

WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIR, CATTLE TANKS AND SILT TRAPS

Hurley Park, Allman Street, Campbelltown

Two large watering tanks, Built 1838-40.



HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION:

Early Campbelltown had difficulties with its water supply, as it was without a permanent stream of water. These tanks were excavated, reputedly by convict labour, under the supervision of Major Christie (Liverpool Stockade) and captain Francis Allman (Campbelltown Policy Magistrate) from 1838. Thomas Rose, having built himself a dam at Mt Gilead was undoubtedly behind the project. These watering tanks are of fine ashlar and neat cyclopean masonry with stone paved access ramp and spillway. The higher tank was for domestic supply, the overflow in the lower one being for cattle. Water carts sold water from these tanks to the Campbelltown householders until the 1880's.

CONDITION AND USE:

Now contained within the boundaries of Hurley Park. Council is in the process of revising the Conservation Management Plan for the site (2003).

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

- The structures have historic and archaeological significance;
- Last convict built structures in the district, if not the State;
- First joint project between Government and the local community where Government provided the site and the local community provided the funding;
- First attempt ever at water conservation for town purposes; and
- Sophisticated technology of the time used to improve the quality of water.

HERITAGE LISTING:

LOCAL: LEP 2002

STATE: *Proudfoot:* Index No. 57, Category 2

Macarthur Regional Heritage Study: Map 5, No. 60

National Trust (NSW): Classified

FEDERAL: *Heritage Commission (National Estate):* Registered