inventory

Date: 03/06/2016

Full Report with Images

Page 2

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Penrith Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number

2260018

Study Number

C-2

Item Name: Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)

Location: 1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh [Penrith]

Parcels:	Parcel Code	LotNumber	Section	Plan Code	Plan Number
		1		DP	198257

Latitude:

Longitude:

Location validity:

Spatial Accuracy:

Map Name:

Map Scale:

AMG Zone:

Easting:

Northing:

Listings:	Name:	Title:	Number:	Date:
	Penrith Local Environmental Plan 2010		2260018	
	Local Environmental Plan	Former Castlereagh Coun	C-2	20/12/1991
	Heritage study		2260018	1/11/2007
	Heritage study	Former Castlereagh Coun	C-2	1/04/1987

Built Form: Owner - Penrith City Council

Allotment and Setback:

Height:

Fences:

Driveways and Garages:

Building Materials:

Data Entry: Date First Entered: 14/12/1999 Date Updated: 28/11/2007 Status: Partial

State Heritage Inventory

Date: 03/06/2016

Full Report with Images

Page 3

This report was produced using the Heritage Database Software provided by the Heritage Branch, NSW Department of Planning.

Penrith Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number

2260018

Study Number

C-2

Item Name: **Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)**

Location: **1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh [Penrith]**

Image/s:



Caption: Side of hall showing original portion

Copyright: Paul Davies Pty Ltd

Image by: Paul Davies Pty Ltd

Image Date: 7/11/2004

Image Number:

Image Path:

Image File: 2260018a.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File:

Penrith Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number

2260018

Study Number

C-2

Item Name: **Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)**

Location: **1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh [Penrith]**

Image/s:



Caption: Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)

Copyright: Paul Davies Pty Ltd

Image by: Paul Davies Pty Ltd

Image Date: 7/11/2004

Image Number: P1/1

Image Path:

Image File: 2260018b.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File: 2260018b.jpg

Penrith Heritage Inventory

State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number

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C-2

Item Name: **Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)**

Location: **1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh [Penrith]**

Image/s:



Caption: Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)

Copyright: Paul Davies Pty Ltd

Image by: Paul Davies Pty Ltd

Image Date: 11/07/2006

Image Number: M1/1

Image Path:

Image File: 2260018b2.jpg

Thumb Nail Path:

Thumb Nail File: 2260018t2.jpg

Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)

Item details

Name of item: Castlereagh Council Chambers (Former)
Type of item: Built
Group/Collection: Community Facilities
Category: Administration Office
Primary address: 1158-1160 Castlereagh Road, Castlereagh, NSW 2749
County: Cumberland
Local govt. area: Penrith

All addresses

Street Address	Suburb/town	LGA	Parish	County	Type
1158-1160 Castlereagh Road	Castlereagh	Penrith		Cumberland	Primary Address

Statement of significance:

Unique in the Castlereagh and surrounding localities, this modest public building is significant in the Castlereagh locality for its historic association with the now defunct municipal council and for demarcating a village precinct on Castlereagh Road. The façade of the building is distinctive on the Castlereagh Road while the hall continues as a community space.

Date significance updated: 11 May 06

Note: The State Heritage Inventory provides information about heritage items listed by local and State government agencies. The State Heritage Inventory is continually being updated by local and State agencies as new information becomes available. Read the [OEH copyright and disclaimer](#).

Description

Designer/Maker: A. Hodgson, architect, of Glenbrook

Construction years: 1895-1933

Physical description: The item is a community hall on Castlereagh Road. The rendered brick façade of the building is dated 1933 in the central parapet, but the weatherboard rear of the building is contemporary with the incorporation of the council in 1895. The simple façade is an example of the Inter-War Free Classical style characterised by its symmetrical design, parapet and rendered stringcourses and window label moulds. The windows are multiple paned sashes (6 over 6 large panes). The earlier side elevations are simply detailed with double-hung timber sash windows and constructed in brick. The roof over the main hall is gabled and sheeted in corrugated metal. The earlier rear hall has sashed windows and ledged and sheeted doors. There is a modern public lavatory block at the rear of the building. The building is set close to Castlereagh Road behind a recently planted hedge and there is public car parking space to the north side with a small area set aside as public reserve. Located on the eastern side of the road, the building is set against the backdrop of the Blue Mountains and above the river plain. The building is located diagonally opposite a small public reserve (Smith Park) and the former public school is a short distance away.

Physical condition and/or Good condition.

Archaeological potential:

Date condition updated: 13 Jan 00

Modifications and dates: Administrative front added in 1933.

Further information: Exterior inspected

Current use: Public hall


History

Historical notes: The new Castlereagh Chambers were opened by Mr J. Jackson, M.L.A., May 1934. The item replaced the old weatherboard hall that had done duty for Council meetings and public functions for 40 years, the addition comprised a room 24ft by 18ft with a council clerk's office of 18ft by 16ft.

Historic themes

Australian theme (abbrev)	New South Wales theme	Local theme
7. Governing-Governing	Government and Administration-Activities associated with the governance of local areas, regions, the State and the nation, and the administration of public programs - includes both principled and corrupt activities.	Municipal government-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Rural villages-

Assessment of significance

SHR Criteria a) [Historical significance]	The building as former council chambers demonstrates the coming of local government representation in the region and the emergence of a village centre.
SHR Criteria c) [Aesthetic significance]	The façade of the building is an example of Inter-War Free Classical style of architecture set against the backdrop of the Blue Mountains.
SHR Criteria d) [Social significance]	The hall continues to function for community uses.
SHR Criteria f) [Rarity]	The building is unique in the Castlereagh locality for its style, historic association, and as a significant element in the village precinct.
SHR Criteria g) [Representativeness]	The façade is representative of many rural and semi-rural council chambers erected around 1930.
Integrity/Intactness:	Interior was not inspected, but in other respects is high.
Assessment criteria:	Items are assessed against the  State Heritage Register (SHR) Criteria to determine the level of significance. Refer to the Listings below for the level of statutory protection.

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Former Castlereagh Council Chambers	C-2	20 Dec 91	180	
Local Environmental Plan	Penrith LEP 2010	18	22 Sep 10		
Heritage study		2260018	01 Nov 07		
Heritage study	Former Castlereagh Council Chambers	C-2	01 Apr 87		

Study details

Title	Year	Number	Author	Inspected by	Guidelines used
Penrith Heritage Study Review	2005	C-2	Paul Davies Pty. Ltd.	Paul Davies Pty Ltd	Yes
Heritage Study City of Penrith	1987	C-2	Fox & Associates		No

References, internet links & images

None

Note: internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.



(Click on thumbnail for full size image and image details)

Data source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

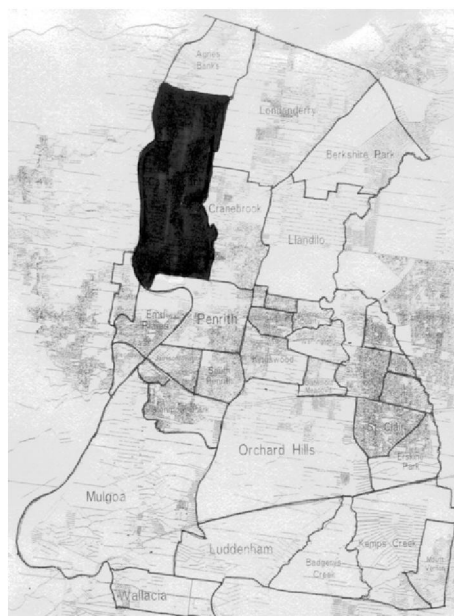
Name: Local Government

Database number: 2260018

6.0 Castlereagh

6.1 Location

The suburb is historically associated with Agnes Banks and Cranebrook, and is the oldest European settled area in the LGA.



6.2 Land Grants

No.	Grantee	Name of Farm	Area	Date of Grant
01	Joseph Bayliss		150 acres	1/6/1803
02	William Seals		30 acres	20/4/1809
03	Isaac Cornwall	Kent Farm	100 acres	20/4/1809
04	John Burgess	Blackheath	80 acres	14/11/1809
05	Richard Perkins		50 acres	8/10/1816
06	George Cheshire		50 acres	8/10/1816
07	Thomas Markwell		50 acres	5/4/1821
08	Benjamin Carver		100 acres	9/1/1809
09	George Black		80 acres	11/8/1804
10	Donald Kennedy		160 acres	30/6/1803
11	Robert Smith		80 acres	30/6/1803
12	Gilbert Goodlitt		80 acres	30/6/1803
13	Joshua Griffiths		80 acres	30/6/1803
14	Richard Oldwright		80 acres	30/6/1803
15	Martin Mentz (Mince)		80 acres	30/6/1803
18	Thomas Cheshire		140 acres	30/6/1803
18	William Tonks		140 acres	30/6/1803
19	John Harris		90 acres	30/6/1803
19	Thomas Lambley		80 acres	30/6/1803
20	John Jones		80 acres	30/6/1803
21	Stephen Smith		100 acres	30/6/1803
22	Edward Field		100 acres	30/6/1803

23	John	Pickering		80 acres	30/6/1803
24	Samuel	Stanyard		80 acres	30/6/1803
25	Mary	Colletts		70 acres	1/7/1803
26	John	Lees	Pankle	284 acres	19/10/1831
27	Charles	Gordon	Providence Farm	50 acres	19/10/1831
28	John	Lees	Stoke	80 acres	
29	Thomas	Markwell		50 acres	8/10/1816
30	George	Lewis		40 acres	8/10/1816
31	John	Hughes		40 acres	19/10/1831
32	William	Bayliss		40 acres	8/10/1816
33	Phillip	Devine		36 acres	8/10/1816
34	Donald	Kennedy		50 acres	25/8/1812
35	Joseph	Bayliss		44 acres	25/8/1812
36	John	Andrews		40 acres	25/8/1812
37	Ralph	Wilson		200 acres	11/8/1804
38			Town Reserve		1811
39	Alexander	Fraser		60 acres	19/10/1831
40	Samuel	Terry (original grantee was Thomas Dalton)		60 acres	19/10/1831
41	John	Colethread		100 acres	5/8/1806
43	Rosetta	Marsh	Islington	150 acres	18/3/1809
44	Thomas	Green		50 acres	1/1/1806
45	John	Pugh		190 acres	11/8/1804
46	Thomas	Biggers		100 acres	10/5/1809
48	Elizabeth More	Hume*		50 acres	5/8/1806 * The mother of the explorer Hamilton Hume
49	William N.	Chapman		1300 acres	10/2/1804
50	James	McCarthy	Crane Brook	100 acres	11/8/1804
51	Christopher	Frederick		100 acres	4/6/1804
52	John	Lees		90 acres	1/6/1804
53	George	Fieldhouse		90 acres	1/6/1804
54	James	Morris		160 acres	11/8/1804
55	Robert	Williams		60 acres	6/9/1809



Crown land grants in the suburb of **Castlereagh**, parish of Castlereagh, county of Cumberland. (Base drawing supplied by Penrith City Council.)

6.3 Historical Background

The locality of Castlereagh contains one of the five towns (C-14) established by Governor Macquarie in 1810 to provide flood relief for the farmers of the lowlands of

the Nepean/Hawkesbury River. These towns are located on the high ground above the flood prone river valley. The town reserve of Castlereagh was laid out by surveyor James Meehan and each of the local farmers were allocated an allotment within the reserve. The community which the township was intended to serve lay to the east. This area comprised a considerable number of Crown grants made official over 1803 and 1804 by Governor King, but evidently confirming a prior pattern of land usages dating from the mid 1790s. The grants are mostly located between the Nepean River and a north/south line of road which today is traced by Castlereagh Road. Other, generally smaller, grants were located to the east of Castlereagh Road.

The township (the south-east half is presently included within the neighbouring Penrith local area of Cranebrook) was not a success, although Rev. Fulton's combined chapel, parsonage and schoolhouse (C-15) was erected in 1813 by William Cox at the government's expense (the value of this work was put at £1,808) and a burial ground dedicated for the area (C-16). To the south, a glebe of 400 acres was reserved for the Anglican Church, but was re-granted to the Rev. Fulton and a smaller area of 60 acres dedicated as glebe. (The cemetery, glebe and site of chapel/schoolhouse are within the Cranebrook area of the town reserve.) Fulton was in charge of the parishes of Castlereagh and Richmond. The school, run by Fulton, was a classical academy based on the English tradition of providing tuition for the sons of the local farmers capable of paying the tuition fee. Charles Tompson, the author of Australia's first published volume of poetry, *Wild Notes from the Lyre of a Native Minstrel* of 1820, attended Fulton's school. By the 1820s only the blacksmith, Fulton and his pupils lived in the town, and this situation had not improved by the 1840s when the township allotments were resumed by the Government and offered for sale, again evidently with little success. At any given time during this period there may have been only a handful of buildings within the reserve.

The Crown grants on the alluvial soils of the riverbank with its network of creeklines were between 40 acres and 150 acres with most being 80 acres. These grants were intended to develop an agricultural base in the colony although timber getting was the first land use with clearance of high quality timbers such as cedar. The rate of timber clearing can be gauged from the muster return of 1804 and it was of sufficient extent to cause major run-off silting the river course and causing catastrophic flooding.

The original grantees were a mix of ex-convicts and free settlers with a strong representation of former soldiers of the New South Wales Corps who received land grants resulting from the reduction in the Corps in 1803. The former New South Wales Corps grantees included Joseph Bayliss, George Black, John Burgess, Richard Oldwright, John Lees, Ralph Wilson, a captain in the Corps, John Pickering, Thomas Lambley, John Pugh and William Tonks. The first farmers however were not successful and from around 1806 grants were being worked by tenant farmers or were being absorbed into larger land holdings.

Some insight into the nature of this early settlement can be gleaned from the following entries in the land and stock muster of 1806:

- George Black's riverside grant of 80 acres had been cleared but the majority of the land (77 acres) was pasture, about 2 acres had wheat and maize, and there

was an orchard of one acre. Black was a private in the Corps who had arrived in 1791 and had been discharged in March 1803.²⁴

- John Pickering's 80 acres was divided in two by 1806 with the grantee resident on 40 acres of which 11 acres was under crop and the balance of the grant was leased by George Collin who had 7 acres under crop.²⁵
- Thomas Lambley's 80 acres had 8 acres under cultivation.²⁶
- John Pugh's grant of 140 acres had been enlarged to 215 acres although relatively small area (21 acres) was under cultivation together with a small orchard.²⁷
- A grant of 90 acres was made to John Lees in 1803 who was another former private with the New South Wales Corp who had arrived in 1797. The grant was named Stoke. To the east, Lees received an additional grant of 284 acres at an unknown date (it was registered in 1831) named Pankle; located on the poor quality sandy soils, this was evidently given for grazing stock. By the 1806 stock muster Lees owned 160 acres with 14 acres under cultivation.²⁸ Lees is of particular historical note for his contribution to the development of Wesleyan Methodism in the colony by opening a chapel by 1815 and then in 1817 erecting a chapel on his Castlereagh property. The chapel was rebuilt in brick in 1847 (UC-01).

The other early grantees included:

- Donald Kennedy received two grants totaling 210 acres, the smaller of these (50 acres) is located within this locality. Kennedy arrived in 1792 to serve a sentence of transportation. The 90 acre grant passed to his sons on his death in 1829 but does not appear in the land and stock musters for 1822 and 1828.
- John Andrews had arrived in 1803 as a free settler and received a grant of 1812 of 40 acres. In the 1822 muster, Andrews' farm comprised 110 acres, with 40 acres under cultivation, 80 acres cleared and five acres of orchard. Andrews had been issued with cattle from government stock in 1816 and his livestock by 1822 comprised 20 head of cattle and 30 hogs.²⁹
- Benjamin Carver arrived in 1792. By 1804 he was constable and formed part of the government's voluntary militia at the Battle of Vinegar Hill. In 1820 he was constable and pound-keeper for the district. Carver received a grant of 100 acres in 1809 which in the 1822 muster was noted with 14 acres under cultivation, another 14 acres cleared, and with five hogs.³⁰
- Thomas Markwell arrived in 1790 to serve a sentence of 14 years transportation. Markwell received two grants of 50 acres, which by the 1828 census about a third was under cultivation. Unusually, Markwell also had 100 head of cattle and 700 sheep.³¹
- William Seals arrived in 1792 as the baker to Governor Phillip. In the 1822 muster about five acres was under cultivation, and there was a small orchard. There were 18 head of cattle.³²

²⁴ Baxter, C.J. (ed.), *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney, 1989, entry B461

²⁵ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B363 and B364

²⁶ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no B481

²⁷ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no B626

²⁸ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no B611

²⁹ Baxter, C.J. (ed.), *General Muster and Land and Stock Muster of New South Wales; 1822*, Society of Australian Genealogists, Sydney, 1988, entry no. B23

³⁰ *General Muster and Land and Stock Muster of New South Wales; 1822*, entry no. B352

³¹ Sainty, M.R., and K.A. Johnson, *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*. Library of Australian History, Sydney, 1985, entry no. M1718

³² *General Muster and Land and Stock Muster of New South Wales; 1822*, entry no. B1832

- Isaac Cornwall arrived in 1797 to serve a sentence of transportation. Cornwall received a grant of 100 acres in 1809 which was named Kent Farm, but died in 1811. The farm however was evidently retained by the family for in the 1828 census return, the eldest son, also named Isaac, was farming the grant; 20 acres were under cultivation with two head of cattle.³³
- James McCarthy (1771-1851) arrived in the colony in 1793 to serve seven years' transportation. He received his land grant of 100 acres in August 1804, the first in the area, but family tradition has it he received a grant of 30 acres in 1799. In the 1806 muster he had five acres under cultivation and a horse and oxen.³⁴ By 1828 the farm comprised 400 acres, 65 acres under cultivation with livestock numbering nine horses and 150 cattle.³⁵ McCarthy is of particular historic note for his contribution to the development of Roman Catholicism in the colony with services being held at his homestead and a small parcel of land was set aside for a Catholic cemetery from around 1806. The property was retained by the family until 1965, and the old house was destroyed by fire in 1973. The bricks were salvaged by the Broadbent family and used in restoration of The Cottage at Mulgoa.
- Half of Samuel Stanyard's grant was leased by James Portsmouth in 1806 with 10 acres under crop.³⁶
- Stephen Smith had 24 acres under cultivation in 1806 and also had a small orchard.³⁷
- John Harris – Arrived 1790 and had 27 acres under cultivation by 1806.³⁸ By 1828 55 acres of the grant was under cultivation with a livestock numbering five horses and 64 cattle.³⁹
- Edward Field had 30 acres under cultivation and a small orchard by 1806, with an extensive stock of 15 sheep and one horse.⁴⁰ By 1828 the farm had been increased to 150 acres and was managed by his native born son. 66 acres of the grant was under cultivation with a livestock numbering 19 horses, 260 sheep and 130 cattle.⁴¹
- Christopher Frederick had 10 acres under cultivation by 1806.⁴² By 1828 25 acres of the grant was under cultivation with a livestock numbering 3 horses, and 11 cattle.⁴³
- Thomas Cheshire – had 18 acres under cultivation in 1806.⁴⁴
- Mary Collett had 11 acres under cultivation in 1806.⁴⁵ Mary came free to the colony in 1801 accompanying her husband Pierce who had been transported to serve his sentence of 14 years. By 1828 the Colletts had moved to managing a licensed hotel along the Western Road in the Blue Mountains, and their son Joseph, a blacksmith, would seem to have been managing the grant, now reduced to 20 acres.⁴⁶
- Thomas Green had nothing under cultivation in 1806.⁴⁷

³³ *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*, entry no. C2497

³⁴ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B478

³⁵ *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*, entry no. M207

³⁶ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B365

³⁷ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B483

³⁸ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B491

³⁹ *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*, entry no. H488

⁴⁰ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B492

⁴¹ *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*, entry no. F344

⁴² *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B501

⁴³ *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*, entry no. F1356

⁴⁴ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B585

⁴⁵ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B497

⁴⁶ *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*, entry no. C1708

⁴⁷ *Musters of New South Wales and Norfolk Island; 1805-1806*, entry no. B381

- James Morris arrived 1801 serving a sentence of seven years transportation. By 1828 30 acres of a farm, now comprising 60 acres, was under cultivation with livestock numbering 9 horses, and 3 cattle.⁴⁸

During the first few decades of the nineteenth century many of the original grantees had given up farming, their land either being sold or leased, however the river frontage land was in high demand due to its productivity for grain production and then cattle grazing. John Single, a free settler, came to the Castlereagh district in 1817 and was one of the first to supply meat to the Government Stores. He bought up a number of the grants to build up a farm holding of 2000 acres (inclusive of land to west of the river) centred on the grand Nepean Park (C-09) erected c.1823. The Single family remained in the district throughout the nineteenth century.

The southern part of the locality lies within William Neate Chapman's Lambridge grant, which was owned in the first half of the nineteenth century by the McHenry family, by 1850 there were a large number of small tenant farms here.⁴⁹

The pattern of settlement by the early 1870s was characterised by a large number of narrow lots with frontage to Castlereagh Road occupied by tenant or freehold farmers.⁵⁰ This land use pattern is similar to that of today. *Greville's Directory* of 1872 lists nearly 100 inhabitants in the area of Castlereagh.

To service this community of farmers a government school was established in 1858 and a new purpose built schoolhouses were completed in 1879 (UC-03 and C-04). The school was closed in 1930 at the onset of the Depression. The school supplanted the neighbouring Wesleyan school house (UC-01). Around the schools developed a village area which at Castlereagh includes Smith Park (dedicated as reserve in 1903) (C-02) and the former council chambers (erected 1895 with 1934 addition) (C-02). The Anglican's Christ Church (C-12) was consecrated in 1878 some distance to the south of this area.⁵¹ The church is located on land donated by Joseph D. Single of Minnaville and this location has views to the homesteads Nepean Park (C-09) (owned by the Single family) and Hadley Park (C-08). A post office was also opened in the 1870s (1875), which closed in 1967.

Inns were also established to cater for farmers and passing trade. These included Lander's Oddfellow Inn, the Do-Drop-Inn at Upper Castlereagh, and William Lander's Welcome Inn (C-05). The Hadley family also maintained inns, the first was Charles' from around 1817 and another by his son Thomas through the 1830s. Storekeepers are also noted in directories, such as Robert Brown (until 1857) and the Parkers (1860s-1880s). The important position of blacksmith was held by Edward Field and Eugene Langley at the old Castlereagh township, while on the Castlereagh Road were the Parkers.⁵²

A dairy industry developed at Castlereagh during the late nineteenth century which warranted the opening of a creamery at Penrith in 1893. There were initially about 20 local farmers supplying the creamery.⁵³

⁴⁸ *Census of New South Wales: November 1828*, entry no. F1356

⁴⁹ Lands Department – Old System Deed Bk 73, No. 86

⁵⁰ Lands Department – Crown Plan 550a-1603

⁵¹ *Nepean Times* 28/12/1878, p.3

⁵² Bently, F., and J. Birmingham, 'Penrith Lakes Scheme Regional Environmental Study: History of European settlement'. Prepared for Department of Environment and Planning, 1983.

⁵³ *Nepean Times* 15/4/1893, p. 7

Castlereagh was located within the boundaries of the original Penrith Council of 1871. The Castlereagh ward seceded from Penrith Council in 1895 to form Castlereagh Council, and new chambers (C-02) were soon after erected by local contractor J. Shaw.⁵⁴ The first mayor was Arthur Leopold Hough. The first town clerk was E Bissland (1895 -1896), but his successor, A. F. Devlin, was the longest serving (1896 -1927.) The chambers were extended in 1934 to a design prepared by architect A. Hodgson of Glenbrook.⁵⁵ Hodgson continued his association with local government into the 1960s in designing the Penrith City Council's new offices (P-18).



A parish map of the 1830s showing the Castlereagh township reserve and surrounding common. Source: Lands Department Parish Map CD

The eastern area of the locality, inclusive of the town reserve, was common land used for pasturing stock. As with Agnes Banks to the north, the common land is located on an isolated pocket of wind blown sands which overlie clay deposits. The common land supports an interesting shrub dominated community. The common land (Crown land) has remained as Crown reserve and presently forms part of a nature reserve.

6.4 Description

The rural suburb of Castlereagh is located on the eastern bank of the Nepean River, north of Penrith. The historic Castlereagh Road dissects the suburb. The topography is characterized by gently undulating low-lying land with numerous creeklines neighbouring the river and a prominent ridge of higher ground to the west. Generally the land has been cleared for agricultural use west of Cranebrook Road, while it is open forest to the east. There are a number of farms east of the road which have been partially cleared, but retain a high percentage of tree cover. However the southern section is an open cut gravel quarry which has removed a large part of the significant landscape which has in part been rehabilitated by the Penrith lakes Development Corporation

⁵⁴ *Nepean Times* 20/2/1897, p.3

⁵⁵ *Nepean Times* 5/5/1934, p.3

The suburb comprises a high number of small rural landholdings fronting the Castlereagh Road. The farms to the west of the road also have frontage to the Nepean River. Associated with this land use pattern, which dates from the early years of the nineteenth century, are a correspondingly high number of farm residences (C-06, C-07, C-08, C-09). The ages of the farmhouses date from the 1810s to the 1920s. The ongoing quarrying operation has obliterated a number of small nineteenth century farming allotments and seriously compromised the setting of others, although part of the alignment of McCarthy's Lane and the cemetery (CR-10) remain.

Evidence for rural settlement on the poorer agricultural lands to the east on the Cranebrook escarpment is less pronounced including a handful of historic farms (C-10, CR-08). The ridge however includes part of the original Castlereagh town reserve (C-14) and later Anglican Church (C-12). The prominent siting of the church and its date bears more reference to the riverside estates (ie. C-08, C-09) to the west than settlement in the immediate vicinity.

Castlereagh Road is an historic early nineteenth century road alignment (PC-02); the earliest in the Penrith region. The alignment changes around the junction with Hinxman Road which adds to its historic interest. While the road has been upgraded to suit evolving traffic usage there remain stands of exotic and native trees which reflect the natural vegetation, frontages to past estates, and possibly civic improvements (C-17). The road also has high scenic values derived from the proximity of the river, historic farmsteads, and forested slopes of the Blue Mountains Escarpment.

There are two village centres on Castlereagh Road each with a cluster of community and civic buildings such as the former schools (C-04, UC-02, UC-03) and church (UC-01) which was the second Castlereagh Village, and the site of the council chambers (C-02), park reserves and places of commemoration (C-03, UC-4) which is the third Castlereagh Village.

6.5 Existing LEP Heritage Items

The following items were identified in the inventory of the heritage study prepared in 1987, and were listed in Schedule 2 of the *Penrith Local Environmental Plan 1991*:

C-02 Castlereagh Council Chambers (former) 1158-1160 Castlereagh Road SHI 2260018	The former chambers of Castlereagh Council erected in 1895 with a new front elevation added in 1933. The chambers demonstrate the emergence of local government in 1895 and provide a focus for the historic identity of the Castlereagh community.
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C-03
 Memorials, Smith
 Park
 1151-1159
 Castlereagh Road
 SHI 2260019

Smith Park was dedicated as public reserve in 1903 and provides an important contribution to defining the second village of Castlereagh. The park contains civic memorials to the sacrifice of locals in the First World War and foundation of the town at Castlereagh by Governor Macquarie in 1811.



C-04
 Castlereagh Public
 School (former)
 13-25 West Wilchard
 Road
 SHI 2260020

An excellent example of a modest government public school of the 1870s inclusive of school hall. The building demonstrates nineteenth century rural settlement in the region, the emergence of public education, and development of the village of Castlereagh along Castlereagh Road.



C-06
 Landers Inn & Stone
 stables ruins
 1240-1260
 Castlereagh Road
 SHI 2260022

The site is the location of the Welcome Inn established around 1841. In comprising the ruins of a sandstone stables, the site demonstrates the mid nineteenth century practice of roadside inns.



C-07
 Slab cottage
 1268 – 1270
 Castlereagh Road
 SHI 2260023

This ruin of a slab and weatherboard building provides insight into mid-nineteenth century rural settlement in the area. Believed to be 'Puddledock' built by the Herbert family.



C-10 & C-11
 Farmhouse, dairy &
 garden & native
 vegetation
 259-263 Church Lane
 SHI 2260026

This farmhouse was erected in the late nineteenth century. It is unusual in being located distant from the river flats on the elevated land east of Castlereagh Road. The farmhouse complex includes a number of outbuildings, are stands of trees which are remnants of the garden setting. The farm estate includes stands of mature ironbark trees which represent an important remnant of the original vegetation. The cottage overlooks the valley and is a prominent element from the road.



Farmhouse top photo, diary lower photo.



C-12
 Christ Church
 Anglican
 230-232 Church Lane
 SHI 2260028

The rendered brick Christ Church demonstrates nineteenth century rural settlement in the region and the emergence of a community centre on Castlereagh Road. This simple and picturesque building was erected for the Anglican Church in 1878. The elevation of the church provides views of neighbouring estates, and is in-turn highly visible from the south and south-west. The rural setting of the church is enhanced by



clusters of shade trees.

C-13
Pise house ruins
1439 Castlereagh Rd
SHI 2260029

The ruin of an Italianate farmhouse provides insight into late nineteenth century rural settlement in the area. The pise construction is unusual and provides considerable research value for understanding the reasons behind the introduction of this technology into the area.

Site access not available

CR-08
The Poplars Garden,
Old slab cottage
Pise House
108-110 Wrights Lane
SHI 2260044

The Poplars is a rare example of a pise house (c.1860) and an interesting example of an early (pre 1850) slab cottage and stables along with a range of other farm buildings set in a an established landscape.



UC-04
Upper Castlereagh
War Memorial.
1718-1720
Castlereagh Rd.
SHI 2260244

A poignant memorial to the sacrifice of local families in the First World War.



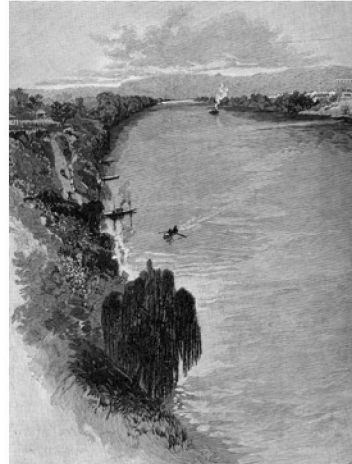
UC-05
Crushing Plant,
Jacksons Lane
SHI 2260245

A gravel crushing plant of the 1930s provides an interesting illustration of the development of mechanized processing in the quarrying operations in the region.



PC-01
Nepean River
SHI 22600

The Nepean River is of high aesthetic value with its broad flow river course and setting of forested and cleared hillsides set against the backdrop of the Blue Mountains Escarpment. The river has historic associations with all phases of the development of Penrith and the broader region.



NR-09
Sites of water mills,
Nepean River

These sites of early nineteenth century water mills demonstrate historical associations with the agricultural economy of the region. The mills were opened at different times, the earliest is Jackson's (from 1826), Allen's (from 1834) and Colless'.

The location of the mills could not be identified during fieldwork, some sites are likely to be on private land and others have no remnant material .



The following items were identified in the inventory of the heritage study prepared in 1987, and listed in Schedule 2 of the *Penrith Local Environmental Plan 1991* but have since been demolished:

- UC-06 – The remnants of the slaughter yards of the Parker family provided an interesting example of small scale rural industry in the region.
- C-05 – Victorian Farmhouse, R97 Castlereagh Road
- CR-09 and CR-09(a) McCarthy's Farm – archaeological remains and trees, McCarthys Lane SHI 2260047, SHI 2260048

6.6 Heritage Items Listed under SREP No. 11

The following items were identified in the inventory of the heritage study prepared in 1987, and are listed in Schedule 2 of the *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 11 (The Penrith Lakes Scheme)* (gazetted 21 November 1986).

C-08
Hadley Park
1348-1362
Castlereagh Road
SHI 2260024

Hadley Park was erected around 1811 for Charles Hadley. It is an unique example of substantial farmhouse of the Macquarie era. The farm complex comprises the two storey house of classic Georgian style and proportions with nearby slab hut and timber washhouse.



C-09
Nepean Park
1404 Castlereagh
Road
SHI 2260025

Nepean Park was erected around 1820 for John Single and is an excellent example of substantial farmhouse of the Macquarie era. The farm complex comprises the two storey house of classic Georgian style and proportions. The entry to the estate is marked by two large kurrajongs trees.



CR-10 and CR-10(a)
McCarthy's cemetery
and trees
McCarthy's Lane
SHI 2260049

This small cemetery was initially used by members of the McCarthy family from 1806 and other local Catholic families. The cemetery was reserved as a Roman Catholic cemetery in 1838, and is the oldest Roman Catholic cemetery in N.S.W. The cemetery is surrounded by mature plants. Parts of the landscape scheme have died. The planting scheme *Ulmus Sp* (Elms) at Corners with *Brachychiton sp* (Kurrajong) as side plantings.

Site access is not available to this site as it is now located within the quarry area.

UC-01
Upper Castlereagh
Uniting Church and
Cemetery
1727-1733
Castlereagh Rd
SHI 2260240

The stuccoed brick Uniting Church demonstrates early nineteenth century rural settlement in the region and the emergence of the Wesleyan Methodist religion in Australia. This Georgian style church was erected for the Wesleyan Methodist Church in 1847. The rural setting of the church is enhanced by clusters of shade trees and small cemetery (dating from 1836). The church is one of the oldest the region and has historic associations with a number of local landholders and early members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The building is part of a precinct of buildings which define the village of Upper Castlereagh.



UC-02
Upper Castlereagh
Uniting Church Hall
1727-1733
Castlereagh Rd
SHI 2260240

The weatherboard hall is believed to have been erected in the 1840s as the Wesleyan schoolhouse. The building has historic associations with the emergence and education of the rural community in the first half of the nineteenth century and is part of a precinct of buildings which define the village of Upper Castlereagh.



UC-03
Upper Castlereagh
Public School and
residence.
1718-1722
Castlereagh Rd
SHI 2260243

An excellent example of a modest government public school (1879) of the 1870s inclusive of school hall and teacher's residence. The buildings demonstrate nineteenth century rural settlement in the region as well as the emergence of public education. The buildings are part of a precinct of buildings which define the village of Upper Castlereagh.



6.7 Existing Nominated Heritage Items

The following items were identified in the inventory of the heritage study prepared in 1987, but are not listed in Schedule 2 of the *Penrith Local Environmental Plan 1991*:

<p>PC-02 Castlereagh Road SHI 2260261</p>	<p>The line of Castlereagh Road was established around 1803 to provide access to the farm grants, and until 1815 was the road route from Sydney via the settlement at Windsor. The road has outstanding scenic values derived from the setting of the river and Blue Mountains, and is one of the oldest surveyed roads in Australia. While the road has been upgraded the original alignment, and rural context remains.</p> <p>The item is recommended for inclusion in the LEP schedule.</p>	
<p>C-01 Rural Landscape, Castlereagh Road SHI 2260017</p>	<p>This early road passes through the river flats of the Upper Castlereagh and is fringed by plantings of plane trees, palms, poplars and elms. The road is of historical significance in providing frontage to early land grants and has high aesthetic values in traversing the river flats.</p> <p>The item is recommended for removal from the LEP schedule.</p>	
<p>C-11 Natural vegetation, Church Lane SHI 2260033</p>	<p>Natural stand of mature ironbark trees. Eucalyptus Sp which are an important remnant of the original vegetation. However it is not an item that belongs in a cultural heritage study and should not be listed in the revised LEP schedule.</p> <p>The site is not recommended for listing in the LEP schedule.</p>	
<p>C-14 Site of Castlereagh Township, East Wilchard Road & Church Lane SHI 2260030</p>	<p>The original township of Castlereagh was established by Governor Macquarie in 1811 to provide permanent settlement and flood refuge for local farmers. The planned town is one of five laid out at Macquarie's direction in the Hawkesbury/Nepean River system.</p> <p>It is recommended for heritage listing given the outstanding historical Macquarie association and tangible evidence of the town reserve through road alignments.</p>	
<p>C-17 Plane trees (roadside planting), Castlereagh Road SHI 2260034</p>	<p>This roadside planting of plane trees adds to the scenic quality of Castlereagh Road and probably demonstrates an Inter-war beautification scheme.</p> <p>The site is not recommended for listing in the LEP.</p>	<p>Removed as part of Penrith Lakes Project</p>
<p>CR-07 Celtis Roadside Planting, Cranebrook Road SHI 2260043</p>	<p>Celtis sp. avenue along Cranebrook Road is an important landscape feature of past planting schemes.</p> <p>The site is not recommended for listing in the LEP.</p>	<p>Removed as part of Penrith Lakes Project</p>
<p>UC-07 Avenue Planting, Castlereagh Road</p>	<p>An avenue planting of elms and robins may demonstrate an early farm boundary.</p> <p>The site is not recommended for listing in the LEP.</p>	<p>Removed as part of Penrith Lakes Project</p>

6.8 State Heritage Register

The following properties are entered in the State Heritage Register:

- Upper Castlereagh public school and residence, Castlereagh Road (UC-03)
- Natural area at Agnes Banks, Rickards Avenue (AB-11)

6.9 Potential Heritage Items

No potential items were identified through fieldwork undertaken for the preparation of this review and/or nominated by the community, however it is noted that item UC-03 is actually located on two lots and the school residence requires separate listing at 1722 Castlereagh Road, even though it is currently listed in the REP and the SHR.

6.10 Planning codes, guidelines and studies

Existing statutory controls for heritage items in the upper portion of Castlereagh are contained in the *Penrith Local Environmental Plan 1994 (Environmental Heritage Conservation)*.

The upper portion of Castlereagh is included in the *Penrith Rural Lands Study* prepared by Penrith City Council (June 2001). The report highlights:

- River landscape
- Significant visual elements relate to European settlement
- Views of road take in rural landscape – post and rail, windbreaks, avenue plantings, landmark trees
- The large percentage of small sized land holdings
- Lots with native vegetation
- Public use and government uses
- Level land with significant native vegetation

The *Penrith Rural Lands Strategy* (September 2003) includes the upper portion of Castlereagh in the group of four rural centres where future settlement growth is possible.

The *Fauna and Flora Corridors Study* prepared for Penrith City Council by Land and Environment Planning in 1997 recommended the dedication the escarpment south of the old township as a fauna and flora corridor and the Agnes Banks and Castlereagh Nature Reserves.

The existing planning provisions for the southern portion of Castlereagh are contained within *Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 11 (The Penrith Lakes Scheme)* (gazetted 21 November 1986). The plan provides a framework for the development of regionally significant recreation lakes through controlled extraction of sand and gravel resources. Amendments to the plan permit the establishment of an international rowing course, reserve land for the relocation of Castlereagh Road, change the design of the lakes scheme and remove provisions concerning the preparation of statements of environmental effects and the provision of development control codes. The SREP includes a schedule of items of environmental heritage, which comprises:

- Hadley Park, shown as Heritage Item No 1 on the structure plan
- Nepean Park, shown as Heritage Item No 2 on the structure plan
- McCarthys Cemetery, shown as Heritage Item No 3 on the structure plan
- Upper Castlereagh Methodist Church and Hall, shown as Heritage Item No 4 on the structure plan).
- Upper Castlereagh School and Residence, part portion 54, Parish of Castlereagh, County of Cumberland, shown as Heritage Item No 5 on the structure plan

The *Penrith Lakes Scheme Regional Environmental Study: History of European settlement* prepared for the Department of Environment and Planning by F. Bently and J. Birmingham in 1983 identified the following items as being of at least local significance:

RES No.	Bently and Birmingham No.	LEP No.	Name	Level of significance	Current Status
RES-01	SITE-12		The Poplars; cottage and slab outbuildings	Considerable, Some	Occupied
RES-02	SITE-13		Wright's cottage complex	Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-03	SITE-22		Vine cottage complex	Considerable	Removed
RES-04	SITE-26A	UC-01	Methodist Church (1847)	Great	Extant
RES-05	SITE-39A	C-09	Nepean Park	Great	Extant
RES-06	SITE-40	C-08	Hadley Park complex and estate	Great	Extant
RES-07	SITE-41		Cottage and outbuildings	Some	Removed
RES-08	SITE-43		Georgian cottage and outbuildings	Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-09	SITE-46		House and barns	Considerable	Removed
RES-10	SITE-25B	UC-03	Schoolmasters residence	Considerable	Extant
RES-11	SITE-25A	UC-03	Upper Castlereagh schoolhouse	Considerable	Extant
RES-12	SITE-26B	UC-02	Church hall	Great	Extant
RES-13	SITE-29A		Jackson's House	Considerable	??
RES-14	SITE-34		Weatherboard cottage	Some	Removed
RES-15	SITE-37		Harris' cottage and farm buildings	Some	Removed
RES-16	SITE-45		Slab and weatherboard cottage	Great, Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-17	SITE-48	C-12	Christ Church	Great	Extant
RES-18	SITE-57	CR-05	"Strathcairns" (cottage)	Considerable	Removed
RES-19	SITE-16		Allen Long's house complex	Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-20	SITE-19A		Bungalow	Considerable	Removed
RES-21	SITE-23	UC-05	Penrith quarry complex, Parkes Homestead	Great	Extant
RES-21?	SITE-21B,C,D		Plantings	Considerable, Some	Not known
RES-22	SITE-24A		Federation cottage	Considerable	Removed
RES-23	SITE-27		Parker's slaughter yard	Considerable	Removed
RES-24	SITE-28		Parkers Homestead	Some	Removed
RES-26	SITE-33		Weatherboard cottage	Some	Removed
RES-27	SITE-42		Bungalow	Little	Removed
RES-28	SITE-44		Bungalow	Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-29	SITE-47		Farm complex with barns	Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-30	SITE-15	CR-09	McCarthy's cemetery	Great	Extant

RES-31	SITE-26C	UC-01	Methodist Church cemetery	Great	Extant
RES-33	SITE-20		Purcell's cottage	Some	Removed
RES-34	SITE-31	UC-06	Lees House (ruins)	Considerable	Removed
RES-35	SITE-30		Kerry Lodge (ruins)	Some	Removed
RES-35	SITE-32		Federation cottage	Some	
RES-36	SITE-35		Barn, dairy and house (ruins)	Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-37	SITE-49	C-13	Pise house (ruins)	Considerable	Extant
RES-39	SITE-18		Weatherboard cottage	Considerable	Removed
RES-40	SITE-19B		Weatherboard cottage and palms	Considerable	Removed
RES-41	SITE-21A		Hunter's homestead	Considerable, Some	Removed
RES-42	SITE-1J	NR-09	Jackson's Mill (Site)	Considerable	
RES-43	SITE-14	CR-09	McCarthy's farm (Site)	Great	Removed
RES-44	SITE-17C		Michael Long's cottage (site)	Considerable	Removed
RES-45	SITE-1G	NR-09	Allen's Mill (Site)	Great	
RES-46	SITE-24B		Inn (site)	Considerable	Removed
RES-47	SITE-36	C-07	Early slab cottage (site only) and plantings	Considerable, Some	Extant
RES-48	SITE-39B		Minnaville (site)	Great	Removed
RES-49	SITE-50		Alexander Frasers house (site)	Considerable	Extant
RES-50			Castlereagh road		Extant
RES-51	SITE-5		McCarthy's Lane (Jackson's Lane)	Great	Extant
RES-52	SITE-6		Farrells Lane	Considerable	Removed
RES-53	SITE-7		Church Lane	Great	Extant
RES-54	SITE-8A		Wrights Lane	Great	Removed
RES-55	SITE-8B		Carters Lane	Considerable	Removed
RES-56	SITE-9		Longs Lane	Great	Removed
RES-57	SITE-10A		Sheens Lane	Considerable	
RES-58	SITE-10B		Purcells Lane	Considerable	
RES-59	SITE-10C		Jacksons Lane	Great	Removed
RES-60	SITE-1B		Longs Lane Crossing	Great	
RES-61	SITE-1C		Sheens Lane Crossing	Considerable	
RES-62	SITE-1D		Jackson's Crossing	Considerable	
RES-63	SITE-1E		Single's Crossing	Considerable	
RES-64	SITE-1A		Nepean River bank	Great	
RES-65	SITE-2		Cranebrook Creek	Some	Removed
RES-66	SITE-1H	NR-09	Kinghorn's Mill (Site)	Considerable	
RES-67	SITE-1F		Howell's Crossing	Considerable	

6.11 Comment

Castlereagh is an integral component of the cultural landscape of the Hawkesbury/Nepean River derived from the early colonial contiguous farmland grants, which albeit subdivided, continue to form the backbone of the pattern of land use in the area to this day. The evolution of rural land uses and historic associations

with the community supported by these are demonstrated in the collection of extant farmhouses established in the nineteenth century. This includes the local public school, church and cemetery reserves, cultural plantings, the Castlereagh Road which has long served as the principal means of access, and the former common and original township reserve.

Nestled between the broad flowing river course with its cleared terrace farm land and treed backdrop of the Blue Mountains Escarpment and the remnant bushland of the elevated natural area lying to the east of the suburb has high scenic values.

The low farmlands and higher town reserve and former common on the escarpment are of high historic and research values in the town being one of five Macquarie era settlements on the river system which is surrounded by a collection of individual farmhouses and former farm estates established in the first half of the nineteenth century.

Castlereagh is associated with themes such as agriculture, land tenure, mining, forestry, creative endeavour, and environment – cultural landscape, persons, religion, and towns, suburbs and villages. The suburb continues to exemplify these themes.

6.12 Recommendation

The cultural value of Castlereagh derives from the combination of the continuing practice of farming the riverside banks and the natural values of the background Blue Mountains escarpment forests and the broader setting of the river and mountains. These values are represented by the existing listings. Most of these items are of local significance, but some items date to the earliest decades of European settlement in Australia and should be considered for listing in the State Heritage Register. These items are the remains of the Welcome Inn (C-06), Hadley Park (C-08), and Nepean Park (C-09), and the McCarthy's cemetery (CR-10). Items AB-11 and UC-03 have previously been entered in the State Heritage Register.

The Castlereagh township site was nominated for listing in 1987. Given the outstanding historical association and tangible evidence of the reserve through road alignments, it is recommended that the site should be listed.

6.13 Policy

Retain gazetted LEP heritage item listing:	Remove gazetted heritage item listing:	List as heritage items:	Retain gazetted REP heritage item listing:	Nominate listing on State Heritage Register:
C-02	C-01	C-08	C-08	C-06
C-03	C-05 demolished	UC-01	CR-10/10A	C-08
C-04	UC-06	UC-02	UC-01, UC-02 (one site)	C-09/9A
C-06 (inclusive of inter-war house)	CR-09	UC-03	UC-03	CR-10/10A
C-07		C-09/9A		PC-02
C-10		PC-02		UC-01
C-12		C-14		C-14

C-13				
CR-08				
NR-09				
UC-04				
UC-05				
C-09				

