

NATIONAL TRUST REGISTER OF SIGNIFICANT PLACES

Revised

CITATION (note says "Citation written" but there is no copy on the file. E)

NAME OF PLACE: COTTER DAM WALL

- (1) COTTER DAM WALL (ORIGINAL LEVEL) COTTER AND MURRUMBIDGEE
- (2) TUNNEL - COTTER DAM (COTTER VALLEY) TO COTTER PUMPING, STATION (MURRUMBIDGEE VALLEY)
- (3) WOODEN COTTAGES SUPPORTING COTTER PUMPING STATION

LOCATION OF PLACE: COTTER AND MURRUMBIDGEE CONFLUENCE AREA

- 1. A concrete gravity dam wall built between 1912 and 1915. It was originally proposed to be 30.5 metres high but was only completed to the 18.3 metre level. The wall height was raised to 25.8 metres in 1949-51.
- 2. The original water main from the Cotter Dam passed through this concrete lined tunnel then under the bed of the Murrumbidgee to the suction side of the Cotter pumping station. While a second section (unlined) was driven in 1949-51 as part of the work of raising the dam this formal recording relates only to the original concrete lined tunnel under the ridge between the Cotter and Murrumbidgee Rivers.
- 3* The wooden cottages typical of workman's accommodation provided in the early days of Canberra's building are still retained for use by water supply staff.

FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE:

The features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place are:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Each of these items are original basic components of the early provision of a water supply for Canberra. The dam wall and the tunnel are expected to retain a useful life of considerable duration.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

The following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of this place. These requirements are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

1. Requirements Relating to the Building

1.1 Not applicable

1.2

2. Requirements Relating to the Setting

2.1

2.2

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

In assessing this place for the interim Heritage Places Register, the Trust recommends that the following actions and activities should be undertaken which will enhance the heritage values of the place.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

1. date Draft citation considered by Council at Meeting (number)
2. date Revised citation for Council Meeting (number).....APPROVED/NOT APPROVED
3. date Submitted for inclusion in interim Heritage Places Register

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

1. A concrete gravity dam wall built between 1912 and 1915. It was originally proposed to be 30.5 metres high but was only completed to the 18.3 metre level. The wall height was raised to 25.8 metres in 1949-51.

2. The original water main from the Cotter Dam passed through this concrete lined tunnel then under the bed of the Murrumbidgee to the suction side of the Cotter pumping station. While a second section (unlined) was driven in 1949-51 as part of the work of raising the dam this formal recording relates only to the original concrete lined tunnel under the ridge between the Cotter and Murrumbidgee Rivers.

3. The wooden cottages typical of workman's accommodation provided in the early days of Canberra's building are still retained for use by water supply staff.

2. STATUS OF PLACE AT NOMINATION DATE:

Recorded October 1983

3. BACKGROUND:

4. RELEVANT PRINCIPAL NATIONAL HISTORIC THEMES:

5. ANALYSIS AGAINST THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN SCHEDULE 2 OF THE LAND (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT) ACT 1991

Under Section 56 the criteria for the assessment of the heritage significance of places are:

- (i) a place which demonstrates a high degree of technical and/or creative achievement, by showing qualities of innovation or departure, or representing a new achievement of its time;
- (ii): a place which exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group;
- (iii) a place which demonstrates a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function which is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost, or is of exceptional interest;
- (iv): a place which is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations;
- (v) a place which is the only known or only comparatively intact example of its type;
- (vi) a place which is a notable example of a class of natural or cultural places or landscapes and which demonstrates the principal characteristics of that class;
- (vii): a place which has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase which played a significant part in local or national history;
- (viii) a place which represents the evolution of a natural landscape, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes;

- (ix) a place which is a significant habitat or locality for the life cycle of native species; for rare, endangered or uncommon species; for species at the limits of their natural range; or for district occurrences of species;**
- (x) a place which exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transitions of flora, fauna or natural landscapes and their elements; or**
- (xi) a place which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site.**

6. REFERENCES:
Author Title date publication