

## Heritage Item

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Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel No. 62 (& Leichhardt Branch)	
Number:	4570001
Current Name:	Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel No. 62 (& Leichhardt Branch)
Other Name:	Long Cove Creek
Former Name:	Hawthorne Canal SWC (& Leichhardt Branch)
Primary Address	Location: Hawthorne Parade, Haberfield to Canterbury Road, Leichhardt. NSW LGA: Ashfield LGA Region: Sydney DUAP Region: Sydney South
Primary Address	Location: Hawthorne Parade, Haberfield to Canterbury Road, Leichhardt. NSW LGA: Leichhardt LGA Region: Sydney DUAP Region: Sydney South
Alternate Address	Location: Canterbury Road, Leichhardt. NSW LGA: Leichhardt LGA Region: Sydney DUAP Region: Sydney South
Alternate Address	Location: Canterbury Road, Leichhardt. NSW LGA: Ashfield LGA Region: Sydney DUAP Region: Sydney South
Owner:	Sydney Water
Current Use:	Stormwater Channel
Former Use:	Stormwater Channel
Item Type:	Built
Item Group:	Utilities - Drainage
Item Category:	Storm Water Drain
Curtilage/Boundary:	The operational curtilage of Hawthorne Canal includes the channel beds, walls and coping. The visual curtilage of the channel will vary along the length of the channel depending on the surrounding landuses.
Statement Of Significance:	Of particular historical significance as one of the first nine purpose built stormwater drains constructed in

Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel No. 62 (& Leichhardt Branch)	
	<p>Sydney in the 1890's. Prior to this period the watercourses which served to carry stormwater were entirely in their natural state and were receptacles of sewage from the large population which had settled in the suburbs. In 1890, the then Minister for Public Works, the Hon. Bruce Smith, MLA., appalled at the extremely unhealthy conditions prevailing at the time, proposed a separate system of stormwater drains be built to help alleviate the problem. By 1897 nine had been built including Hawthorne Canal. Of the nine stormwater channels Hawthorne Canal is the best example as it is the most intact. It provides a good representative example of the early stormwater drains built in Sydney in the late 19th century and early 20th century. The operational curtilage of Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel includes the channel beds, walls and coping. The visual curtilage of the channel will vary along the length of the channel depending on the surrounding landuses. To formulate a specific curtilage statement that includes details of surrounding landuse and encroachment of various developments would require further investigations and is beyond the scope of this study. However, the general visual curtilage can be described as follows: 1) The stormwater channel west of Parramatta Road is an underground structure. Therefore the upper reaches of the stormwater channel has no visual curtilage. 2) North of Parramatta Road through to Marion Street Leichhardt, the open cut section is flanked by urban and industrial development and can only be observed by the general public from the roadways. 3) From north of Marion Street to the discharge point at Iron Cove the curtilage is defined by the streetscape of Hawthorne Parade, Canal Road and The Lilyfield/Leichhardt Goods Railway Line. The Richmond Marden Reserve flanks the canal and adds to the visual curtilage.</p>
Endorsed Significance:	Local
Construction Information	
Designer:	Department of Public Works / Sydney Water
Builder:	Department of Public Works / Sydney Water
Year Started:	1890
Year Completed:	1938
Circa:	Yes
Physical Description:	<p>Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel extends from Dobroyd Point at Iron Cove to Canterbury Road at Lewisham with branches along Smith Street at Summer Hill. The channel is constructed from unreinforced concrete. Upstream of Parramatta Road there is a section that is paved brick along the floor of the channel. Just over 67% of the total length of the stormwater system was constructed pre-1896. 74% of the stormwater system is constructed of concrete and 20% of brick. There are several branches to this system which include: Leichhardt, Leichhardt Amplification, Petersham, Petersham Park, Smith Street, Henson Street, Victoria Street and Grove Street. All of the branches except some parts of Leichhardt Branch and Leichhardt Amplification were constructed prior to 1900. The Leichhardt branch extends from the main channel immediately on the downstream side of Marion Street, Leichhardt. It drains an area of 43 hectares situated on the eastern side of the main channel and is comprised entirely within the municipality of Leichhardt. This</p>

Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel No. 62 (& Leichhardt Branch)	
	branch was originally constructed under the following contracts: (a) Gov. Contract 89 - this section extends from the main channel upstream to near the intersection of Flood and Lord Streets. It was constructed by PWD in 1892 and transferred to the Board in 1898. The channel size ranges from 55" - 30" circular. (b) Council Section - this section extends from Flood Street, Leichhardt, upstream to the termination at Excelsior Street, Leichhardt. The channel size is a 3'2" x 2'10" box. Most of the channel is covered transition or pipe, and made from either concrete or vitrified clay. A major part of the Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel is evident as an open channel. There are some small sections of the system which are below ground. It is evident under the stone arch bridge "Battle Bridge" at Parramatta Road, and a remaining section of the "Whipple Truss" bridge. The Lewisham Aqueduct runs over the system and SPS 15 is located along side the canal at Haberfield.
Modifications Made:	The main section of the system was completed by 1938, under 4 separate contracts. In 1964 the Leichhardt Branch was amplified by a parallel channel for it's entire length. This was constructed by the Board. The combined capacity of the old and new channel render the Branch adequate in it's capacity for it's entire length. Further channels were constructed after this time and the entire channel was completed around 1977.


#### Historical Notes

Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel extends from Dobroyd Point at Iron Cove to Canterbury Road at Lewisham. The section between Iron Cove and Marion Street was built as a navigable canal. This channel itself is owned by the Waterways Authority, while the walls of the channel are owned by Ashfield and Leichhardt Councils. The section between Marion Street and Parramatta Road was commissioned in 1891. By 1895 it was in a highly polluted state. The channel was one of the first nine stormwater/sewer channels constructed in Sydney (along with Beattie Street Balmain, Dobroyd, Rushcutters Bay, Homebush Creek, North Sydney, Wentworth Park, Munni Street Erskineville and Iron Cove Creek extension) built according to the principle of the Secretary for Public Works, Bruce Smith. There was a proposal by the Sydney Water Commission in 1867-9 to construct a dam at Summer Hill which would be supplied directly from Warragamba Dam. The Upper Nepean No.1 1200mm main runs near the canal and at one stage was clearly visible over the canal. The Pressure Tunnel scour discharges into the canal at Weston Street. There are several branches to this system which include: Leichhardt 62A, Leichhardt Amplification, Petersham, Petersham Park, Smith Street, Henson Street, Victoria Street and Grove Street. All of these branches except some parts of Leichhardt Branch and Leichhardt Amplification were constructed prior to 1900 and are considered to be of heritage significance.

#### Themes

National	Phases of Life
State	Events
Local	(none)
Local Description	
National	Economy
State	Health
Local	Water Supply
Local Description	
National	Economy
State	Technology

Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel No. 62 (& Leichhardt Branch)	
Local	(none)
Local Description	
National	Economy
State	Environment - cultural landscape
Local	(none)
Local Description	
National	Settlement
State	Utilities
Local	Sewerage
Local Description	Relates to the planning, development, expansion and provision of sewerage services.
SHR Criteria	
a) Historical:	The channel was originally built as a stormwater channel which was capable of taking some sewerage waste until the sewerage system was in place. It was one of the nine original stormwater channels in Sydney (along with Beattie Street Balmain, Dobroyd, Rushcutters Bay, Homebush Creek, North Sydney, Wentworth Park, Munni Street Erskineville and Iron Cove Creek extension).
c) Aesthetic:	A major part of the Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel is evident as an open channel. There are some small sections of the system which are below ground. It is evident under the stone arch bridge "Battle Bridge" at Parramatta Road, and a remaining section of the "Whipple Truss" bridge. The Lewisham Aqueduct runs over the system and SP0015 is located along side the canal at Haberfield.
d) Social:	Of social significance to the general community for its function as it helped improve public health in the early 1900's. Prior to this period the watercourses which served to carry stormwater were entirely in their natural state, and this led to unsanitary public health conditions. The construction of this system was an important feature in reducing illness in the area and is likely to be valued by the general community for the function it serves.
e) Research:	One of the first canals built for the rational dispersal of stormwater (and effluent) and it is tangible evidence of that historically successful method of collection and dispersal.
f) Rarity:	One of the first nine purpose built stormwater channels constructed in Sydney in the 1890's.
g) Representative:	Representative of what became a standard method of stormwater collection.
Integrity Assessment:	Considerably intact.
Heritage listings	
List Name: Heritage Act - s.170 NSW State agency heritage register	
Reference Number:	000140

Hawthorne Canal Stormwater Channel No. 62 (& Leichhardt Branch)	
Date Listing Listed:	01-01-2000
List Name: Within a conservation area on an LEP	
Listing Name:	Ashfield LEP
Date Listing Listed:	01-01-2000
Studies	
Title:	Sydney Water Heritage Study
Author:	Graham Brooks and Associates Pty Ltd
Published:	1996
Item Reference Number in Study:	000140
Images	
	<p>Hawthorne Canal  Created By: SWC  Creation Date: 06-06-1910</p>
Administration	
Data Entry Status:	Basic
Entered:	03-06-1998
Updated:	12-08-2009